



United States Environmental Protection Agency—Region 8

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Drinking Water Program



Public Water Systems Newsletter

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Recent Staff Changes:

Tiffany Mifflin took over the role of Wyoming Liaison in 2014, after John Gillis retired. Tiffany has been in the Drinking Water Unit for over a decade. Within that timeframe she was the Inventory Manager, Nitrate Rule Manager, Ground Water Rule Manager and back-up to the Total Coliform Rule Manager. As Liaison, she will coordinate EPA’s drinking water work with the Wyoming DEQ and other state and local partners in Wyoming, and will help ensure that the EPA Wyoming Drinking Water Unit’s operations run smoothly. She is very excited to take on this new role and looks forward to working with everyone to ensure the water in Wyoming is safe to drink.

Gail Franklin has taken over Tiffany’s role as Ground Water Rule Manager. In her new position, Gail will help operators maintain compliance with the Ground Water Rule’s significant deficiency and triggered source monitoring requirements. Gail has worked with EPA Region 8 in many roles, most recently in the Technical and Financial Services Unit managing several grants and contracts, including the sanitary survey contract. Gail previously worked in the Wyoming Drinking Water Unit as manager of EPA’s sanitary survey operations, and in the Wastewater Unit as a permit writer. She has also supervised teams in all areas of environmental compliance, and served as a laboratory manager at both drinking water and wastewater treatment plants. We are very happy that Gail has re-joined the Drinking Water Unit as she will bring new insight and experience to the Unit.



Please Submit Timely Lab Results to EPA

Please submit all sampling results to EPA as soon as you receive them from the lab. Depending on your sample results, follow-up actions such as public notice or confirmation samples may be required. If you delay in reporting to EPA, you may miss your opportunity to complete these follow-up actions in a timely manner and incur additional violations. Please do not hold on to your data until the end of the compliance period when you receive an alert from an EPA rule manager that the data is missing! If you would like for the lab to send your data to EPA directly, please make sure you notify the lab of your request and confirm that they can accommodate this request. From all of the EPA Rule Managers, we thank you!!

New Water Sources Require New Sampling

When a new ground water or surface water source is added to an existing public water system, the water system must begin new source monitoring for chemicals during the first full calendar quarter after the source comes online. For example, if a new well source comes online in February, the first samples for that new source must be collected between April and June at the designated entry point locations. Then, subsequent monitoring requirements apply at the new source depending on the type of system, the water source and the drinking water rule.



For Transient Non-community systems, only nitrate/nitrite samples are required at the entry point to the distribution system. Community & Non-Transient/Non-community water systems must collect initial samples for nitrate/nitrite, synthetic organic contaminants (SOCs such as herbicides), volatile organic contaminants (VOCs such as gasoline products), inorganic contaminants (IOCs such as metals) and for communities only-radionuclides (RADs). Then, after the initial sampling is conducted, quarterly samples will continue to be required for some chemicals such as SOCs, VOCs and RADs at the new source according to the regulations.

BEWARE – Check Lab Certifications to Avoid a Failure to Monitor Violation

Many laboratories have been designated as “EPA Certified” for analyzing certain drinking water samples. This means that EPA has reviewed their analytical processes and approved their methods for analyzing specific contaminants for Safe Drinking Water Act compliance. However, some labs may only be certified for certain contaminants and not all of them. For instance, a lab can be certified for total coliform and nitrate sample analysis, but not for lead, copper or disinfection byproducts. If you submit copper samples to that lab, EPA cannot accept these sample results and it will result in a failure to monitor violation for your water system. To avoid receiving a monitoring violation, make sure you check the EPA Region 8 certified lab list on our Drinking Water Online website prior to sampling for a specific contaminant. This list is located at <http://www2.epa.gov/region8-waterops> and then by selecting the “Certified Lab List” link in the “Drinking Water System Operations Quick Finder,” which is located right under the picture. Check the specific lab’s certification status for each contaminant that you need to have analyzed, and use a different certified lab for different drinking water samples if needed.



Proper Sampling Locations for Bacteriological vs. Nitrate Samples



Are you pulling your Total Coliform Rule (TCR) bacteriological samples and nitrate samples from the same location? If so, this is incorrect and your samples may not be counted for compliance. Bacteriological or Bac-T samples need to be taken from locations within your distribution system. On the other hand, your nitrate samples along with most chemicals must be sampled at the entry point to the distribution system (after any treatment).

