



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 8

1595 Wynkoop Street
DENVER, CO 80202-1129
Phone 800-227-8917
<http://www.epa.gov/region08>

December 8, 2020

Ref: 8ENF-W-SD

SENT VIA EMAIL
DIGITAL READ RECEIPT REQUESTED

Ms. Anita Swope, Owner
Mr. Dylan Skellenger, Water System Manger
Mr. Jay Skellenger, Operator
Hot Springs Court Public Water System
Hot Springs, Montana
dylanskellenger21@gmail.com

December 8, 2020
3:54 PM
Received by
EPA Region VIII
Hearing Clerk

Re: Violation of Anita Swope Administrative Order, Docket No. SDWA-08-2020-0023,
Hot Springs Court Public Water System, PWS ID #083090312

Dear Ms. Swope and Messrs. Skellenger:

The purpose of this letter is to provide notice of violation of the above-referenced Administrative Order (Order) and to provide notice of the EPA's intention to file a complaint seeking civil administrative penalties. Specifically, on April 8, 2020, the EPA issued the Order, directing Anita Swope, as owner of the Hot Springs Court Public Water System (System), to comply with the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations (Part 141) issued by the EPA under the Safe Drinking Water Act (Act), 42 U.S.C. section 300f, *et seq.* Our records indicate that you are in violation of the Order.

Among other things, the Order included the following requirements (summarized from paragraphs 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24, 26, and 27 on pages 3 and 4 of the Order), which have not been fulfilled:

- Within 30 days of receiving lead and copper monitoring results, Respondent shall deliver a consumer notice of individual tap monitoring results to persons served at each sampled site, in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 141.85(d). Within 90 days following the end of each monitoring period, Respondent shall submit to the EPA a sample copy of the consumer notification along with a certification that the notification has been distributed. 40 C.F.R. § 141.90(f)(3).
- Within 30 days after receipt of this Order, and during the following quarters until the EPA determines otherwise, in writing, Respondent shall monitor the System's water for IOCs and asbestos as required by 40 C.F.R. §§ 141.23(a)-(c). Respondent shall report results to the EPA within the first 10 calendar days following the end of the required monitoring period. 40 C.F.R. § 141.31(a).

- Within 30 calendar days after receipt of this Order, Respondent shall monitor the System's water for VOCs and SOCs, and during each of the following three consecutive quarters, and thereafter in compliance with 40 C.F.R. § 141.24. Respondent shall report results to the EPA within the first 10 calendar days following the end of the required monitoring period. 40 C.F.R. § 141.31(a).
- Within 30 calendar days after receipt of this Order, Respondent shall monitor the System's water for radionuclides, and during each of the following three consecutive quarters, and thereafter in compliance in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 141.26(a). Respondent shall report results to the EPA within the first 10 calendar days following the end of the required monitoring period. 40 C.F.R. § 141.31(a).
- Respondent shall monitor the System's water monthly for total coliform bacteria. If a sample is positive for total coliform, within 24 hours of being notified of the positive result, Respondent shall collect a set of three repeat samples for each total coliform-positive sample. 40 C.F.R. § 141.853-858. Respondent shall report results to the EPA within the first 10 calendar days following the end of the required monitoring period. 40 C.F.R. § 141.31(a).
- Within 120 days of receipt of this Order, Respondent shall complete corrective actions of the following significant deficiency and notify the EPA within 30 days after completion. Respondent shall provide sufficient evidence to the EPA, including photographs, of the corrective actions. 40 C.F.R. §§ 141.403(a) and 141.405(a)(2). Two other significant deficiencies identified in the Order have been corrected and closed.
 - No certified operator. Community water systems must have a certified operator. To address this deficiency, submit an EPA-approved certified operator certificate or other documentation.
- Within 30 days after receipt of this Order, and quarterly thereafter as long as a significant deficiency violation persists, Respondent shall notify the public of the Tier 2 significant deficiency violation. Within 10 calendar days after providing public notice, Respondent shall submit a copy of the notice and certification to the EPA. 40 C.F.R. § 141.31(d).
- Within 30 calendar days after receipt of this Order, Respondent shall notify the public of all Tier 3 failure to monitor violations in the Order including failure to monitor for lead and copper, IOCs, VOCs, SOCs, asbestos, radionuclides, and total coliform. Within 10 calendar days after providing public notice, Respondent shall submit a copy of the notice and certification to the EPA. 40 C.F.R. § 141.31(d).

