



**EPA REGION 8 DRINKING WATER PROGRAM
WYOMING AND TRIBAL WATER SYSTEMS
FEBRUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER**

UNITED STATES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 8
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AFTER-HOURS EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER



The Region 8 Drinking Water Program has an after-hours emergency phone number. If you experience an emergency during non-workday hours or the weekend, such as an issue that disrupts your water supply or the water is contaminated with *E coli* bacteria or other contaminants, please call [303-312-6327](tel:303-312-6327) for assistance. During Monday-Friday working hours, please contact one of our staff members for assistance.

THE NEWEST MEMBERS OF REGION 8'S DRINKING WATER PROGRAM

ANGELA MANDRALA

Angela recently moved to our Region 8 (Denver) office from the Region 7 (Kansas City) office and will lead the Region's Inventory Program, taking over for Bolor who moved to Lead and Copper Rule Compliance. Angela has a B.S. in Environmental Engineering from the Missouri University of Science and Technology. If you have contact changes or new schematics – please reach out to Angela at mendrala.angela@epa.gov



BRYCE FALISKIE



Bryce joins the EPA with 10+ years of experience on environmental and oil and gas projects. For the past eight years, Bryce has been working as an environmental consultant, serving as an environmental scientist and project manager. He has experience managing field projects and laboratory analysis as part of his remedial and environmental investigations, including projects dealing with heavy metals, organic solvents, hydrocarbons, and PFAS contaminants. Bryce lives in Denver and enjoys cooking, exploring the city looking for new restaurants, playing pickleball and tennis, hanging out with family and friends, and escaping to the mountains. In his new role with the EPA, he will be a state oversight lead for Utah, water and cybersecurity. Reach out to Bryce any time at faliskie.bryce@epa.gov.

BRETT VAN HOUGHTON

Brett is one of the new Wyoming Sanitary Surveyors recently hired by Region 8. He joined the EPA in November of 2023 and will be mainly responsible for conducting sanitary surveys of Wyoming public water systems. Additionally, he will help facilitate the completion of the resulting sanitary survey reports in a timely fashion. Prior to joining the EPA, Brett spent an enormous amount of time in school when he made the mistake of going back to give it another try - and only 11 short years later he received his PhD in August of 2023 in Environmental Engineering from the Colorado School of Mines. He is very eager to finally be putting his academic career to work. He can be reached for questions, comments, or good jokes at 303-312-6593 or by email at VanHoughton.Brett@epa.gov.



COLBY BRAKKE



Colby joined the EPA in October 2023 as the new North and South Dakota Drinking Water Tribal Liaison based in the Pierre, South Dakota office, providing compliance and technical assistance to Tribal Water Systems in the Dakotas. Prior to the EPA, Colby spent 9 years at the US Army Corps of Engineers as a project Engineer and Environmental Compliance Coordinator. He has a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering and an M.S. in Construction Engineering and Management, both from the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology. Feel free to reach out to Colby at any time at brakke.colby@epa.gov or 605-945-1192.

EMILY BEDELL

Emily joined the EPA in August 2023 as an Environmental Engineer in both the Technical and Financial Services Branch and Drinking Water. She is a Project Officer for WIIN SUDC (Small, Underserved, and Disadvantaged Communities) and WIIN Lead Testing in Schools and Childcare Grants as well as the Aircraft Drinking Water Rule Manager. Prior to joining the EPA, Emily completed her PhD in Environmental Engineering at the University of Colorado, Boulder, her master's in mechanical engineering at Portland State University, and her bachelor's in mechanical engineering at the University of Nevada, Reno. Emily has experience in designing microbial water quality testing technology, building solar hot water panels, making maps with drones, and working in underserved countries and communities. Outside of work, Emily likes to snowboard, trail run, do crafts and giggle with friends. Reach out to Emily any time at bedell.emily@epa.gov.



EVELYN HOFFMAN



Evelyn (she/her or they/them) is an R8 drinking water student intern, joining the team in May 2023. She is in her third year of undergrad in Environmental Engineering at CU Boulder, with additional education in Ecology and GIS. She is focused mainly on sanitary surveys but has also worked on a few other projects supporting the Drinking Water Team. If you need to reach Evelyn, please email her at hoffman.evelyn@epa.gov

JASMINE SUMMERS-EVANS

Jasmine recently joined the EPA in December 2023 and will be working to assist and partner with our Region 8 states in their implementation of the SDWA. Jasmine holds a B.S. in Environmental Science and a minor in Environmental Engineering from the University of California, Los Angeles. Following graduation, she spent her time working on a range of water quality projects with the National Park Service and US Forest Service as a hydrologic research technician. In her new role with the EPA, she will be a state oversight lead for North and South Dakota. Please feel free to reach out to her anytime at summersevans.jasmine@epa.gov or 303-312-6673.



LORI WILLIAMS



Lori is a SEE (Senior Environmental Employment) Contractor in the National Experienced Workforce Solutions (NEW Solutions) program. She has a BS from SUNY Stony Brook in Earth & Space Sciences (I got to work on moon rocks!) and a PhD in Geology & Geophysics from Princeton. She spent 20 years in a geoscience career, including a Postdoc at Stanford, oil exploration and well site work in California and the Wyoming Overthrust, and consulting for the Summitville Superfund Site in Colorado. She then earned an MBA at University of Denver and did a second career in small business development, spending 20 years building a small auto repair shop into a profitable business. When the owner was able to retire, and I was then free to have the privilege of working with the EPA for my third career. My California work involved in-depth research into silica diagenesis, so if you ever want to know anything about kitty litter or pool filters – or for anything else you'd like to talk about – please contact me at williams.lori@epa.gov.

MEGAN FALK



Megan is the new Montana Drinking Water Tribal Liaison based out of the Helena, Montana, office. She joined the EPA in October 2023 and is responsible for providing compliance and technical assistance to Tribal water systems in Montana. Megan comes to us from the Montana Department of Environmental Quality where she managed several drinking water rules including lead and copper, DBPs, and the consumer confidence report. She has a BA in Geology from Humboldt State University. Tribal operators and managers in Montana can reach out to Megan at falk.megan@epa.gov or at 406-457-5041.

MICHAEL COPELAND



Michael rejoined the R8 EPA Drinking Water unit after a 2-½ year hiatus when he retired as a PHS officer detailed to the EPA. He will be focused on the area of Sanitary Surveys and leading the Water Emergency Response Team as coordinator. Michael has a B.S. in Environmental Engineering (Northern Arizona University) and P.E. (Colorado) in the same. Prior to working at the EPA, he was in the U.S. Navy as a Machinist's Mate (1984-89) and in the Arizona Air National Guard as an Aircraft Electrician/Environmental Technician (1990-1998). You can contact him at 303-312-6836 or copeland.michael@epa.gov.