Creating a TCR sample siting plan will help ensure that you have selected specific TCR sample locations that indicate the conditions throughout your distribution system. Be sure to also consider locations for repeat samples to help in evaluating the location of potential contamination sources if the need should arise. Sample siting plans are required under the Total Coliform Rule and a new plan will need to be submitted by each water system before the Revised Total Coliform Rule comes into effect in April 2016.

If you have any questions contact TCR Rule Manager Bre Bockstahler at 303-312-6034. You can access sample siting plan templates on our website at <http://www2.epa.gov/region8-waterops/reporting-forms-and-instructions-reporting-forms#tcr> under Total Coliform Rule.

Revised Total Coliform Rule Coming in April 2016

The Revised Total Coliform Rule is around the corner so be sure you know what to do before April 2016. There will be plenty of training and guidance to help in making the transition but do not delay. In a nutshell the RTCR requires systems vulnerable to microbial contamination to identify and fix these problems. All systems will be required to conduct an assessment when monitoring results show potential vulnerabilities (TC+ results are considered a potential vulnerability).

These assessments are a more proactive approach to evaluate and identify sanitary defects which may be the likely cause of coliform problems. Additionally, there will also be minor changes to the number of required repeat and additional routine samples. If you have any immediate questions, you can consult http://water.epa.gov/lawsregs/rulesregs/sdwa/tcr/regulation_revisions.cfm and keep an eye out for training offered by Region 8 this year.



Coming Soon!

Seasonal Systems Will Have New Requirements in 2016

Seasonal systems will have some major changes coming in 2016 under the national Revised Total Coliform Rule. Luckily we can iron out many issues throughout 2015 and prepare for the new requirements. You will be required to take monthly samples instead of quarterly samples during your operating period starting in 2016, and will need to update your TCR sample siting plan. You should also become familiar with the seasonal start-up procedures and checklist, which will need to be completed prior to serving water each season. This is a simple checklist to help you review your system before opening for the season to ensure that everything is ready to begin serving clean, safe drinking water to your customers. Though completing the start-up checklist is not required during 2015, you are encouraged to fill it in as practice in preparation for the 2016 season, when it will be required. We can answer any questions you have before the rule goes live in 2016.

The start-up checklist is currently being finalized and will be available on our website soon at <http://www2.epa.gov/region8-waterops>. Our office will also directly email the seasonal systems with further instructions this spring. If you have any questions contact TCR Rule Manager Bre Bockstahler at 303-312-6034.



Save Money and Avoid Violations by Sampling Properly for the Ground Water Rule

Recently we recognized some systems are consistently collecting Ground Water Rule (GWR) source samples even when a GWR sample is not required. If you are subject to the GWR (it will be listed as a requirement on your yearly Monitoring and Reporting Requirements), you only need to collect a GWR source sample anytime you have a routine Total Coliform Rule (TCR) positive sample. When you have a routine TCR positive sample, you must collect a groundwater source sample from each active groundwater source for the same number of routine TCR positive samples (e.g. if you have three routine TCR positive samples you will need to collect three source water samples from *each* active ground water source). The GWR source sample is required to be collected in addition to your regular repeat samples for the Total Coliform Rule; you cannot count a TCR distribution sample as a GWR source sample or a GWR source sample as a TCR distribution sample. If you have repeat TCR positive samples, a GWR source sample is not required for the positive TCR repeat sample.

Additionally, some individuals are not noting the proper GWR sample location on the lab forms. A violation for failing to sample at the proper sampling location may be issued if you fail to indicate the correct Sample Point Code (e.g. GWR WL). If you are unsure of the Sample Point Code you may check your system's Monitoring and Reporting Requirements; all facility names will be included on it. If your groundwater sources combine before treatment you may take a combined source sample, but make sure to mark the sample location as "combined" and note the ground water sources that were combined (e.g. Combined Well #1, 2, 3, 4). If any groundwater sources are not active include that statement on the GWR Source Sampling Form.

A copy of the GWR Source Sampling Form may be found at the following website <http://www2.epa.gov/region8-waterops>, clicking on the "Reporting Forms" link under the picture and selecting the "Ground Water Rule" link. If the GWR source sample is safe or is total coliform positive (TC+) there is no further sampling requirement; however, if the source is TC+ you should inspect your system to identify the cause of the positive result. If the GWR source sample is *E. coli* positive (EC+) you must call Gail Franklin, Region 8 GWR Manager, immediately at 303-312-6497 and issue a Tier 1 Public Notice with a boil water advisory to your customers.