In other words, Respondent is required to deliver a consumer notice of individual lead tap water results to the persons served at each sample site following the end of the lead and copper monitoring period. Respondent monitored for lead and copper on February 17, 2020, but failed to submit to the EPA a sample copy of the consumer notification along with a certification that the notices have been distributed. Respondent is required to monitor the System's water quarterly for IOCs/VOCs/SOCs, asbestos and radionuclides and failed to monitor for IOCs/VOCs/SOCs, asbestos and radionuclides. Respondent is required to monitor the System's water monthly for total coliform bacteria and failed to collect a routine total coliform bacteria sample during May 2020. Respondent is required to complete corrective actions of significant deficiencies, notify the EPA after completion and provide sufficient evidence to the EPA. Respondent has completed corrective actions of all but one significant deficiency.

Respondent has failed to obtain a certified operator and/or has not submitted an EPA-approved certified operator certificate or other documentation. Respondent also is required to notify the public of the Tier 2 significant deficiency violation and Tier 3 failure to monitor for lead and copper, IOCs/VOCs/SOCs, asbestos, radionuclides and total coliform violations and submit copies of the notices and certifications to the EPA.

Violation of any part of this Order, the Act, or Part 141 may subject Respondent to a civil penalty of up to \$58,328 (as adjusted for inflation) per day of violation, a court injunction ordering compliance, or both. 42 U.S.C. § 300g-3; 40 C.F.R. part 19; 85 Fed. Reg. at 1754 (January 13, 2020).

Please note that the EPA may choose not to file a complaint seeking civil penalties if you provide the EPA with notice of completed monitoring, certified operator, and consumer notification and public notice requirements regarding the above-referenced violations within 45 days, and you do not incur any additional violations.

In addition, the EPA acknowledges that the COVID-19 pandemic may affect the timeframes listed herein. If you have specific COVID-19 issues, please contact Jill Minter via email at minter.jill@epa.gov or by phone at (800) 227-8917, extension 6084, or (303) 312-6084 as soon as possible. The EPA may, in its discretion, consider granting an extension. We will consider nationwide public health developments and your specific circumstances in determining an appropriate timeline for responding to this Administrative Order Violation, while still pursuing regulatory compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act as expeditiously as possible.

For assistance with actions necessary to come into compliance, please contact Jill Minter at the email and phone number listed in the above paragraph. Any questions from your attorney should be directed to Mia Bearley, Senior Assistant Regional Counsel, via email at bearley.mia@epa.gov or by phone at (800) 227-8917, extension 6554, or (303) 312-6554.

We urge your prompt attention to this matter.

**COLLEEN
RATHBONE**

Digitally signed by COLLEEN
RATHBONE
Date: 2020.12.08 12:57:11 -07'00'

Colleen Rathbone, Chief
Water Enforcement Branch
Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division

Enclosures

cc: Melissa Haniewicz, EPA Regional Hearing Clerk
Shawn Sorenson, Sanitarian (ssorenson@co.sanders.mt.us)
Wilhelmina Keenan, Environmental Director (willie.keenan@cst.org)



EPA Region 8 Drinking Water Unit - Tips for WY and Tribal Systems How to Stay in Compliance with Monitoring Requirements