SIJO KODIYAN



Sijo joined the EPA in December 2023 as an IT Specialist for the Region 8 Drinking Water Division. With a robust background in Software Development, Sijo brings experience from his tenure at the Veterans Health Care (VA) and U.S. Department of Health (HHS). He has several years of experience as Main Application Specialist both in public and private sector. He holds an MBA from the University of Central Florida and a B.S. in Electrical and Electronics Communication. Beyond the office, he enjoys hiking and long biking trips with his electric bike. Reach out to him at kodiyam.sijo@epa.gov.

CHANGE FORM REQUIREMENTS

My System Has Had Changes. What do I do?

System changes can happen frequently, whether it's new staff, staff leaving, contact information, a new well, or treatment. When these changes occur, while it is helpful to let us know via email or phone call, a completed Change Form will need to be submitted to R8DWU@epa.gov. It is important that the Change Form be complete, as no changes will be made without a completed form. Keep in mind that not all sections of the Change Form will apply to your system. The Change Forms can be found [here \(https://www.epa.gov/region8-waterops/epa-r8-public-water-system-inventory-change-form\)](https://www.epa.gov/region8-waterops/epa-r8-public-water-system-inventory-change-form). We will verify smaller changes via email at Mendrala.angela@epa.gov or phone call at 303-312-6533. If you have any questions, we are glad to help and guide you through the form as you complete it. Make our day and give us a call!

EPA DRINKING WATER WEBSITE

Do you know that EPA has a Drinking Water Website?

We do! EPA Region 8 has a website for drinking water system operations in Wyoming and on Tribal lands, and it has many resources you may need or find helpful. The website is divided into six sections: (1) Water Systems (2) Emergency Preparedness (3) Reporting Results (4) Regulations and Compliance (5) Monitoring and Sampling and (6) Operations and Assistance.

Some key highlights of the website by section include the following:

Water Systems

- Access to Drinking Water Watch, the tool that enables you and the public to view data EPA maintains about your water system and generates a report to help you develop your CCR



Emergency Preparedness

- What to do if you have a loss of pressure
- Access to a boil water advisory template when an *E. coli* maximum contaminant level (MCL) exceedance occurs

Reporting Results

- Access to reporting forms for changes to water source, treatment, water system facilities, system contacts and/or management, as well as seasonal operations
- Access to consumer confidence report certification forms, emergency response plan templates, lead and copper tap sample site plan template, maximum residual disinfectant level form, basic information form for new public water systems, sampling forms, public notification templates, sanitary survey forms, and many others

Regulations and Compliance

- EPA's regulated analytes list
- Tips to stay in compliance

Monitoring and Sampling

- List of certified laboratories
- Sample collection guide



Operations and Assistance

- Preparing for a sanitary survey and tech tips
- Presentations from training conferences

Our staff contact list is available in the yellow "Need Help" box on the right-hand side of the home screen. Please look and contact us about any other needs.

GROUND WATER RULE

Ground Water Rule (GWR) Triggered Source Sample Requirements

If your water system is classified as a groundwater system (you can find this out in Drinking Water Watch <https://sdwisdww.epa.gov/DWWR8WY>) and there is a total coliform positive (TC+) or *E. coli* positive (EC+) sample result in the distribution system, a **TRIGGERED GWR SOURCE SAMPLE** is required within 24 hours. The only groundwater systems that don't need to collect a **TRIGGERED GWR SOURCE SAMPLE** are those that provide 4-log virus inactivation and removal. *The purpose of this sample is to see if the contamination is coming from the source water or within the distribution system.*

If your water system buys or sells water to another water system, make sure there is a standard operating procedure for what to do if there is a total coliform positive or *E. coli* positive at either water system.

In addition to the **three (3)** repeat samples required from the distribution system (under the Revised Total Coliform Rule – RTCR), one sample is required from every well or spring that was running at the time the TC+ sample was collected. Important points to keep in mind:

- The **TRIGGERED GWR SOURCE SAMPLE** must be collected before any treatment, including filters, UV, chlorine, etc., as close to the source as possible. Failure to do so will result in a violation.
- **Pressure Tank** - If the sample location is near a pressure tank, make sure the well pump is running when you take the sample so you are not just getting water from the pressure tank.
- **Multiple Sources Without Treatment** - If the water system uses more than one water source, the EPA must be notified immediately about which sources were in use at the time the TC+ sample was collected and collect triggered groundwater samples from each of those sources. Failure to notify the EPA that fewer than all the sources were being used may result in a violation.
- **Multiple Sources With Treatment** - If the water system has multiple groundwater sources combining before treatment, a combined source sample may be collected. The sample location must say "combined" and note the groundwater source Facility Codes that were combined (e.g., Combined WL01, WL02, and SPR01).
- **Purchase Groundwater From Another System (Consecutive)** - If the water system is a consecutive system (purchases water from another groundwater system), you are required to notify the system you purchase water from about the positive total coliform sample in your system. Inform them that they are required to perform these triggered groundwater sampling requirements in their system. If there are additional wells feeding your water system, you are also required to sample your well(s). Failure to notify the system selling the water may result in a violation for both systems.
- **Sell Groundwater to Another System (Wholesaler)** - If your water system sells water to another water system, and they notify you of a total coliform positive sample in their distribution system, it is your responsibility to collect source samples within 24 hours and send those results to the EPA. It is also a good idea to send the results to the other system too.
- **Multiple Separate Distribution Systems** - If your system has multiple separate distribution systems and sources, the triggered sample is only required from the groundwater source(s) providing water to the distribution system with the positive total coliform sample. If this is the case, describe your situation in the comments of the lab chain-of-custody form and on the EPA triggered groundwater monitoring form.
- **Campground Handpump** - If the water system is just a handpump (at a campground) with no distribution system, collect four samples in a row. Mark three of them "repeat samples" and one of them the "triggered groundwater sample."

If you have any questions, contact Jamie Harris, the Triggered Ground Water Rule Manager, at 303-312-6072 or Harris.Jamie@epa.gov. It's better to overcommunicate than under communicate.