Money, Money, Money!

The Department of Agriculture's Rural Development program provides loans, grants and loan guarantees for building or improving drinking water, sanitary sewer, solid waste and storm drainage facilities in rural areas and cities and towns of 10,000 people or fewer. Municipalities, districts and other public bodies, non-profit organizations and recognized Indian tribes may qualify for assistance. The loans can be used for construction costs including land, equipment, engineering services, legal services and initial operation funds. Grant funding is available to supplement loans to reduce debt service where necessary to achieve reasonable rates. In addition, SEARCH grants are specifically provided to financially distressed communities with fewer than 2,500 people, and can be used for feasibility studies, technical assistance and design assistance for water and waste disposal infrastructure projects. For more information see the following website: http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/uwep_homepage.html. The USDA contacts for water systems in EPA Region 8 are:

Colorado: Janice B. Pond, Janice.pond@co.usda.gov or 720-544-2927

Montana: Steve Troendle, steve.troendle@mt.usda.gov or 406-585-2529

North Dakota: Mark J. Wax, mark.wax@nd.usda.gov or 701-530-2029

South Dakota: Doug Roehl, doug.roehl@sd.usda.gov or 605-352-1145

Utah: Debra Meyer, debra.meyer@ut.usda.gov or 801-524-4326

Wyoming: Alana Cannon, alana.cannon@wy.usda.gov or 307-233-6709.



Practical Source Water Protection

Source Water Protection addresses water in the aquifer, stream, or lake before it enters the water system. The goal of Source Water Protection is to prevent pollutants from getting into the source water and/or to quickly address the problem if they do.

One need often identified is “eyes and ears” out in the field to report spills that could contaminate a water supply. If a spill occurs, timely notification can not only prevent polluted water from entering the system, but help with a rapid recovery. It’s important for not only the operators, but others active in the source water area to know whom to call and have quick and easy access to that information. Unfortunately, often those who first identify a spill don’t know whom to call or that it’s important to report the spill right away. If the local fire department or police don’t know they need to contact the water system, it may be 24 hours or more before the water system operator is notified, raising the risk of pollutants entering the water system itself.

This problem was identified during the Blue River Watershed Source Water Protection Pilot Project in Colorado. Participants, including representatives of businesses often in the field in the area, developed a laminated card with the defined source water area, state emergency spill response hotline, local emergency response, and water system contact numbers. These cards could be carried easily in emergency and local governmental vehicles. In the event of a spill, responders and local entities now have immediate access to a call-down list to report the spill quickly to everyone who needs to know, including the water system.

This idea is easily adapted to other water systems by creating a customized list of telephone numbers and identification and recruitment of all who are active in the source water area. The laminated card idea from the Blue River Watershed Source Water Protection pilot project may be added into existing source water protection plan implementation, incorporated into new plans, or implemented as a stand-alone measure to safeguard the integrity of the source water and the water system.

For more information contact: Marcella Hutchinson, EPA Region 8 Source Water Protection Coordinator, 303-312-6753, hutchinson.marcella@epa.gov.

Chlorine Dioxide

Chlorine dioxide is a biocide and can be used as a disinfectant for water treatment. As a disinfectant, chlorine dioxide is usually used by hospitals as a supplementary disinfectant to kill Legionella bacteria. Chlorine dioxide is also a strong oxidant and is commonly used as a pre-oxidant for filtration plants to aid in the removal of metals, odor, color, and disinfection byproduct precursors. There are currently only two water systems regulated by EPA Region 8 that use chlorine dioxide as a pre-oxidant. Because of its acute toxicity, chlorine dioxide is an EPA registered biocide and must be closely monitored. While the use of chlorine dioxide does not create typical disinfection byproducts that are formed by chlorine and chloramine (TTHMs or HAA5), it does create chlorite, which is also a regulated disinfection byproduct. The Stage 1 Disinfection Byproduct Rule established a maximum residual disinfectant level (MRDL) for chlorine dioxide of 0.8 mg/L, and a maximum contaminant level (MCL) for chlorite of 1.0 mg/L. Any system using chlorine dioxide, either as a disinfectant or as an oxidant, must monitor chlorine dioxide daily to meet the MRDL requirement and monitor chlorite daily and monthly to meet the MCL requirement.

If you are interested and would like to know more about chlorine dioxide, please contact Mary Wu at wu.mary@epa.gov or at 303-312-6789.

Protect Your Distribution System – How Much Chlorine Residual Do You Need?