Check your Monitoring Schedule

- Monitoring and Reporting Requirements (Schedules) are emailed to you in February of each year. This schedule notes all contaminants your water system must monitor for, along with the required number of samples, sampling point location(s), frequency and timeframe.
- For more detailed info on your Monitoring Schedule, please refer to "*Quick Guide To Drinking Water Monitoring Requirements in Wyoming and on Tribal Lands in EPA Region 8*" which can be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/region8-waterops/quick-guide-drinking-water-monitoring-requirements-wyoming-and-tribal-lands-epa>
- Suggestions: Post your Monitoring Schedule on your bulletin board. Note when you must sample on your desk or wall calendar. Use a scheduler on your computer (like Outlook) to identify sampling dates and set reminders.
- If you misplace your Monitoring Schedule, a copy can be found on Drinking Water Watch (DWW) or call EPA for a replacement copy.
- **Work with your Certified Lab** - Once you receive your Monitoring Schedule, share it with your lab(s).
- Schedule what bottles you will need for the sampling required for the year and ask for extra Total Coliform Rule (TCR) sample bottles just in case you have a total coliform (TC) positive and need to take repeats or source samples for the Ground Water Rule. It saves time!
- Check to see if your lab will copy EPA when they email you your results. This will save you a step! But ultimately, you are responsible for making sure that EPA receives your sample results.
- **Check your email for messages from EPA.** Every month EPA sends out a reminder to the administrative contact (and others who request to be opted-in) of what chemical (including radiological) samples remain to be collected for the monitoring period.
- Use DWW to print out your chemical sample collection form for the pending requirements. It will contain information to help your lab understand what to test your samples for.

When to Sample and When to Report Results to EPA - ALWAYS sample as early in the month or monitoring period as you can – on a Monday if possible! This way, if a sample is lost or exceeds a holding time, you will still have time to collect another sample before the weekend or end of the month. This is a super easy way to avoid a violation.

- If the lab is not copying EPA on your sample results, send them in to EPA as soon as you receive them. This way you can avoid getting a violation for Failure to Monitor. **Tip:** TCR results are due by the 10th of the month following the month you sampled. For all other samples, send results to EPA as soon as you receive them from the lab.
- Samples results can be emailed to: r8dwu@epa.gov or faxed to: 1-877-876-9101

Where to Sample – Take your samples according to your Monitoring Schedule during the correct time period and at the correct location(s). Some samples must be collected at the entry point while others must be collected in the distribution system. Use your approved sampling/monitoring plans for distribution system samples!

Surface Water Treatment Rule – For compliance guidance, please refer to the EPA Region 8 SWTR Fact Sheet located at: <https://www.epa.gov/region8-waterops/swtr-fact-sheet-epa-region-8>

Total Coliform Rule

- Anytime you have a *E.coli* (EC+) sample **you must call EPA IMMEDIATELY at 1-800-227-8917** and ask to speak with the RTRC Manager. Then take repeat TCR samples, as well as Ground Water Rule source sample(s) (if applicable).
- If you have a TC Positive but an E. Coli Negative, follow the 5 steps outlined in “*Addressing Total Coliform Positive or E.coli Positive Sample Results in EPA Region 8*”, which can be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/region8-waterops/addressing-total-coliform-positive-or-ecoli-positive-sample-results-epa-region-8>
- 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. The TCR samples must be taken at specified locations throughout the distribution system as designated by your sampling plans.

Disinfection Byproducts Rule (DBPR)

- Sample according to your approved monitoring plan – you can also find what month(s) you are required to monitor and locations on your Monitoring Schedule.
- Submit your sample results and your LRAA/OEL forms (applicable to quarterly sampling) as soon as you receive the results from your lab. The form can be found on Drinking Water Online at: <https://www.epa.gov/region8-waterops/reporting-forms-drinking-water-systems-wyoming-and-tribal-lands-epa-region-8#dbpr2>. Also include your compliance reports if the TTHM or HAA5 MCL is exceeded during any quarter.

Nitrates – This is an acute contaminant. If your nitrate sample result is over 10 mg/L you must take a confirmation sample within 24 hours and call EPA IMMEDIATELY at 303-312-6791.

Lead and Copper Rule

- Be sure to check your Monitoring Schedule, as lead and copper samples must be collected during certain months. Also, be sure to follow your lead and copper sample siting plan when collecting samples. You must collect samples from approved locations. If you don't have to sample this year, your Monitoring Schedule will tell you that.
- **Always** collect a first-draw sample from a tap where the water has been standing in the pipes for at least 6 hours. Avoid sample locations that have been vacant for weeks or months. The goal is to sample at homes and taps in these homes that are routinely used. Always follow your monitoring plan.