AC PIPE MANAGEMENT

Managing the Replacement of Asbestos Cement Pipe

The use of asbestos cement (AC) pipe (or transite pipe) in drinking water distribution systems was once common in the U.S. It was installed as early as the 1930s with the peak of installation and use between the 1950s and 1960s. EPA estimates that 15% of water distribution pipes are asbestos cement. Due to the serious health risks associated with asbestos exposure, the EPA attempted to ban all asbestos containing products on the market in 1989. While that was ultimately overturned, the use of AC pipe was largely discontinued at the end of the last century due to health concerns associated with the manufacturing process and the possible release of asbestos fibers from deteriorated pipes. In 2019, the EPA promulgated a Significant New Use Rule under the Toxic Substances Control Act to ensure that any discontinued uses of asbestos cannot re-enter the marketplace without EPA review, including asbestos cement pipe and fittings.

Much of our drinking water infrastructure has reached or is nearing the end of its useful life and approaching the age at which it needs to be replaced. AC pipe has a typical design life of 50 years. As AC pipes are managed and replaced, special care is required to prevent the release of hazardous asbestos fibers.

The Asbestos National Emission Standard for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP), 40 CFR Part 61, subpart M, sets forth requirements intended to minimize the release of asbestos fibers during renovation and demolition activities involving the handling of asbestos. Pipe replacement is

considered a renovation activity which is subject to these requirements.

Prior to the renovation or demolition of a facility, including activities involving AC pipe, the Asbestos NESHAP requires the removal of all regulated asbestos-containing material (RACM). RACM includes any existing friable asbestos material or material which would likely become friable during the course of the planned demolition or renovation operations. That is, any asbestos-containing material that can be crumbled or reduced to powder by hand pressure must be safely removed prior to conducting activities that would break up, dislodge, or similarly disturb the material or preclude access to the material for subsequent removal.

Conventional and acceptable work practices to replace AC pipe include open-cut trench and abandonment in place. Open trenching is the practice under which the entire AC pipe is excavated, wet-cut into 6- and 8-foot sections using a snap cutter or similar tool, wrapped for containment, and removed for disposition at an approved disposal location. Asbestos cement pipes may also be abandoned in place with the new pipeline laid in a separate area.

While pipe bursting and breaking are popular methods for various types of pipe replacement projects in general, pipe bursting or breaking AC pipe is not permitted under the Asbestos NESHAP. Pipe bursting or breaking of AC pipe renders the AC pipe friable, leaving friable pipe fragments consisting of RACM underground. This method does not comply with the requirements of the asbestos NESHAP and has not been approved by EPA.



Photo credit: Colorado Hazard Control, LLC

The EPA has approved a closed trench method for AC pipe replacement, which may be used as an alternative to the open-cut trench and abandonment in place approaches allowed under the Asbestos NESHAP. This EPA-approved alternative work practice standard is known as Close Tolerance Pipe Slurrification (CTPS). CTPS utilizes trenchless technology and does not leave friable asbestos in the ground. CTPS involves grinding the AC pipe while simultaneously injecting fluid to form a liquid cement slurry which is vacuumed out through vertical access points. The new pipe is pulled into the existing pipe cavity directly behind the grinding apparatus. A skim coat of nonfriable cementitious asbestos-containing material is left and solidifies on

the outside rim of the new pipe. For more information on the CTPS method see <https://www.epa.gov/stationary-sources-air-pollution/notice-final-approval-alternative-work-practice-standard-asbestos>. For more information about the asbestos NESHAP, visit <https://www.epa.gov/stationary-sources-air-pollution/asbestos-national-emission-standards-hazardous-air-pollutants>.

If you have any questions, please contact the Chemical Phase II/V Rule Manager Kendra Morrison, at morrison.kendra@epa.gov or (303) 312-6145.

LEAD AND COPPER TAP SAMPLE SITE PLAN

Lead and Copper Tap Sample Site Plan (TSSP) Development

Summary :

- Develop a lead and copper [site sample plan](#)
- Submit to the EPA for review and approval
- Sample according to the TSSP during your monitoring period
- If you cannot sample according to the TSSP – **EMAIL THE EPA BEFORE** sampling to obtain approval

Where Must I Collect My Samples?

The lead and copper regulations (LCR) require you to sample at locations that may be particularly susceptible to high lead or copper concentrations. The LCR establishes a tiering system for prioritizing sampling sites. A materials evaluation is required to help classify sampling sites into tiers. Region 8 requires that water systems develop a [Lead and Copper Sample Site Plan](#) before you begin your lead and copper tap monitoring. You can develop or update an existing sample site plan using the [LCR Tap Sample Site Plan Instructions](#) page along with the [blank sample site plan form](#). The monitoring must be conducted at taps that can be used for human consumption (e.g., kitchen or bathroom taps). The Tiering Classification table below defines the tiering system for prioritizing sampling sites. (40 CFR 141.86(a)).

Tiering Classification	
<i>If you are a Community Water System (CWS)</i>	<i>If you are a Non-Transient Non-Community Water System (NTNC)</i>
<p>Tier 1 sampling sites are single family structures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • with copper pipes with lead solder installed after 1982 (<i>but before the effective date of your state's lead ban</i>) or contain lead pipes; and/or • that are served by a lead service line. <p>Note: When multiple-family residences (MFRs) comprise at least 20% of the structures served by a water system, the system may count them as Tier 1 sites.</p> <p>Tier 2 sampling sites consist of buildings, including MFRs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • with copper pipes with lead solder installed after 1982 (<i>but before effective date of your state's lead ban</i>) or contain lead pipes; and/or • that are served by a lead service line. <p>Tier 3 sampling sites are single-family structures with copper pipes having lead solder installed before 1983.</p>	<p>Tier 1 sampling sites consist of buildings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • with copper pipes with lead solder installed after 1982 (<i>but before the effective date of your state's lead ban</i>) or contain lead pipes; and/or • that are served by a lead service line. <p>Tier 2 sampling sites consist of buildings with copper pipes with lead solder installed before 1983.</p> <p>Tier 3: Not applicable.</p>
<p>Representative Sample: If a CWS or NTNCWS cannot collect enough samples from tiered sites, it must collect them from sites where the plumbing is similar to that used at other sites served by the water system.</p>	

Once monitoring begins, you must use the same sites, unless a site is no longer accessible to you or no longer fits the requirements of a priority site (e.g., the lead service lines that served the site have been removed). Sites chosen for reduced monitoring (i.e., monitoring that is conducted at a one-year or three-year frequency) must be representative of those sites that were used during standard monitoring and must follow tiering requirements. For example, if a system has 100 sites, of which 75 are Tier 1 and 25 are Tier 2, it must collect all 50 reduced sites from Tier 1 sites if they are available. Otherwise, the rule does not specify which sites must be chosen for reduced monitoring. You may wish to randomly select the reduced number of sites from the larger pool used during standard monitoring. The intent of the rule is that you do not use only those sampling locations with the lowest lead or copper levels. Region 8 may determine which sample locations you must use. Before proceeding, check with the lead and copper rule program at Region 8 to find out what method the region uses in selecting reduced monitoring sampling sites.



