# 2024 MONITORING SUMMARY

Key to Planning and Compliance

Enclosed is your 2024 monitoring summary, which outlines your water system's monitoring requirements. Please use this as a planning tool to help your public water system (PWS) remain in compliance with the State of Alaska Drinking Water Regulations, 18 AAC 80. Monitoring your drinking water for contaminants is very important so that your customers do not become sick. Please review the enclosed monitoring summary.

# **NEW REGULATION**

**Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR)** 

**Deadline in 2024!** LCRR requires initial Lead Service Line Inventories (LSLI) to be completed by *Community* and *Non-Transient Non-Community water systems*. If you are impacted by this rule, you'll see a LSLI requirement listed in the Compliance Schedule section of the monitoring summary. For more detailed information visit the LCRR DW Program website. Link: <a href="https://dec.alaska.gov/eh/dw/lcrr/">https://dec.alaska.gov/eh/dw/lcrr/</a>

# PROPOSED REGULATIONS

Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)

The proposed rule that was published in early 2023 included regulatory limits (Maximum Contaminant Level and Hazard Index) for 6 PFAS contaminants. We anticipate that the rule should be finalized in early 2024. The DW Program has been working with water systems to collect baseline PFAS samples to determine your risk and the rule's potential impact on your system. If you are interested in sampling, please contact Jamie Bjorkman at jamie.bjorkman@alaska.gov or 907-262-3423 for guidance. For information about the proposed rule visit: <a href="https://www.epa.gov/sdwa/and-polyfluoroalkyl-substances-pfas">https://www.epa.gov/sdwa/and-polyfluoroalkyl-substances-pfas</a>

#### **Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI)**

The LCRI proposed rule was published November 2023. Some of the key provisions are; lowering the Lead Action Level (AL) to 10 ppb (currently 15 ppb), requiring public notice within 24-hours of Lead AL exceedances, and requiring lead consumer notices to be completed within 3 days of results (currently 30 days). The public comment period closes in February 2024. To learn more about this proposed rule visit: <a href="https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/proposed-lead-and-copper-rule-improvements">https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/proposed-lead-and-copper-rule-improvements</a>

# SYNTHETIC ORGANIC CHEMICALS (SOC) MONITORING WAIVER

The SOC Monitoring Waiver Application for the 2023-2025 monitoring period is now available. To apply for a SOC waiver, go to the DW Program website (link below) or contact your local EPS. Submit your waiver application with the required fee as soon as possible to avoid sampling for SOCs. The SOC analyses are very expensive, so it's important to take advantage of this waiver process. The SOC waiver application deadline is **September 30**, **2024**. Applications submitted after this date may result in monitoring violations and/or additional monitoring. Link to SOC Waiver Application: <a href="http://dec.alaska.gov/eh/dw/soc/">http://dec.alaska.gov/eh/dw/soc/</a>



# QUESTIONS?

Have questions about your monitoring summary or sampling requirments?

Contact you local Environmental Program Specialist (EPS). Their contact infomation is located at the bottom of your monitoring summary.

Check Drinking Water Watch on the DW Program website to view your system's data at any time at this link:

<a href="http://dec.alaska.gov/DWW">http://dec.alaska.gov/DWW</a>
Please let your EPS know if any of the information is incorrect.



#### **STATE OF ALASKA**

Department of Environmental Conservation Environmental Health Division Drinking Water Program http://dec.alaska.gov/eh/dw

### SANITARY SURVEYS

An important part of staying in compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act is having a Sanitary Survey completed on time and correcting deficiencies. Please review the monitoring summary to confirm when the next survey is due and what deficiencies remain unaddressed. Deficiencies that need to be fixed according to the DW Program's records are listed under the Compliance Schedules section. Remember to send your EPS documentation of how and when deficiencies have been fixed. If you would like to schedule a survey with the DW Program, please contact the DW Program's Sanitary Survey Section staff at 907-376-5038 or <a href="mailto:DEC.sanitarysurveys@alaska.gov">DEC.sanitarysurveys@alaska.gov</a>.

PWS owners/operators are encouraged to request a question set from the Drinking Water Program prior to a sanitary survey inspection. This provides an opportunity to review the system and fix any potential deficiencies before the inspection takes place.

#### CYBER SECURITY

Cyber-attacks against water systems are becoming more common so now is a good time to learn about and implement cybersecurity practices that can help your utility prevent, detect, respond, and recover from cyber incidents. There are simple steps you can take to improve cybersecurity such as changing all default manufacturer or vendor passwords before equipment or software is put into service. For more information and training opportunities on cybersecurity for water systems please visit the DW Program's PWS Cybersecurity webpage at: <a href="https://dec.alaska.gov/eh/dw/security/cybersecurity">https://dec.alaska.gov/eh/dw/security/cybersecurity</a>

#### GENERAL COMPLIANCE REMINDERS

Violations are issued if a PWS fails to collect required samples, submit required reports, or resolve sanitary survey deficiencies within the appropriate timeframes. When violations are not addressed in a timely manner, this can lead to increased enforcement actions and your system may be listed on the EPA's national Enforcement Targeting Tool (ETT).