Other Rules - Check your sample results as soon as you receive them from the lab. If you see any sample has exceeded an MCL or *E. coli* positive, contact EPA immediately.

Drinking Water Online - This is where you can find the link to DWW and general info, including: emergencies, what to do if you lose pressure in your system, sanitary survey info, certified lab info, sampling and treatment techniques, reporting forms and instructions, rules and guidance and much more: Be sure to check this very helpful website: <https://www.epa.gov/region8-waterops>

Drinking Water Watch - This online system allows you view data we maintain about your water system(s). The information includes the following:

- size and type of population served
- contact information
- water system facilities, such as wells, intakes, treatment plant, storage tanks, and distribution
- treatment used
- monitoring schedules
- sampling results reported to EPA
- violations
- plus, even more...

The Public Access Version of DWW (DWWPUB) allows anyone who is interested to view much of the available information for each regulated Public Water System (PWS) in Wyoming and within EPA R8 Tribal Lands, without the need to register or remember passwords. The Public Access Version of DWW can be found at:

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

Emergencies (After Hours) - If you need to report an emergency (flooding or loss of your water source, contamination in your drinking water, loss of pressure in the distribution system, or anything else that could require immediate public notice), after hours call the Region 8 Drinking Water Emergency Hotline at 303-312-6327.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Date of Release: _____ PWS Number: _____

FAILURE TO MONITOR VIOLATION TOTAL COLIFORM BACTERIA

To All _____ Water Users
(Name of water system/business)

We are required to monitor your drinking water for total coliform bacteria on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During _____ we did not complete all monitoring for total coliform (compliance period) bacteria and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.

The table below lists the failure to monitor violations we received for total coliform monitoring during the last year. (Please check the ones that apply to your system.)

Monitoring Period (Month/Year)	Failure to Monitor	No Replacement Sample after a Routine sample was invalidated	Insufficient Number of Routine Samples

What happened? What is being done?

If you have any questions, please contact _____ at _____.
(Water system contact person) (Phone)

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

Optional: If applicable, you may also include the statement that “Subsequent water samples have been analyzed as safe.”

SAMPLE: Suggested public notice language for FAILURE TO MONITOR FOR TOTAL COLIFORM.
You may use the above notice sample or write your own but the text in italics must be included in any notification.

PWS Operator/Responsible Party:

Since most monitoring violations are included in Tier 3, you must provide public notice to persons served within one year after you learn of the violation. Multiple monitoring violations can be serious, and your primacy agency may have more stringent requirements. Check with your primacy agency to make sure you meet its requirements.

Community Systems must use one of the following methods:

- hand or direct delivery
- mail, as a separate notice or included with the bill

Non-Community Systems must use one of the following methods:

- posting in conspicuous locations
- hand delivery
- mail

In addition, both community and non-community systems must use another method reasonably calculated to reach others if they would not be reached by the first method. Such methods could include newspapers, e-mail, or delivery to community organizations. If you post the notice, it must remain posted until the violation is resolved but in no case less than seven (7) days, even if the violation is resolved. If the violation has been resolved, you must post the notice for at least one week. If you mail, post, or hand deliver, print your notice on letterhead, if available.

The notice on the reverse is appropriate for distribution after each violation or collectively at the end of the calendar year. If you choose to wait until the end of the year to give notice, the enclosed form can be issued or it can be inserted into your CCR as long as public notification requirements are met.

After issuing the notice, make sure to send your primacy agency a copy of each type of notice and a certification that you have met all the public notice requirements within ten days after issuing the notice.

Send the copy of your notice and dates posted to:

RTCR MANAGER
 US EPA REGION 8
 PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM PROGRAM - 8WD-SDA
 1595 WYNKOOP ST.
 DENVER CO 80202

Or, you can fax a copy to: Attn: RTCR Manager at **877-876-9101**.

If you have questions about your RTCR FTM violation call 1-800-227-8917 and ask to speak with the RTCR Manager.