All public water systems that use surface water or ground water under the direct influence of surface water as their source are required to maintain a “detectable” chemical disinfectant residual throughout the distribution system. The Federal regulations don’t define “detectable”, however, the detection limits listed in the manufacturers’ literature for handheld chlorine residual analyzers can be as low as 0.02 mg/L. Compliance with this requirement is determined by chlorine residual monitoring conducted at the same time and place as total coliform (TCR) monitoring. All water systems that chlorinate (including ground water systems) are required to monitor at this same frequency and location to comply with the Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level requirements. Chlorine residual in the distribution system can be measured as free, total, or combined chlorine. The purpose of maintaining a chlorine residual in the distribution system is to limit biological growth and nitrification, reduce the risk of waterborne disease if pathogens penetrate the distribution system, and provide an indicator of intrusion or another localized contamination event.

Some research has shown that a residual chlorine level much greater than 0.02 mg/L is often needed to achieve the three purposes stated above. For instance, in Louisiana, there were three deaths in 2014 caused by *Naegleria Fowleri* (a type of harmful amoeba) that were linked to public water systems. In the investigative sampling that took place following these deaths, *Naegleria Fowleri* was detected in some of the samples that had less than 0.5 mg/L total chlorine and warm water temperatures (in the range of 82°F to 93°F). This led Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals to issue an emergency drinking water rule requiring all utilities to maintain a minimum of a 0.5 mg/L free or total chlorine residual throughout the distribution system. While we do not anticipate *Naegleria Fowleri* will be an issue in Region 8 because of our cooler average temperatures, other pathogens may exist in water with low chlorine residual concentrations. For instance, researchers have also determined that concentrations of *Legionella*, another waterborne pathogen, are significantly higher in water with low chlorine residual levels.

One reason that a low chlorine residual is not adequate, particularly in systems treated with chloramines, relates to how the total chlorine residual test method works. The total chlorine residual method detects the presence of organic chloramines in addition to free chlorine and inorganic chloramines. Inorganic chloramines are the intended result when ammonia is added after chlorination; the most effective inorganic chloramine is monochloramine. While free chlorine and inorganic chloramines are relatively strong oxidants and provide good disinfection, organic chloramines do not. Organic chloramines are long-lasting and stable in the distribution system, and in some cases can be detected in the water supply long after the free chlorine and inorganic chloramines have disappeared. Therefore, in water with low-level total chlorine residuals (less than 0.2 mg/L), these poorly performing organic chloramines can be the only remaining detectable chlorine compounds in areas of the distribution system with high residence time. This leaves the water system vulnerable to distribution system nitrification and re-contamination as there may not be any effective disinfectant present in the water supply.

In order for the distribution system chlorine residual to achieve its intended purpose, it is recommended that water systems maintain a total chlorine residual of at least 0.5 mg/L or a free chlorine residual of at least 0.2 mg/L throughout the distribution system.





EPA Region 8 Drinking Water Unit Tech Tips for WY & Tribal Systems Follow-up to an Unsafe/Total Coliform Positive Sample

Under the Total Coliform Rule with Ground Water Rule Requirements Included

What is an unsafe or total coliform positive sample?

A water sample is unsafe, present or total coliform positive if coliform bacteria are found in the sample. Generally coliforms are bacteria that are not harmful and are naturally present in the environment. They are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, fecal bacteria could be present. The presence of coliform bacteria in tap water suggests that there could be a problem with existing equipment, treatment systems or a breach in the distribution system that could introduce fecal contamination.

What actions must be taken?

When a water system receives an unsafe or total coliform positive sample result, within 24 hours the owner or operator must collect a set of repeat total coliform samples in the distribution system for the Total Coliform Rule (TCR); additionally, all ground water sources must be sampled for *E. coli* under the Ground Water Rule (GWR). The purposes of the Total Coliform Rule repeat and Ground Water Rule source water samples are to confirm the presence of coliform bacteria in the system and to determine if the ground water source is fecally contaminated.

Follow these 5 steps after a positive Total Coliform Rule routine sample:

Anytime you have an E.coli (EC+) sample call EPA IMMEDIATELY at 303-312-6034 and take repeat TCR samples, as well as GWR source samples (if applicable). See the last section of this guidance for more information on EC+ follow-up actions.