Below are some tips for staying in compliance with the regulations and avoiding violations:

- Submit the required samples according to the enclosed monitoring summary. Please use the monitoring summary as a planning tool for the year. Samples can be costly, however if you spread them out over the year, these costs can be more manageable.
- If you are required to conduct daily operator testing, please submit the proper Monthly Operator Report form for your system. Your operator report must be filled out, signed, and sent to the Drinking Water Program before the 10th of the following month. (For example, the January operator report should be sent to the Drinking Water Program by the 10th of February.)
- Lead/copper samples must be sampled from locations that
  meet regulatory tiering criteria, from locations regularly used
  for consumption, and according to your systems Lead and
  Copper Sampling Plan. If you have questions on where to
  collect lead and copper samples or do not have a current Lead
  and Copper Sampling Plan, contact your EPS prior to sampling.

- Do not wait until the end of the month to take your Total Coliform bacteria samples. That way if transportation, weather, or other issues arise, you have time to resample during the month.
- Take other types of samples at the beginning of a monitoring period (i.e., the first month of a quarter). This helps ensure samples are not forgotten and allows time if resampling is required. Please note: TTHM and HAA5s (DBPs) must be sampled during the specific time(s) and location(s) noted on the monitoring summary.
- Ensure samples are sent/brought to the laboratory in a cooler with ice, so the samples are cool but not frozen. Most samples must be between 0.0°C and 6.0°C when they arrive at the laboratory or samples will not be accepted and the system must resample.

## **HOW TO READ THE MONITORING SUMMARY**

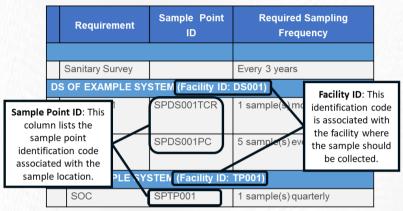
#### WHERE DO I TAKE MY SAMPLES?

The monitoring summary displays the water system facility (or sample location) where each sample is required to be collected. For example, samples listed under the Facility ID DS (distribution) must be collected in the distribution system while samples listed under the Facility ID TP (treatment plant) need to be collected at the entry point to the distribution. The Sample Point ID associates a specific sampling point with the sample location.

# THE FACILITY ID AND SAMPLE POINT ID ARE REQUIRED INFORMATION FOR SUBMITTING LABORATORY SAMPLE RESULTS TO THE STATE.

(This information is displayed on your monitoring summary as shown in the example below.)

#### **Monitoring Summary Example**



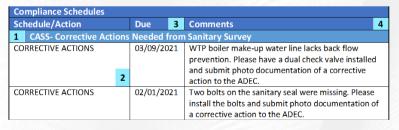
The table below highlights the types of water system facilities and their two-letter identification code (such as TP or DS) listed on the monitoring summary.

Entry Point to the Distribution System				
Facility	CH – Combined Header			
	TP - Treatment Plant			
	WL – Well*			
Distribution System				
Facility	DS – Distribution System			
Raw Water Sample				
Facility	IN – Intake			
	IG – Infiltration Gallery			
	WL – Well*			

\*Samples collected at a well could be for source/raw water sampling or represent the entry point to the distribution system. If you are unsure about the samples for your system, consult your EPS.

#### COMPLIANCE SCHEDULES

Compliance Schedules are used to track other (non-sampling) requirements such as the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) or follow-up activities for Sanitary Survey deficiencies. The table below is an example of the compliance schedules section in your monitoring summary



- Compliance Schedule Type: Identifies what requirement the compliance schedule is addressing. This example is a Sanitary Survey Corrective Actions schedule.
- 2. **Activity Type:** Lists specific action(s) that need to be completed.
- 3. Due: Lists when activity needs to be completed.
- 4. **Comments:** Comments are written by your EPS to provide additional detail to the schedule requirements.

Note: Not all schedules will have comments.

### **PUBLIC NOTICE SCHEDULES**

Public Notice (PN) Schedules are used to track Public Notification requirements. The schedule will outline what PN Tier Level is required, when the PN is due to consumers, and when the PN Certification is due to the DW Program. The table (to right) is an example of the PN schedule section in your monitoring summary.

Public Notice Schedules				
PN Action	PN Due	Certification Due	Comments	
PN - TIER 2 PUBLIC NOTICE REQUIRED	2/10/2023	2/20/2023	Tier 2 PN for HAA5 MCL	