Certification of Public Notification

I _____ **certify that the attached public notification was issued**
(PWS Operator/Responsible Party)

from _____ **to** _____
(Date) (Date)

The attached notice was issued by _____
(Method of delivery)

Signature _____ **Date** _____

Instructions for GWR Failure to Take Corrective Action Within Required Time

Template on Reverse

A system's failure to take corrective action within the required timeframe or be in compliance with a state-approved corrective action plan and schedule for a fecal indicator-positive ground water source sample or significant deficiency under the Ground Water Rule is a treatment technique violation and requires Tier 2 notification. You must provide public notice to persons served as soon as practical but within 30 days after you learn of the violation [40 CFR 141.203(b)]. You must issue a repeat notice every three months for as long as the violation persists. Your primacy agency may have more stringent requirements for treatment technique violations. Check with your agency to make sure you meet all requirements.

If this notice is for failing to address a fecal indicator-positive source sample, a Tier 1 notice for detecting a fecal indicator in the source water should have already been issued. Consider providing the history of the situation in this notice (i.e., what events lead to requiring corrective action) to avoid confusing the public when this second notice is issued.

Community systems must use one of the following methods [40 CFR 141.203(c)]:

- Hand or direct delivery
- Mail, as a separate notice or included with the bill

Noncommunity systems must use one of the following methods [40 CFR 141.203(c)]:

- Posting in conspicuous locations
- Hand delivery
- Mail

In addition both community and noncommunity systems must use *another* method reasonably calculated to reach others if they would not be reached by the first method [40 CFR 141.203(c)]. Such methods could include newspapers, e-mail, or delivery to community organizations. If you mail, post, or hand deliver, print your notice on your system's letterhead if available.

The notice on the reverse is appropriate for mailing, posting, or hand delivery. If you modify this notice, you must still include all required PN elements from 40 CFR 141.205(a) and leave the mandatory language unchanged (see below).

Mandatory Language

Mandatory language on health effects (from Appendix B to Subpart Q) must be included as written (with blanks filled in) and is presented in this notice in italics and with an asterisk on either end.

You must also include standard language to encourage the distribution of the public notice to all persons served, where applicable [40 CFR 141.205(d)]. This language is also presented in this notice in italics and with an asterisk on either end.

Corrective Action

In your notice, describe corrective actions you are taking. Listed below are some steps commonly taken by water systems with Ground Water Rule treatment technique violations. Depending on the corrective action you are taking, you can use one or more of the following statements, if appropriate, or develop your own text:

- Although we did not meet our deadline, we are now in consultation with the state to develop a corrective action plan.
- The [source of contamination/significant deficiency] has been identified and addressed.
- We have implemented a short term plan to address the immediate issue while we pursue the long-term solution.

Repeat Notices

For repeat notices, you should state how long the violation has been ongoing and remind consumers of when you sent out any previous notices. If you are making progress with correcting the significant deficiency or addressing the fecal indicator-positive source sample, describe it. Alternatively, if funding or other issues are delaying corrective action, let consumers know.

After Issuing the Notice

Send a copy to EPA Region 8 Drinking Water Unit (8WP-SDA), Attn: GWR Manager, 1595 Wynkoop Street, Denver, CO 80202 or email a copy of the PN and the certification to R8DWU@epa.gov. Make sure to send your primacy agency a copy of each type of notice and a certification that you have met all public notification requirements within ten days after issuing the notice [40 CFR 141.31(d)].

**GWR Failure to Take Corrective Action Within Required Time Frame
Public Notice**

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

**_____ (PWS Name) Failed to Correct a Significant Deficiency
Within Required Time Frame.**

Our water system recently violated a drinking water requirement. Although this incident was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did (are doing) to correct this situation.

A routine sanitary survey conducted on (provide survey date) _____ by the Environmental Protection Agency Region 8 (EPA) found (describe significant deficiency in our water system) _____

As required by EPA's Ground Water Rule, we were required to take action to correct this deficiency. However, we failed to take this action by the deadline established by EPA.

What should I do?

- There is nothing you need to do. You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.
- If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

What does this mean?

This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified within 24 hours.
Inadequately treated water may contain disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches. **These symptoms, however, are not caused only by organisms in drinking water, but also by other factors. If you experience any of these symptoms and they persist, you may want to seek medical advice.**

What is being done?