Sources of Information That You Should Review

To identify enough sites that meet the tiering criteria, you should survey all records documenting the materials used to construct and repair your distribution system and buildings connected to your distribution system.

Relevant information can be attained through the following sources:

- Plumbing Codes
- Plumbing Permits
- Distribution Maps and Drawings
- Inspection and Maintenance Records
- Meter Installation Records
- Capital Improvement and Master Plans
- Standard Operating Procedures
- Operation and Maintenance Manuals
- Permits
- Existing Water Quality Data
- Interviews with Senior Personnel, Building Inspectors, and Retirees
- Community Survey



The EPA recommends that you identify more sampling sites than the number of samples you are required to collect during each monitoring period in case volunteers drop out. The region will determine the number of lead and copper samples required. You should identify at least double the number of sites meeting the Tier 1 criteria, then you should complete your list with sites meeting Tier 2 criteria, followed by those meeting Tier 3 criteria (for CWSs only).

- If you do not have enough Tier 1, 2, and 3 sites, you must complete your sampling pool with representative sites. A site is representative if its plumbing is similar to that of other sites in your system. The EPA encourages you to use sites with copper plumbing installed subsequent to the local implementation of the lead ban (typically 1988 or 1989), provided these sites can be considered representative.



EXAMPLE: Selecting Tiered Sites

- é A water system serving 3,301 to 10,000 people is on standard monitoring.
- é It is required to collect tap samples for a total of 40 sites, 20 of which must be from sites served by a lead service line.
- é After reviewing its records, the water system can identify only 12 sites served by lead service lines.
- é It must collect a tap sample from each of these available sites and the remaining 28 samples from other Tier 1 sites.
- é If an insufficient number of Tier 1 sites are available, the system must use Tier 2 sites, followed by Tier 3 sites and, lastly, by representative sites.

· If your system has fewer than five drinking water taps, then you must collect at least one sample from each tap and additional samples from those taps on different days during the monitoring period to meet the minimum number of required samples. For instance, if you have only one sample site, you may be required to collect five separate samples from that sample site on different days. Alternatively, under the Short-Term Revisions, the region may allow you to collect fewer than five tap samples if you collect samples from all taps that can be used for human consumption (e.g., kitchen or bathroom taps).

- If your system contains lead service lines, then, if possible, half of the required sampling sites should be served by a lead service line. For a system required to collect 40 tap samples, your sampling plan should include 20 sites that are served by a lead service line, and you should try to maintain a list of about 30 to 40 sampling sites served by lead service lines to ensure access to enough sites.

If You Cannot Find Enough Tier 1 Sampling Sites

If you are unable to collect all your samples from Tier 1 sites, then you must follow the procedures discussed below and notify Region 8 of any deviation from your sample site plan:

- Ø When a sufficient number of Tier 1 sites do not exist or are inaccessible (e.g., homeowner denies permission for you to collect a sample), you must complete your sampling pool with Tier 2 sites.
- Ø For CWSs, when a sufficient number of Tier 1 and 2 sites do not exist or are inaccessible, you must complete your sampling pool with Tier 3 sites.
- Ø Any water system that cannot complete its sampling at sites that meet the applicable tier criteria must complete sampling at representative sites throughout the distribution system.
- Ø You are not required to target buildings with lead solder installed after the effective date that the lead ban was adopted in your state.
- Ø You should not monitor at sampling sites that have water softeners; however, if all of your available sampling sites have water softeners, you should identify the highest risk sites (Tier 1) and monitor at those locations (such as a kitchen or bathroom tap).
- Ø If you are not able to draw at least half of your samples from taps served by lead service lines, you must collect a sample from each *available* site that is served by a lead service line.
- Ø If you have no lead service lines, but you have lead goosenecks or pigtails, you can collect tap water samples at the sites with the goosenecks and/or pigtails.

If You Cannot Use an Original Sampling Site:

If you cannot gain access to an original sampling site during any subsequent monitoring period (e.g., homeowner no longer wishes to participate in the sampling program), you must notify the Region 8 lead and copper rule manager, update your sample site plan, and collect a tap water sample from another site which

meets the same targeting criteria as the original site. The replacement site should be located within reasonable proximity of the original site. (*Note: Region 8 requires prior notification or approval of any changes in sampling sites, and you must report any sampling site changes when submitting data*).

Questions?

If you have any questions, please contact Bolor Bertelmann at bertelmann.bolor@epa.gov or (303) 312-6233, or Erica Wenzel at wenzel.eric@epa.gov or 303-312-6411.

RTCR SAMPLE SITING PLAN CHANGES

RTCR Sample Siting Plan – Temporary Sample Site Change

Under the Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR) systems must develop a written sample siting plan that identifies sampling sites and a sample collection schedule that are representative of water throughout the distribution system (141.853(a)(1)). Routine and repeat sample sites and any sampling points necessary to meet the requirements of the Revised Total Coliform Rule must be reflected in the sampling plan (141.853(a)(1)).

If you have to change the routine total coliform sample location for one month, then you need to send an email to the RTCR Manager (at R8DWU@epa.gov) with the following information:

- 1) Location where you were supposed to collect the sample,
- 2) Location where you did collect the sample, and
- 3) A legitimate reason why the location had to change.

This change will be allowed once, but if routine sample sites can't be accessed for more than one month, the RTCR sample siting plan (both the chart and map) will need to be revised and resubmitted to the EPA. You can access a blank RTCR sample siting plan on the Region 8 EPA website at <https://www.epa.gov/region8-waterops/revised-total-coliform-rule-sample-siting-plan>. Failure to notify the EPA of a sample site change may result in a failure to monitor violation. Help the EPA help you collect total coliform samples at the correct locations.

CHEMICAL SAMPLING – BEST PRACTICES

Chemical Sampling: The Importance of Best Sample Collection Practices

As our nation emerged from the covid pandemic, we continued to experience disruptions to the labor market, transportation, and material supply chains. As a result, the hot months of the year have been challenging for ensuring that drinking water samples are appropriately collected and reach certified laboratories for analysis within required hold times and temperatures. Using best sample collection practices as a set of tools to preserve sample integrity can help operators mitigate obstacles within their control.

The following tips will help ensure that inorganic and organic chemical sampling is successful, that quality samples are shipped to your laboratory, and the water system you operate remains in compliance with the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations.