- 1. Do not shock chlorinate** the system before collecting repeat, routine or source samples unless you have prior approval from EPA Region 8.
- 2. Review your sampling procedures to ensure you are sampling properly**

Avoid: Sampling at new faucets or newly repaired faucets, leaky faucets, outdoor faucets or those faucets connected to softeners, hot water heaters, or pressure tanks; setting down the bottle lid or exposing the inside of the lid or bottle to anything other than the sample water (do not rinse or remove powder); and rushing your sample collection.

Do: Take your time; sanitize the sample tap and your hands; flush the tap for 5 minutes before taking the sample; and minimize the time the sample bottle is opened—open the bottle immediately prior to gathering your sample and replace the lid as soon as the sample is collected. Keep in mind that improper sampling can result in a TC positive sample that can lead to costly follow-up sampling. Also, carefully fill out chain of custody forms with your PWS ID# and sample location(s). Ensure that your total coliform rule samples are located within your distribution system and labeled appropriately, and that your ground water rule source samples are collected at your source(s) before treatment and labeled appropriately.

Continued next page

3. Follow the flowchart below to take your required TCR samples:

**STEPS TO TAKE AFTER A TOTAL COLIFORM RULE (TCR)
ROUTINE POSITIVE/UNSAFE SAMPLE**

1. Within 24 hours of notification of the *routine* TCR positive sample result:

If you collect one routine sample a month/quarter, collect 4 repeat samples in the distribution system for each positive sample; use your regular lab form and mark the samples as TCR repeats.

If you collect 2 or more routine samples a month or quarter, collect 3 repeat samples in the distribution system for each positive routine sample; use your regular lab form and mark the samples as repeats.

2. Collect your GWR source samples if you use a groundwater (e.g. well) source.
See the next page for more information.

Remember: Anytime you have an E.coli (EC+) sample call EPA IMMEDIATELY at 303-312-6034. See last section of this guidance for EC+ information.

Are all TCR repeats safe and only one TCR routine was positive?

Y
E
S

N
O

- 1) There is no violation
- 2) No public notice is needed
- 3) Take 5 additional routine samples the following month (even if you sample quarterly).

- You have a MCL violation:
- 1) Provide public notice
 - 2) Inspect your system to identify the cause of the positive samples.
 - 3) Take 5 additional routine samples the following month (even if you sample quarterly)

Are the 5 additional TCR routine samples safe?

Y
E
S

N
O

Return to your normal TCR routine sampling the following month/quarter

Start from the beginning

Continued next page

4. Follow the instructions below if you use a ground water (e.g. well) source and are subject to the Ground Water Rule (GWR). Check your annual Monitoring and Reporting Requirements to verify if you are subject to this rule.

Within 24 hours of being notified of a routine TCR positive sample result, you must:

- Sample all ground water sources that were in use during the collection of the *routine* TCR sample.
- Collect the sample(s) at the groundwater source(s) prior to treatment.
- Collect one source sample for every routine TCR positive sample (e.g. if you have three routine TCR positive samples you will need to collect three source water samples from *each* ground water source).
- Indicate the correct name of the Sample Point Code (e.g. GWR WL) on the lab chain of custody form. If your groundwater sources combine before treatment you may take a combined source sample, but make sure to mark the sample location as “combined” and note the ground water sources that were combined (e.g. Combined Well #1, 2, 3, 4).
- A copy of the GWR Source Sampling Form may be found at the following website <http://www2.epa.gov/region8/waterops>, clicking on the “Reporting Forms” link under the picture and selecting the “Ground Water Rule” link.
- The lab must analyze the sample for *E. coli*.
- If the GWR source sample is safe there is no further sampling requirement. If the source is TC+, you should inspect your system to identify the cause of the positive result but there is no further sampling requirement.
- **If any GWR source sample result is *E. coli* (EC+) positive:**
 - a. Call EPA immediately at 303-312-6497 to speak with Gail Franklin the GWR Manager;
 - b. Within 24 hours collect five additional GWR source samples from the same source that had the EC+. If you previously took a combined source sample you will need to sample all wells separately; and
 - c. Provide Tier 1 public notice.

Wholesale and Consecutive Systems: Wholesale systems must meet all of the above GWR sampling requirements when notified of a routine TCR total coliform positive sample at the consecutive’s system or when the wholesale system’s groundwater sources have a routine TCR total coliform positive sample result. If the GWR source sample is *E. coli* positive, the wholesaler must also notify all consecutive systems within 24 hours of being notified of the EC+ source sample result.