(Describe corrective action) _____

We anticipate resolving the problem within (estimated time frame) _____.
For more information, please contact (name of system contact) _____ at (phone number) _____ or (mailing address) _____.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly. You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by (system name) _____.
Public Water System ID#: _____.
Date distributed: _____.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Monitoring Requirements Not Met for _____ (Public Water System Name)

Our water system violated several drinking water regulations over the compliance period shown below. Even though these were not emergencies, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct these situations.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are indicators of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. During _____, we did not monitor for _____,
(compliance period) (contaminant(s))
and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time.

What should I do?

There is nothing you need to do at this time.

The table below lists the contaminant(s) we did not properly test for during the compliance period, how often we are supposed to sample and how many samples we are supposed to take, how many samples we took, when samples should have been taken, and the date on which follow-up samples were taken.

Contaminant	Required sampling frequency	Number of samples taken	When samples should have been taken	When samples were taken

What happened? What is being done? (describe corrective action.)

For more information, please contact _____ at _____
(name of contact) (phone number)
or _____ . Please share this information
(mailing address)

with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hands or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by _____ . Public Water System ID#: _____
(system)

Date distributed: _____ .

ATTENTION: PWS Operator/Responsible Party

For monitoring violations, you must provide public notice to persons served within one year after you learn of the violation (141.204(b)).

Community systems must use one of the following methods of delivery (141.204(c)):

- Hand or direct delivery
- Mail, as a separate notice or included with the bill

Non-community systems must use one of the following methods of delivery (141.204(c)):

- Posting in conspicuous locations
- Hand delivery
- Mail

In addition, both community and non-community systems must use another method reasonably calculated to reach others if they would not be reached by the first method (141.204(c)). Such methods could include newspapers, email, or delivery to community organizations. If you post the notice, it must remain posted until the violation is resolved. If the violation has been resolved, you must post the notice for at least one week (141.204(b)). If you mail, post, or hand deliver, print your notice on letterhead, if available.

Corrective Actions

In your notice, describe corrective actions you took or are taking. This could include information stating that you have since taken or are in the process of taking the required samples.

After Issuing the Notice

Within ten days after issuing the notice, you must send to EPA a copy of each type of notice, along with a certification (see example below) that you have met all the public notice requirements. Mail copies to:

PN RULE MANAGER
 US EPA REGION 8
 PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM PROGRAM - 8P-W-DW
 1595 Wynkoop Street
 DENVER CO 80202-1129

Or, you can fax a copy toll-free to **1-(877) 876-9101**.

Certification of Public Notification

I _____ certify that the attached public notification was issued
(PWS Operator/Responsible Party)

from _____ to _____.
(Date) (Date)

The attached notice was issued by _____.
(Method of delivery)

Signature _____ Date _____

Consumer Notice of Lead Tap Water Results

Public Water System Name: _____ Public Water System ID: _____

Sample Location: _____ Date Collected: _____

Dear _____,

We would like to thank you for your participation in the lead tap monitoring program. Below is the lead result for the sample location listed above. Additional general information concerning lead in drinking water follows. For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's Web site at www.epa.gov/lead, call the National Lead Information Center at 800-424-LEAD, or contact your health care provider.

If you need more information concerning this result, please call the _____ community water supply at _____ and ask for _____.

ONLY the statement that is checked below is applicable to your sample location.

____ Lead was NOT DETECTED at this sample location.

____ Lead was detected at _____ mg/L. This result is BELOW the lead action level of 0.015 mg/L.

____ Lead was detected at _____ mg/L. This result is ABOVE the lead action level of 0.015 mg/L.

What Does This Mean?

Under the authority of the Safe Drinking Water Act, EPA set the action level for lead in drinking water at 0.015 mg/L. This means utilities must ensure that water from the customer's tap does not exceed this level in at least 90 percent of the homes sampled (90th percentile value). The action level is the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow. If water from the tap does exceed this limit, then the utility must take certain steps to correct the problem. Because lead may pose serious health risks, the EPA set a Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) of zero for lead. The MCLG is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

If detected, your lead level may be due to conditions unique to your home, such as the presence of lead solder or brass faucets, fittings and valves that may contain lead. Our system works to keep the corrosivity of our water as low as possible (corrosive water can cause lead to leach from plumbing materials that contain lead) and there are actions you can take to reduce exposure. We recommend that you to take the steps below to reduce your exposure to lead in drinking water.

