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## MDC ANNOUNCES PARTNERSHIP WITH OPERATION FUEL *Customer water assistance pilot program to begin April 16*

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For Immediate Release

**(HARTFORD, CT)** The Metropolitan District (MDC) is partnering with Operation Fuel on a pilot program that will assist lower-income MDC customers who are struggling to pay their water bills and are facing termination of service. The program begins Monday, April 16, for customers in MDC's member and non-member towns.

With funding from MDC, Operation Fuel will provide water utility assistance grants to MDC customers who live in the member towns of Bloomfield, East Hartford, Hartford, Newington, Rocky Hill, West Hartford, Wethersfield and Windsor; and the non-member towns of Glastonbury, South Windsor, Farmington and East Granby.

Operation Fuel's fuel banks will handle applications for the water assistance program, which is a pilot. MDC customers who are in financial crisis and need water assistance should call 211 to find their closest fuel bank. Operation Fuel is a statewide nonprofit organization that provides emergency energy assistance year-round through its network of fuel banks to lower-income working families and individuals, the elderly and disabled individuals who are in financial crisis.

"We are looking forward to working with MDC on this unique program for households that are struggling financially," said Brenda Watson, Operation Fuel's Executive Director.

"The MDC is proud to partner with Operation Fuel to help support our customers with financial hardships," stated Scott Jellison, MDC CEO.

For more information on the program, customers should contact the MDC's Treasury Department at (860) 278-7850 and press 3.

***About MDC:** The MDC is a nonprofit municipal corporation chartered by the Connecticut General Assembly in 1929. The MDC provides water, wastewater treatment and other services to its member towns: Bloomfield, East Hartford, Hartford, Newington, Rocky Hill, West Hartford, Wethersfield and Windsor. In addition, the District supplies treated water to portions of Glastonbury, South Windsor, Farmington, East Granby and Portland.*

***About Operation Fuel:** Operation Fuel is a statewide nonprofit organization that provides emergency energy assistance year-round to lower-income working families and individuals, the elderly and disabled individuals who are in financial crisis. Individuals who need energy assistance should call 211. For more information on Operation Fuel or to make a donation, go to [www.operationfuel.org](http://www.operationfuel.org).*

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