

Northern Flows



Alaska's Drinking Water and Wastewater Program Newsletter
 Issue 13 • Winter 2002/2003

Important Information



For Water and Wastewater System Operators and Owners

Northern Flows

DW/WW Program Directory

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Oran Woolley	Env. Engineer Assoc.	x243
Nancy Horan	Administrative Clerk	x241
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Message from the Manager

The rush of the holidays is over, and the days are getting noticeably longer very quickly. To date, it has been a strange and unseasonably mild winter for us in South-central Alaska, I hope it continues. At this time, my thoughts are directed toward planning summer adventures and projects and not winter activities. I hope you are also planning your summer projects for your drinking water or wastewater system. The repeating cycles of rush and rest are echoed by the renewing cycles of the seasons, the transition of summer to fall, winter to spring, and spring to summer. Because of the unseasonably mild fall of 2002 and winter of 2003 to date, many water and wastewater system construction projects were extended well into the latter part of the year. It also looks like many construction projects may be able to start earlier than planned this spring. Whatever your project, take the time now to

outline what you need to do, how you need to do it, and then do it right, the first time. Remember our proactive theme - make something happen for you, not let something happen to you.

The transition with the new Administration continues here at the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC). Ms. Ernesta Ballard is ADEC's new Commissioner; Mr. Kurt Fredriksson continues as the Deputy Commissioner; and Ms. Kristin Ryan is the acting Director for the Division of Environmental Health. It is more than "business as usual" now at ADEC, as well as all the other State Agencies. We are reviewing budget performance measures and the overall way we do business. Everyone is striving to do it better, faster, and less expensive.



Those are recurring themes, whether you work in the public or private sector.

Calendar year 2003 will be a very busy year for the ADEC Drinking Water and Wastewater (DW/WW) Program staff. We start the year off with an overdue proposed regulation revision package for the Drinking Water Regulations, 18 AAC 80, that includes: source water protection for potable water systems (public and private), clarification of current requirements and new requirements for Class C Public Water System (PWS) owners, modifications to the sanitary survey inspector requirements, changes to the Variance and Exemption requirements and

procedures, and some new fees, as well as revising our current fees. We have also completed a necessary update to a reference in the Drinking Water Regulations and provided clarification to some definitions used in the regulations. Additionally, the proposed regulation package for the Drinking Water Regulations, 18 AAC 80, includes some changes for the Operator Certification requirements for PWS owners and operators covered under 18 AAC 74. The proposed regulation package should be ready for public notice by mid February 2003 and will have a 45-day public comment period. Please take the time to review these proposed regulation revisions and provide comments to the department in a timely manner. Your comments and constructive input are an important part of the regulatory process and the overall good and consistent public health protection provided to the residents and visitors of the State of Alaska.

Additional projects and activities planned for calendar year 2003 include: basic and advanced sanitary survey training workshops using the new electronic sanitary survey forms, new federal rules workshops for any rule finalized by EPA during the year (most likely these workshops would cover the Radon Rule or Ground Water Rule, or both), a statewide engineers workshop to be held the first week in April 2003, and the first round of baseline report cards to our schools with their own PWS.

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Sanitary Sewer Overflow Rule *by Linda Taylor*

A lot of untreated wastewater is being discharged before it reaches the wastewater treatment plants. There are several reasons that these discharges occur, such as blockages in the collection line, wet weather, broken lines, or lift station problems. Untreated discharges are a serious threat to public health and the environment. Just to give you some idea of the significance of the problem these discharges can cause, here are a couple of examples I found on the EPA website.

The population of **Cabool, Missouri** produced enough wastewater to exceed its collection system capacity in 1990. This caused overflows and backups at several locations. During the same year and at the same time as the overflows and backups, a drinking water main broke and the water pressure in the line was reduced. The water main became contaminated by the sanitary sewer overflows. Researchers linked the pathogenic strain *Escherichia coli* with both the overflows and the water main contamination. Four people died, 32 were hospitalized, and 243 were made ill.

Between November 1988 and April 1989 the sewer overflowed in a mobile home park in **Ocoee, Florida** during significant rain events. Thirty-nine cases of Hepatitis A were identified among the residents of the park. Four of these residents were food handlers working in Ft. Lauderdale where 100 cases of Hepatitis A were linked back to these four people. Hepatitis A is a chronic liver disease that can lead to permanent health injury and shorten life expectancy. Using a special health analysis scale, health damages

associated with this contamination event were measured at up to 20 years lost life expectancy. Diarrhea and other symptoms continued for 2 years.