Sample bottles

Contact a certified laboratory to ask them to send you the sample bottles and instructions for the tests you will be requesting. Plastic or clear or amber glass bottles will be used for sample collection. EPA Region 8's list of regulated inorganic and organic chemicals is available at <https://www.epa.gov/region8-waterops> under the "Regulations and Compliance" section. The list provides all chemical contaminants that are required to be sampled under each contaminant group. Ask the lab for sample bottles for EPA IOCs, SOCs, VOCs, asbestos, and/or nitrates, and provide them the EPA's regulated analytes list. State requirements where the lab is physically located are sometimes different from EPA requirements, so make sure the lab understands that these tests are for the EPA. Do not ask for bottles by method. Each lab is certified for certain methods and is aware which are EPA-approved.

Sample locations

Sample at the location identified on your schematic for the collection of IOCs, SOCs, VOCs, and nitrates (examples: SS01/SP01, TP01/SP01). Depending on the requirements for your system, asbestos may be sampled at the entry point to the distribution

system or within the distribution system at a location served by asbestos cement pipe. Your 2024 Annual Monitoring and Reporting Requirements Report can serve as another resource for the precise sampling locations for your water system.

Sample Collection and Eliminating the Potential for Cross Contamination

- Sample early in the compliance period so if something goes wrong you have time to resample.
- If possible, wash your hands before sample collection.
- Make sure there are no chemicals like gasoline, pesticides, oils, and solvents stored near the sampling location that could cross contaminate your samples.
- Wear gloves and eye protection when handling acids and other preservatives.
- Do not touch the inside of the cap or bottle.
- Do not touch the bottle to the faucet.
- Do not place the lids in a pocket. Set bottle lids face up on a clean surface while sampling.
- Some bottles contain preservatives or other additives, so only use bottles that the lab provides you. Do not rinse the bottles.
- Pay special attention to sampling instructions, especially for volatile organic chemicals, which require the absence of air space in small bottles called VOA (volatile organic analysis) vials.
- Follow instructions for filling all sample bottles, including any recommended tap flushing actions or water stream thickness.
- Take note of the total volumes that are required to be collected for lab analysis. If you are not sure, contact your lab. Some bottles need filled completely (example: total PCBs), while others cannot be overfilled, or the preservative concentration will be diluted.



Chain of Custody (COC)

A chain of custody is a legal document that is used to guarantee the identity and integrity of the

sample (or data) from collection through reporting of the test results. It documents the chronological history of the sample.

Complete the COC with all relevant information. Include your public water system identification number (PWS ID) and system name. Clearly identify the sampling location (examples: SS01/SP01, TP01/SP01), plus the time and date of sampling. Provide a street address if the sample was obtained within distribution.

Do not specify methods of analyses on the COC. Instead, request EPA IOCs, SOCs, VOCs, asbestos, and/or nitrates, and directly provide the lab the EPA's regulated contaminants list (referenced above). The EPA has approved multiple methods of analyses for chemical contaminants, and labs must be certified to perform these methods. By specifying individual methods on your COC, it is

possible to limit the laboratory's ability to perform all required tests, which could result in a failure to monitor violation.

Shipping

Shipping instructions should be included with your bottle set. If not, contact your lab for any recommended shipping instructions.

Freeze ice packs for at least 72 hours prior to sampling, and do not sample until ice packs are frozen solid. Make sure you include enough ice packs to keep your samples cooled to less than 6°C (less than 42.8 °F) until they reach the lab.

Ship samples to the lab as soon as they are collected, unless they are refrigerated overnight. Some samples require shipment right away because of short hold times. Asbestos samples have a 48-hour hold time and asbestos certified labs are located out of state.

See detailed shipping best practices in the article, "Best Shipping Practices to Ensure Sample Integrity and Delivery to Your Lab this Summer."

Drinking Water Sample Hold Times (total time from collection to lab preparation or analysis)	
Chemical Contaminant:	Hold Time:
Nitrate	48 hours (unpreserved)
Nitrite	48 hours (unpreserved)
Total Nitrate + Nitrite	28 days (preserved)
Asbestos	48 hours
IOCs, SOCs, VOCs (other than nitrate/nitrite)	7, 14, 28, or 180 days (contaminant and method dependent)

Guidance for Sample Collection

See the EPA's "Quick Guide to Drinking Water Sample Collection" at <https://www.epa.gov/region8-waterops/quick-guide-drinking-water-sample-collection> for additional information.

Reporting to the EPA

A few laboratories will directly send results to the EPA, but it is your responsibility to make sure the EPA receives your results.

Questions?

If you have any questions, please contact Kendra Morrison at morrison.kendra@epa.gov or (303) 312-6145, or Laura Hult at hult.laura@epa.gov.

Best Shipping Practices to Ensure Sample Integrity and Delivery to Your Lab This Summer

If this coming summer is like last year's, maintaining sample integrity during shipping will be challenging. Last summer, temperatures were high, and the shipping sector was impacted by resource shortages. Here are some tips and considerations to ensure your samples arrive at your laboratory within temperature and hold-time requirements.

Some overall considerations:

- Sample early in the compliance period so if sample temperature and hold time are exceeded or there are shipment delays, you can resample before the end the monitoring compliance period and avoid violations.
- Hold times for contaminants vary from very short (e.g., total coliform, nitrate/nitrite, asbestos) to longer, and they are dictated by the testing to be performed on the samples. The hold time begins when you collect your sample and ends when the laboratory analyzes

your sample. The hold time does not end when the lab receives the sample, and most samples require some time for setup, so build extra time in planning for sample shipment.

- Check with your lab for instructions and any recommendations.
- Lab staffing on weekends is not a guarantee. Notify the lab if shipments will arrive near or on a weekend.
- Certifications require labs to notify their clients if samples arrive outside the requirements for temperature, hold time, and volume. Contact the EPA for direction if this happens.
- Most carriers do NOT store shipments overnight in a temperature-regulated facility. Coolers and boxes are usually stored on trucks in lots, subject to outside temperature extremes.
- Some next day air shipments may be transported out of state and then to your lab, so shipments could be affected by weather delays outside of the state from which samples were collected.