Consecutive systems must notify their wholesale system within 24 hours of being notified of the routine TCR total coliform positive sample result. If the consecutive system was utilizing any of their own ground water sources at the time of the routine TCR sample collection the consecutive’s groundwater sources must be sampled to meet all of the above GWR sampling requirements.

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5. Thoroughly inspect the water system

Coliform bacteria in a water system are generally either a result of a failure to maintain a “closed” system and/or equipment failure. Visually inspect the system including wells, tanks, chlorinator, etc. Look for areas where soil, leaves, insects, animals, sewage or animal wastes could get into your system. You can go to the following website and click on the Technical Tips for more information: <http://www2.epa.gov/region8-waterops/system-and-operational-improvements-sanitary-surveys>.

Wyoming Systems:

The Wyoming Association of Rural Water Systems (WARWS) may be contacted at 307-436-8636 to help identify the cause of the positive sample results.

Tribal Systems:

Contact your local EPA office to request help with identifying the cause of the positive sample:

MT - Barb Burkland at 406-457-5009

ND and SD - Andrea Griese at 605-945-1192

CO, UT, and WY - Mindy Mohr at 303-312-6525

SD Rural Water Systems (SDRWS) - Denny Davis at dndavis@sdarws.com, 605-556-7219

ND Rural Water Systems (NDRWS) - Eric Volk at ericvolk@ndrw.org, 701-391-5080

If you have an E. coli positive (EC+) sample result:

- a. Call EPA immediately at 303-312-6034.
- b. For the Total Coliform Rule, take repeat samples within 24 hours in the distribution system. If any of the TCR repeat samples are TC+ or EC+, you have an acute MCL. Provide Tier 1 public notice including a boil water advisory violation and distribute it to all residents and customers within 24 hours. Take five additional TCR routine samples the following month.
- c. (As applicable) For the Ground Water Rule, take ground water source samples. If any of the GWR source samples are EC+, you must collect 5 routine samples from the same source that had the EC+ within 24 hours and provide Tier 1 public notice including a boil water advisory, and distribute it to all residents and customers within 24 hours.
- d. Even if you can't reach EPA by phone, you are expected and required to take the previous steps (collect TCR repeat samples (and GWR source samples as applicable), and provide Tier 1 public notice boil water advisory).

End





Three EPA Drinking Water Websites to Help Drinking Water System Operations in Wyoming and Region 8 Tribal Lands

1. A handy and informative website *especially FOR YOU*

<http://www2.epa.gov/region8-waterops>

The main purpose of this website is to provide water system operators and administrative contacts with reporting forms. And helpful tips that they may use in their day to day operations. Here are some of the topics on the website:

Boil Water Advisory	Loss of Pressure
Certified Lab List	Natural Disasters
Consumer Confidence Report	Public Notices
Contact List	Regulated Analytes
Emergency Notification	Reporting Forms

Also on our website are links to EPA HQ and other external websites, regarding drinking water treatment techniques and technologies, and announcements for operator training and certification.

2. Public Access version of Drinking Water Watch

<https://sdwizr8.epa.gov/Region8DWWPUB/>

Information on a specific public water system in Wyoming and Region 8 Tribal Lands can be viewed in the *Drinking Water Watch, Public Access* website. This information is open to the public and includes past monitoring results, monitoring schedules, and water system contacts.

This is a great website to refer customers to if they have questions or concerns during the year.

3. Full version of Drinking Water Watch

<https://sdwizr8.epa.gov/Region8DWW/JSP/loginForm.jsp>

EPA Region 8 also provides password-protected access to more detailed information about a specific public water supply system through a full version of *Drinking Water Watch*. Access to each system's data will be limited to those who work for or provide technical and program assistance to the system. To accomplish this, you must register as a user and obtain a unique user name and password (please see further instructions below).

The additional details in the password-protected DWW include:

- Current Annual Monitoring and Reporting Requirements,
- Schematics of water systems,
- Sanitary survey reports issued by EPA Region 8,
- Current “Tickler” email reminder notices of pending requirements,
- and Pre-populated sampling forms that can be printed out and used.

The “Tickler” email reminders are sent out automatically each month to administrative contacts (ACs) for whom we have email addresses and others who have been opted in. The reminders are based on sampling schedules and previously completed sampling for your system(s). In other words, you will not be reminded of those requirements for which data is already in the database.