Should the lead 90th percentile for this water supply exceed the lead action level, we would take a number of steps to correct the problem. Such steps include; monitor our source water for lead content, initiate controls to reduce the corrosivity of our water, and initiate lead service line replacement if needed.

What Are The Health Effects of Lead?

Lead can cause serious health problems if too much enters your body from drinking water or other sources. It can cause damage to the brain and kidneys, and can interfere with the production of red blood cells that carry oxygen to all parts of your body. The greatest risk of lead exposure is to infants, young children, and pregnant women. Scientists have linked the effects of lead on the brain with lowered IQ in children. Adults with kidney problems and high blood pressure can be affected by low levels of lead more than healthy adults. Lead is stored in the bones, and it can be released later in life. During pregnancy, the child receives lead from the mother's bones, which may affect brain development.

What Are The Sources of Lead?

The primary sources of lead exposure for most children are deteriorating lead-based paint, lead-contaminated dust, and lead-contaminated residential soil. Exposure to lead is a significant health concern, especially for young children and infants whose growing bodies tend to absorb more lead than the average adult. Lead is rarely found in source water, but enters tap water through corrosion of plumbing materials. Homes built before 1988 are more likely to have lead pipes, fixtures and solder.

What Can I Do To Reduce Exposure to Lead in Drinking Water?

If you are concerned about the lead levels at your location, there are several things you can do:

- ***Run your water to flush out lead.*** If water hasn't been used for several hours, run water for 15-30 seconds or until it becomes cold or reaches a steady temperature before using it for drinking or cooking. This will help flush lead-containing water from the pipes.
- ***Use cold water for cooking and preparing baby formula.*** Do not cook with or drink water from the hot water tap; lead dissolves more easily into hot water. Do not use water from the hot water tap to make baby formula.
- ***Do not boil water to remove lead.*** Boiling water will not reduce lead.
- ***Look for alternative sources or treatment of water.***
- ***Test your water for lead.*** Call us at the number above to find out how to get your water tested for lead.

Identify if your plumbing fixtures contain lead. Brass faucets, fittings, and valves, including those advertised as "lead-free," may contribute lead to drinking water. The law currently allows pipes, fittings, and fixtures with up to .25 percent weighted average of lead to be identified as "lead-free."

Lead Consumer Notice Certification Form

This form is intended for use by public water systems in Wyoming and tribal lands in the following states: Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah or Wyoming.

Please complete this Lead Consumer Notice Certification Form. Include one example of a completed Consumer Notice Form and send both pieces of documentation to: EPA Region 8, Lead/Copper Rule Manager, r8dwu@epa.gov, or mail to 1595 Wynkoop Street, Denver, CO 80202-1129 or fax to: Attention Lead/Copper Rule Manager, 1-877-876-9101.

PWS Name: _____ PWS No. _____
Contact Person: _____ Phone : (____) _____
Today's Date: _____

Monitoring period to which the notice applies (e.g., June – September 2016): _____

The last result for the period was received from the laboratory on: _____

All results were provided to consumers by (date): _____

The water system also certifies that the template contained the following information and was delivered within 30 days of receiving the test results from the laboratory to such persons:

- Individual tap results from lead tap water monitoring
- An explanation of the health effects of lead
- Steps that consumers can take to reduce exposure to lead in drinking water
- Contact information for your water utility
- The maximum contaminant level goals and action levels for lead, and the definitions of these two terms

DELIVERY METHOD

The result/information notice was distributed by the following method, check all that apply:

- By Direct Mail _____
- By Hand Delivery _____
- By Electronic mail _____
- Other (e.g. posting) _____

Signature of Owner, Administrative Contact, or Official Custodian

I, _____, hereby certify that the lead consumer notice has been provided to each person it serves at the specific sampling site from which the sample was tested.

Signature _____ Date _____

Title _____