Ensuring Adequate Cooling and Successful Sample Delivery

- Make sure there is adequate cooling and increase the amount of ice used during summer shipments.
- Almost always, samples should be kept cool at $<6^{\circ}\text{C}$ or $<42^{\circ}\text{F}$.
- If your cooler is too small for adequate ice, request a larger cooler.
- Place your samples in the middle of the cooler as far away from the sides as possible.
- In general, wet ice cools better than blue ice or ice packs. A mixture of ice blocks and wet ice can be used for additional cooling.
- If your lab recommends wet ice, cool your samples with ice in Ziploc baggies.
- If your lab recommends the use of ice packs, freeze the ice packs for at least 72 hours prior to sampling. Do not sample until ice packs are frozen solid.
- Place temperature blanks near the ice. Do not place temperature blanks along the edges of the cooler away from ice or in the top of the cooler.
- Consider taping around the cooler lid to seal in moisture. Leaky coolers can be discarded by shipping couriers.
- Ship samples to the lab as soon as they are collected.
- Refrigerate all bottles if unable to pack and ship immediately, keeping in mind that this may not be an option for samples that have short hold times.

Questions?

If you have any questions, please contact Kendra Morrison at morrison.kendra@epa.gov or (303) 312-6145, or Laura Hult at hult.laura@epa.gov.

WHAT'S IN A SAMPLE BOTTLE NAME

The way you label your water samples tells the EPA a lot about the sample. It also determines whether your sample results will be credited to your water system or if you end up with a monitoring violation when the correct sampling location is not clearly indicated. This article will explain how to correctly label your samples so that you get the credit you deserve and do not sample in vain!

Please note, the following article discusses labeling requirements **only** for total coliform, nitrate-nitrite and triggered Ground Water Rule (TG GWR) samples. The information is applicable to almost all public water systems (PWSs). This article does not include directions on how to label samples for lead, copper, disinfection byproducts, chemicals, asbestos, radionuclides, or any other parameters that may be required.

The sample point needs to be written on the sample bottle label and the lab form. To locate the sample points for total coliform and source sample, look at your RTCR Sample Siting Plan that was submitted to the EPA. To locate the sample point for nitrate, please refer to the Annual Monitoring and Reporting Requirements ("To Do" lists) and "schematic" of your water system which the EPA sends out every year around mid-February. The schematic is an overly simplified, not-to-scale diagram of your water system. Instead of showing individual buildings and streets as your distribution system, it has a large pound sign or hashtag, that looks like this #. There is also at least one red star and blue arrow indicating where a sample should be collected for Nitrate-Nitrite, other Inorganic Compounds (IOCs), Synthetic Organic Compounds (SOCs), Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) and Radionuclides (RADS) (if required). In most cases, this is NOT the sampling point for total coliform. There is a note on the schematic that says, "Sample Points (SP) shown on the schematic are **ONLY** for Nitrates, RADs, IOCs, SOCs and VOCs." If you sample for total coliform or other contaminants, please refer to your individual Site Sampling or Monitoring Plans.

Nitrate/Nitrite Monitoring Location

If your system is required to sample for nitrate-nitrite per your Monitoring and Reporting Requirements, the sampling point on the schematic is marked as SPxx (i.e., SP01 or SP04) with a description of the sample point location (i.e., storage tank). The EPA database will only accept samples labeled this way for nitrate-nitrite, other IOCs, SOCs, VOCs and radionuclides. The SPxx designation tells the EPA that a water sample was collected **AFTER** any water treatment processes and **BEFORE** it gets to the first consumer and is from the location we call "the entry point to the distribution system." Please note that you may have more than one sampling point for nitrate-nitrite due to the number of entry points to the distribution system representing separate sources of water. Please use a certified lab of your choice to analyze the samples. It is the PWS's responsibility to make sure that the lab analyzing your sample(s) for compliance is State or EPA certified for the specific analyte and method being requested. Make sure the sampling point and sample point description (the SPxx number previously mentioned) is clearly noted on the lab's chain of custody or other form that is submitted with your water sample(s). This will ensure that the sample result is accurately recorded in the EPA database as a sample for compliance. Without the correct sample point location, your PWS will get a nitrate-nitrite failure to monitor (FTM) violation.

Total Coliform Monitoring Location

Total coliform water sample(s) must be labeled with a sample location name that clearly indicates that it is in the distribution system, preferably with the letters "DIST" and the location listed on the Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR) Sample Siting Plan. For example, "men's restroom-DIST" or "DIST 123 Main St." Total coliform

samples must be collected within the distribution system where the water is used (not at a storage tank or pump house). If you write on your sample bottle or laboratory chain of custody form that a total coliform sample was collected at SPxx, the sample will be rejected by the database, and a total coliform failure to monitor (FTM) violation will be issued.

Ground Water Rule (GWR) (Source) Monitoring Locations

If your water source is a well or spring, you are required to collect a groundwater source sample at the well or spring if your PWS has a *routine* RTCR total coliform or *E. coli* positive (TC+ or EC+) result and the system doesn't have treatment that achieves 4-log virus inactivation and removal. Samples must be collected from all groundwater sources that were used when the *routine* RTCR TC+ sample was collected, and they must be analyzed for total coliforms and *E. coli*. If you have a surface water source, this requirement does not apply to your PWS. If you purchase water from another system, you must notify the PWS that you purchase water from so that they can take the source water sample to meet the Triggered GWR sampling requirement.

Collect the source sample(s) at the groundwater source(s) (well or spring) BEFORE any treatment. You are required to have a designated sample tap at a location that allows testing from the water source. If there is no sample tap on each of your well(s) or springs, you will need to install one before your next sanitary survey, as it will be considered a Significant Deficiency in most cases where a source sample tap is absent. If you must collect GWR source samples within 24 hours after a routine RTCR TC+ or EC+ sample and you do not yet have a sample tap for your groundwater source(s), then you may be able to collect the source sample from the faucet or tank inlet closest to the well and then install a more appropriate sample tap at the source afterwards. If you do not yet have a tap at each source and 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 groundwater sources' facility codes that were combined (e.g., Combined WL01, WL02, and SPR01). This sample must be labeled as the Triggered Ground Water Rule sample (or "TG GWR" for short). You must indicate that it is a source sample or collected from the well or spring so that the EPA knows it is not one of the required RTCR repeat samples from the distribution system. Remember: This sample is only required if you use groundwater for your source water and have a routine total coliform or *E. coli* positive result.

What if SPxx and/or DIST and/or TG GWR are the same location?

What if your PWS does not have a way to collect a sample from the source (for the TG GWR) or from the entry point to the distribution system (for the SPxx for nitrate/nitrite)? Please discuss this situation with the EPA, and the EPA may designate the first tap within the distribution system as the sampling location for all three water samples, the TG GWR, the nitrate-nitrite and the routine total coliform sample. If this is the case, you will need to remember to label each sample bottle differently according to the naming conventions described above. Even though the sample location is the same, the EPA database will not accept samples that are labeled improperly.