Operators are encouraged to take advantage of the **Chemrad Sample Form**, linked to the most current reminders for pending requirements. When you print the form for required sampling, it will be pre-populated with your system name and ID#, water system facility code and name, which indicate **where the sample(s) must be collected**, and the list of contaminants for which you want the lab to test the sample(s). After printing the form, the operator has to fill in only the date of the sample collection, the collector’s name and the address of the water system or utility office. Please submit this form(s) to your lab with your water samples because it helps the lab to know what tests to conduct.

After reviewing the information EPA has for your system(s) online, you will have the opportunity to notify us by email or telephone of any corrections you believe are needed. Navigating within *DWW* is self-explanatory. If you have questions about terms, please click on the “*GLOSSARY*” button.

Please read the details on the next page for information on how to register for **DWW**.

REGISTRATION AND LOG-IN PROCEDURES FOR DRINKING WATER WATCH

(For systems that have an e-mail address registered with EPA)

Please go to the DWW page at <https://yosemite.epa.gov/r8/wateropsreg.nsf> and open the *Registration Home/Account Maintenance* page.

Once there, select “*NON-EPA USERS ONLY – REQUEST A NEW ACCOUNT*”.

Please provide the following information:

- ◆ First name,
- ◆ Last name,
- ◆ Email address,
- ◆ Password (created at the time of registration); and
- ◆ Outreach User ID.



The Outreach User ID is unique to you. **DO NOT SHARE** this ID number! The Outreach User ID helps protect your system data from access by unauthorized persons. If you have more than one public water supply system, you will use the same password to access information about any of the systems. Make a note of how you type-in your first name and your last name. These will become your login “User name”, and must be typed exactly as they were entered. Be sure to record your password exactly as it appears, including all upper and lower case letters. These items are required to successfully log into *DWW*. When you complete your registration, a new window should pop up to congratulate you on successful registration. Your password will last 90 days. You will receive an email reminder to update your password with instructions on how to do so.

Please allow at least 6 hours between the time you are notified of a successful registration and the time you first log into *DWW*. This will allow time for the synchronization of servers.

To log in, type in your First Name Last Name as you typed it in at registration in the “User name” field. Leave a space between first name and last name. If you used a middle initial, add that too. Enter the password you selected during registration into the “Password” field. The password is case-sensitive, so it must be typed exactly as it was during registration. You do not need to provide your Outreach User ID here. Next, you must select the type of system (Wyoming or Tribal). You will be presented with a list of the system(s) for which you are authorized access. Select the system whose data you wish to view. For the latest reminders for your system, click on “**Sample Schedules, Reminders and Chemrad Sample Form**”. Click on “**Latest Reminder to Sample and Report**” to view the current reminders. If the reminders include Analyte Groups such as IOCs, RADs, SOCs and VOCs, you can view the member analytes in the group by clicking the word “**HERE**” above the table. If you want to print out the sample form for any of the reminders, click on the “**Chemrad Sample Form**” and follow the instructions from there.

If you want to opt out from receiving the reminders you may log in to *DWW* and choose the unsubscribe option for email sampling reminders for your system(s).

Please call **Tsegaye Hailu at 303-312-6273** or **Charles Weinberg at 303-312-6557** if you have questions or need assistance. You may also contact us by email at r8dwu@epa.gov. We look forward to extending our technical assistance to you through this website.

Compliance Tips for the Table of Detected Contaminants of Consumer Confidence Report

The table of detected contaminants is a key part of your community's Consumer Confidence Report (CCR), or water quality report. It contains a presentation of the concentrations of all detected contaminants, where detected contaminant means a regulated or unregulated contaminant detected at or above its method detection limit. Developing the table can be challenging, but the following reminders can help you meet the requirements of this item of the CCR:

- ✓ Report monitoring data completed during the previous calendar year
- ✓ If you monitor less often than once per year for certain contaminants, include the results from the most recent sampling period for those contaminants that were detected. Data older than 5 years can be excluded from your report
- ✓ If you purchase water from another system, make sure you include the wholesaler's contaminant detect data in addition to your own system's contaminant detect data
- ✓ Include information about the likely sources for contaminants that have been detected
- ✓ An MCL, MRDL, or AL must be expressed as a number equal to or greater than 1.0. This may require multiplying these standards by a factor, thereby changing the units. In turn, the contaminant concentrations would be multiplied by the same factor to express the results in equivalent units to the standards.

