



Bulk Water Hauling At Food Establishments

The physical transport of drinking water by a vehicle having a permanently mounted or detachable water tank (i.e. tanker truck or “water buffalo”), does not guarantee potability or safety of water for its intended use - special care needs to be given to prevent subsequent contamination. The use of bulk water haulers must be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. The local health department must approve the use of interim measures prior to the establishment implementing and using a temporary water supply.

A food service establishment can use approved water from a bulk water hauler with the following provisions in place:

- The water supply source water from a bulk water hauler must be from a regulated Public Water System (PWS) that is in conformance with Section 19-13-B102 (e) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (RCSA) regarding water ready for consumption. In addition, the source supplier, if a community PWS, must have sufficient supply capacity in accordance with Sections 19-13-B102 (o) and 19-13-B102 (p) of the RCSA.
- DPH Drinking Water Section “Bulk Water Hauling” guidelines for the hauling and delivery of bulk water are followed.
- A certified water operator or licensed pump installer is responsible for the installation and oversight of trucked potable water for use in public water supply emergencies. Usually this expertise is found in municipal water utilities, in companies in the business of transporting liquid foods or licensed plumbers.
- The enclosed vehicle water tank, or on-premises water storage tank is
 - Plumbed into the establishment directly from the source by a licensed plumber or other approved personnel.
 - The main water service connection is valved off to avoid the possibility of cross connection, back siphonage, backflow or backpressure.
- Only approved food-grade hoses are used for connection from the water supply to the establishment. Garden hoses are not acceptable.
- The contaminated public water is adequately flushed out of the building plumbing to the satisfaction of the local water company.

Because of the large volume of water needed to safely operate a food establishment and the likelihood of introducing contaminants into the water, filling containers with water outside of the establishment to be used inside the establishment is prohibited.