If a nitrate-nitrite sample is labeled "DIST" (from the distribution system), you will get a nitrate monitoring violation. If the water sample from the same location is labeled "TG GWR," and you intended it to be a routine total coliform sample, it will not be accepted, and a total coliform monitoring violation will be issued. If a total coliform sample is labeled "SPxx", you will get a total coliform monitoring violation since the database will think the total coliform sample was collected from the entry point to the distribution system and not from within the distribution system. Although it sounds confusing, if you print out your Annual Monitoring and Reporting Requirements, and keep the form(s) with the correct sample point code(s) with your sample bottles, then you can always refer to it for the proper way to label your samples. We also recommend keeping your RTCR Sample Siting Plan nearby so you remember where to collect your sample(s) each month, as well as to

remember the proper sample naming convention to write on your sample bottles and laboratory chain of custody.

EPA Regulation	Contaminant Analyzed	Physical Sample Location	Sample Site Name
Nitrate-Nitrite Rule	Nitrate, Nitrite, or Nitrate-Nitrite	Entry point to the distribution system, after treatment*	Example: SP01 – storage tank, SP04 – pressure tank
Revised Total Coliform Rule	Total Coliform and <i>E. coli</i>	Within the distribution system*	Example: DIST – Men’s restroom, or DIST-123 Main Street
Ground Water Rule	<i>E. coli</i>	Directly from the well or spring, before treatment*	Example: TG GWR – WLO1 - source
* If the sample location is the same for all 3 regulations, please collect your samples and label each bottle according to the naming convention above.			

NEW PFAS REGULATION

New PFAS Regulation

On March 14, 2023, the EPA announced the proposed National Primary Drinking Water Regulation (NPDWR) for six PFAS:

perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS), perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA), hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid (HFPO-DA, commonly known as GenX Chemicals), perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS), and perfluorobutane sulfonic acid (PFBS).



In addition to establishing standards for these six PFAS, the proposed regulation would require community water systems and non-transient non-community water systems to monitor for these chemicals, notify the public, and reduce the levels of these PFAS if levels exceed the proposed standards.

The proposed PFAS NPDWR does not require any actions until it is finalized. The rule proposed a compliance date of three years after the final rule is published. The EPA anticipates finalizing this regulation in early 2024.

The rule will prevent thousands of deaths and reduce tens of thousands of serious PFAS-attributable illnesses.

What are the best available technologies for treatment?

The best available technologies for PFAS removal are granular activated carbon, anion exchange, and reverse osmosis/nanofiltration:

<https://www.epa.gov/sciencematters/reducing-pfas-drinking-water-treatment-technologies>.

For more additional information about drinking water technologies for the removal of PFAS, please visit EPA's Drinking Water Treatability Database: <https://tdb.epa.gov/tdb/home/>.

What resources are available?

The EPA's homepage on PFAS is <https://www.epa.gov/pfas>. This website has information about steps to reduce risk, known health effects, and tools and resources. Visit <https://www.epa.gov/sdwa/and-polyfluoroalkyl-substances-pfas> for resources and updates on the rule.

What if I have additional questions?

Please contact Kendra Morrison at morrison.kendra@epa.gov or (303) 312-6145, or Karen Simpson at simpson.karen@epa.gov or (303) 312-6449.

LCR RULE REVISIONS

Lead and Copper Rule Revisions - Service Line Inventory Requirement

Lead can enter drinking water from a variety of plumbing materials installed prior to its ban. A service line is the pipe that connects the water main to the plumbing in a home or building. Lead service lines are a significant source of lead in drinking water. Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects. Developing an inventory of service line materials and identifying the location of lead service lines are key steps in getting lead service lines replaced to protect public health.

What information is available on developing and maintaining service line inventories?

To assist systems with completing service line inventories, the EPA has published 1) *Guidance for Developing and Maintaining a Service Line Inventory* 2) *Developing and Maintaining a Service Line Inventory: Small Entity Compliance Guide* 3) *Fact Sheet for Developing and Maintaining a Service Line Inventory* and 4) *Service Line Inventory Template Excel file*. All are available at <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/revised-lead-and-copper-rule>. Both the National Guidance and Small Entity Guide provide a wealth of information covering the initial inventory requirements and the benefits of developing a service line inventory. The guidance also includes best practices for inventory development and communicating information to

Who will be required to complete a service line inventory and what is the deadline?

The Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR), finalized in 2021, requires *all community and nontransient noncommunity water systems* to complete and submit an *initial* service line inventory by *October 16, 2024*.



the public. The small entity guide also includes examples of service line configurations for small water systems and an appendix with an example of completed inventory template forms for a hypothetical system.

What is a Service Line Inventory?

A *service line inventory* is a spreadsheet where every service line in a public water system has a row with data.

Service line data include the service line material(s), an address or location identifier, and other relevant information.

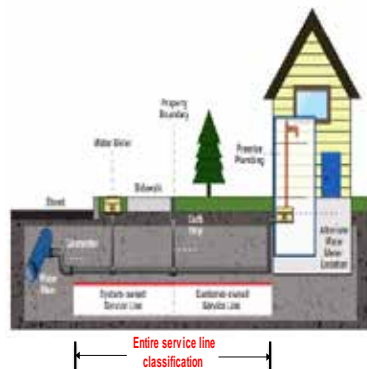


To support Wyoming and Tribal water systems, the EPA Region 8's Drinking Water Program has created a webpage specifically on lead service line inventories (LSLIs) at

<https://www.epa.gov/region8-waterops/lead-service-line-inventories-wyoming-and-tribal-lands-epa-region-8>. The LSLI webpage includes Region 8 contacts, links to the National Guidance, Small Entity Guide, Fact Sheets, Template, Forms and Instructions, and recorded webinars. The Related Information sidebar includes links to Reporting Forms, Basic Information about Lead in Drinking Water, Lead Service Line Replacement, Funding and Water Technical Assistance.

Both System- and Customer-Owned Portions

- The dividing line for ownership can vary.
- The system or the customer may be the sole owner.
- One overall classification for the entire service line is needed.



What information must be included in the inventory?

The inventory must include all service lines connected to the public water system regardless of ownership status and actual or intended use. If the service line ownership is shared, the inventory must include the material type of both the system-owned and the customer-owned portions of the service line, along with a classification of the entire service line. EPA Region 8 recommends that the inventory also include lead goosenecks, pigtails, and connectors where such information is available. Each service line, or portion of the service line where ownership is split, must be categorized as one of the following materials listed below, along with a location identifier such as a street address:

- **Lead:** All or a portion of the service line is lead.
- **Galvanized requiring replacement:** Galvanized iron or steel service line that is currently or was at any time downstream from a lead service line or is currently downstream from a lead status unknown line.
- **Non-lead:** No portion of the service line consists of lead or galvanized requiring replacement.
- **Lead status unknown:** The service line is not known to be lead, galvanized requiring replacement or non-lead.