For an illustration on how to convert compliance values to units required for your CCR, refer to Appendix A to Subpart O of the CCR Rule, which is available on EPA's website at www.epa.gov/safewater/ccr/regulations.html. Look under the heading "Consumer Confidence Report Rule" and click on the link for "Updated version of the CCR Rule Appendix A (PDF)." *Preparing Your Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report For Water Suppliers* is a guide that can also help you develop the table of detected contaminants and a regulatory-compliant CCR. This resource is available from our CCR homepage at <http://water.epa.gov/lawsregs/rulesregs/sdwa/ccr/>. Click on the heading "Compliance Help/Tool for Water Systems."



New Online Tool Can Assist with the Development of Consumer Confidence Reports

A new tool has been made available on EPA Region 8's Drinking Water Online website to assist owners and operators with developing their annual Consumer Confidence Report (CCR). The purpose of the CCR, or drinking water quality report, is to raise customers' awareness about the source and quality of their drinking water, and to help them understand the costs and services entailed with providing safe and consistent drinking water. The CCR is due to customers and the Region 8 office by July 1 each year.

The CCR generator tool creates a document that captures data from Region 8's database for the regulated contaminants that have been sampled for and detected, as well as identifies the violations associated with community water systems required to report under the CCR Rule. The document cannot serve as a substitute for the CCR because it does not satisfy the complete requirements of the CCR Rule. However, the document provides some valuable information that can be used to streamline the development of the annual report. This tool will be available for your use in creating the 2014 CCRs (due July 1, 2015) in the spring of 2015. EPA will send an email notice to all Community water systems when it becomes available.

Directions to Use the CCR Generator Tool

Step 1: Go to Region 8's Drinking Water Online website at <http://www2.epa.gov/region8-waterops>

Step 2: Under the "Related Topics on this Website" box on the right-hand side of the screen, click on "Drinking Water Watch, Public Access (DWWPUB)"

Step 3: Make a selection from the drop-down menu of "Wyoming" or "Region 8 Tribes" based on the location of the water system

Step 4: Click "Submit"

Step 5: On the bottom of the page, click on "Review Consumer Confidence Data."

Step 6: At the top of the page, enter the complete PWS ID no. for the system or select it from the adjacent drop down menu (i.e. Wyoming systems have a PWS ID no. that begins with "WY," whereas Tribal systems begin with the numbers "08.")

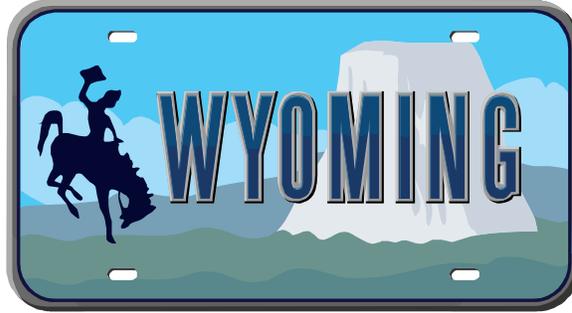
Step 7: Select the year of interest under "Select CCR Year"

Step 8: Select the report format you desire under "Select Report Format." You may choose Adobe PDF or rich text format (RTF).

Step 9: Click "Generate Report"

Step 10: Open the report

If you want more information, need assistance with using the tool, and/or find discrepancies between the water quality data and records you maintain at your water system, please contact the CCR Rule Manager, Kendra Morrison, at (303) 312-6145 or morrison.kendra@epa.gov.



Direct Mailing Waiver for Small Community Water Systems in Wyoming Provided by the CCR Rule

In 1999, Governor Jim Geringer exercised his authority under the Safe Drinking Water Act to waive the direct mailing requirement for Consumer Confidence Reports (CCRs) for small community water systems in Wyoming.

The CCR Rule provides the Governor of a State the ability to waive the requirement for community water systems serving fewer than 10,000 persons to mail or otherwise directly deliver one copy of the report to each customer [40 CFR 141.155(g)].

Small community water systems can instead meet their annual reporting requirements by using outreach methods like

- (a) providing notice to customers about report availability,
- (b) inserting the report in one or more local newspapers, and
- (c) making copies of the CCR available to the public upon request or through a web site.

The CCR certification for small community water systems covered by this waiver has been updated with the allowable outreach methods outlined by Governor Geringer, and is available on EPA Region 8's web site at <http://www2.epa.gov/region8-waterops/reporting-forms-and-instructions-consumer-confidence-reports> (click on the link to "Reporting Forms"). If you have any questions or need assistance with the preparation of your CCR certification, please contact the CCR Rule Manager, Kendra Morrison, at (303) 312-6145 or morrison.kendra@epa.gov.