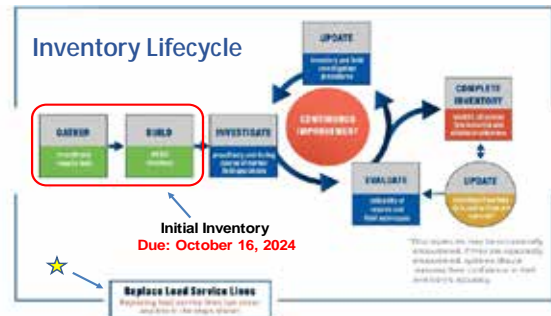
How do I develop and update the inventory?

Developing a service line inventory will take some investigation to determine the materials used throughout the drinking water distribution system.

The first step is to develop an *initial* service line inventory, which consists of a review of historical records and entering data from these records into the template spreadsheet and forms. This is what is required by October 16, 2024. You must review the following historical records to prepare your initial inventory:

- Previous materials evaluation performed to identify lead and galvanized service lines under the original Lead and Copper Rule.
- All construction and plumbing codes, permits and records that indicate the service line materials used to connect structures to the distribution system.
- All water system records including distribution system maps and drawings, records on each service connection, meter installation records, historical capital improvement plans and standard operating procedures.
- All inspections and records of the distribution system that indicate the material composition of the service

connections that connect a structure to the distribution system. This includes data collected during normal operations.



Later, the service line inventory will be updated with service line field investigations to verify historical records and to determine the material of any “lead status unknown” service lines. Investigation methods include visual inspection of service line materials, water quality sampling, and excavation. In addition, systems will need to continue to identify service line materials as they are encountered during normal operations. Opportunities for data collection under normal operations include water meter readings, repair and replacement of water meters, service lines or water mains, backflow prevention inspections, and other street repair or capital projects with open cut excavations.

What funding and technical assistance is available for completing a service line inventory?

The 2021 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), also called the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), provides a significant amount of dedicated funding for identification and replacement of lead service lines through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF). The EPA has developed a new fact sheet, *Funding Sources for Developing Service Line Inventories*, available as a link on the Identifying Funding Sources for Lead Service Line Replacement website at <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/identifying-funding-sources-lead-service-line-replacement>. This fact sheet includes the DWSRF as well as nine other funding sources that can be used for lead service line inventories.

For Wyoming systems, WY Office of State Lands and Investment (OSLI) and WY Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) have a contract with HDR Engineering, Inc., to provide public water systems throughout the state with free assistance to plan and develop lead service line inventories. If you are interested in this assistance, more information, including HDR and WY DEQ contacts, can be found on WY DEQ’s website at <https://deq.wyoming.gov/2024/01/osli-and-deq-offer-free-assistance-to-wyoming-water-systems-to-plan-and-develop-lead-service-line-inventories/>. Funding for lead service line inventories and replacement projects is also available through the Wyoming Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Program and process. More information on the DWSRF Program is at <https://deq.wyoming.gov/water-quality/water-wastewater/state-revolving-loan-fund/>.

For Tribal systems, EPA Region 8 is partnering with Region 7 on a contract to provide direct technical assistance for developing service line inventories to eligible Tribal systems. We anticipate the contract will be awarded in February and work will begin in March. The EPA will announce the contract when it is awarded. For more information on this technical service contract, please contact Jill Minter at minter.jill@epa.gov.

EPA Region 8 also is developing a new Drinking Water Infrastructure Grants – Tribal Set-Aside (DWIG-TSA) direct grant program, to include additional BIL funding for lead service line identification and replacement. This new direct grant program will be in addition to the regular DWIG-TSA program carried out through EPA's interagency partnership with the Indian Health Service. Region 8 contacts for the DWIG-TSA programs are at <https://www.epa.gov/tribaldrinkingwater/regional-tribal-drinking-water-coordinators>. For many systems, future construction projects to remove lead service lines identified in inventories will likely be funded and carried out through the EPA's interagency partnership with the Indian Health Service.

During 2024, EPA Region 8 will continue to conduct education, outreach, and training on the LCRR requirements for initial service line inventories. We will be coordinating with the WY DEQ regarding their technical assistance contract and monitoring and tracking the EPA technical assistance contract for Tribal systems. EPA Region 8 will also be working with the National and State Rural Water Associations, Midwest Assistance Program, Tribal circuit riders, EPA's Environmental Finance Centers, and WaterTA on additional technical assistance opportunities.

What if I have additional questions?

For more information, please contact Jill Minter, Region 8's Lead Service Line Inventory Coordinator, at minter.jill@epa.gov or (303) 312-6084; or Erica Wenzel, LCR-LSL Inventory Specialist, at wenzel.eric@epa.gov or (303) 312 6411.

WaterTA ASSISTANCE

WaterTA: Technical Assistance for Public Drinking Water and Wastewater Systems

All communities deserve access to clean, reliable water. Yet, too many communities across America face challenges in providing safe drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater services to their residents. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law presents an unprecedented opportunity to address water infrastructure needs by providing \$50 billion in new funding – the largest federal investment in water in the history of our nation. New and existing EPA Water Technical Assistance (WaterTA) programs will be utilized to support effective implementation of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

What is WaterTA?

The EPA's free Water Technical Assistance (WaterTA) supports communities to identify water challenges, develop plans, build capacity, and develop application materials to access water infrastructure funding. To implement WaterTA, the EPA collaborates with states, tribes, territories, community partners, and other key stakeholders. Learn more about WaterTA services and programs.

Help for Your Community

Click here for more information and to request Technical Assistance:

<https://www.epa.gov/water-infrastructure/forms/water-technical-assistance-request-form>

The EPA WaterTA aims to assist communities with applications for federal funding, quality infrastructure, and reliable water services. If your community is facing water infrastructure challenges and could benefit from support, we encourage you to learn more about who can receive WaterTA and the challenges WaterTA can help your community address, then complete and submit a webform request by clicking on the link below:

Request Water Technical Assistance for Your Community

Water Technical Assistance: Communities can request no-cost direct WaterTA to evaluate their drinking water, wastewater, stormwater infrastructure, and water quality improvement needs. The EPA's WaterTA programs offer a wide range of services, including:

- Identifying water infrastructure or water quality improvement needs
- Planning for capital improvements
- Building technical, managerial, and financial capacity
- Preparing for and developing application materials for financing a project through the SRFs or other EPA-supported funding opportunities