Federal environmental regulations already say that every community with publicly owned treatment works must properly operate and maintain their wastewater collection system so that the treatment plant will discharge water within the permit limits set by EPA. To address these sewer overflows the EPA is proposing a new rule under the current NPDES section of environmental regulations. The Sanitary Sewer Overflow Rule (SSO) will require "facilities to develop and implement new capacity, management, operation and maintenance programs and public notification programs. The proposed requirements will result in fewer sewer overflows, leading to healthier communities, fewer beach closures, and fish and shellfish that are safer to eat."

What are the components of the rule? There are four areas that the rule addresses.

Capacity Assurance, Management, Operation and Maintenance Programs (CMOM)



will be required. Each collection system must have the capacity to carry the wastewater from the building lateral to the wastewater treatment plant. If the capacity is not there, the community must increase the capacity through management, operation, maintenance or capital improvement. A lot of wastewater collection systems are installed and not looked at again until water appears on the surface. Proper operation and maintenance of the wastewater system is essential to keep the wastewater in the pipe and taken to the treatment plant. This means scheduled (proactive or preventative) maintenance of the lines and lift stations. Management of the collection system includes making sure the system is operated and maintained, as well as, scheduling capital improvements to replace obsolete lines and equipment. Knowing when a certain section of a collection line is reaching capacity is also part of managing the collection system.

Notifying the Public and Health Authorities: "Municipalities and other local interests will establish a locally-tailored program that notifies the public of overflows according to the risk associated with specific overflow events. EPA is also proposing that annual summaries of sewer overflows be made available to the public. The proposal (SSO) also clarifies existing record-keeping requirements and requirements to report to the state."

Prohibition of Overflows: "The existing Clean Water Act prohibition of sanitary sewer overflows that discharge to surface waters is clarified to provide communities with limited protection from

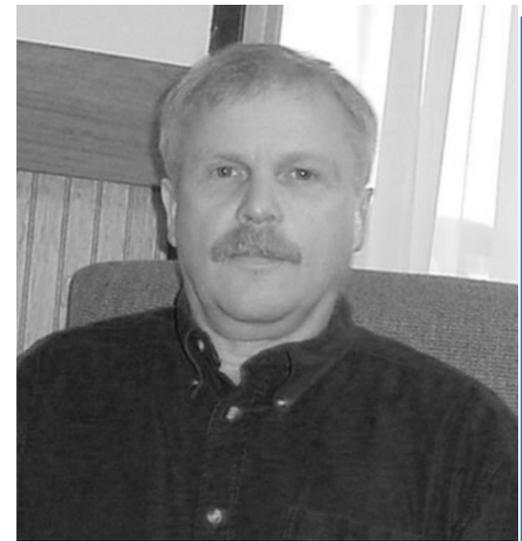
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Staff Profile - Statewide Wastewater Engineering Coordinator *by Cindy Christian*

David Johnson is the Statewide Wastewater Engineering Coordinator for the ADEC Drinking Water and Wastewater Program. He works out of the Soldotna Office on the Kenai Peninsula. As the Statewide Wastewater Engineering Coordinator, David is responsible for a wide range of activities, including writing and interpreting wastewater disposal regulations, and working on statewide compliance and enforcement issues. David also heads up the statewide Certified Installers Program (CIP). The CIP is the ADEC program responsible for the certification of individuals and businesses that install on-site wastewater disposal systems (septic systems). This is an important program because of the potential for contamination of groundwater due to the high number of on-site wastewater treatment systems in Alaska. David had the main responsibility for re-writing the Installers Manual for Conventional On-site Domestic Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Systems and for setting up classes and testing requirements for people wishing to become Certified Installers. These classes and tests are now offered

several times every year in various locations throughout the state. David also performs engineered plan review for drinking water and wastewater treatment systems for the Southcentral area of the state and acts as the lead engineer for wastewater issues statewide.

A graduate of the University of Minnesota with a degree in Civil Engineering, David came to Alaska in 1982 at the enticement of one of his brothers who already lived here. Prior to coming to work for ADEC, he spent 15 years in the private sector doing municipal engineering and contract administration for various clients in Minnesota and Alaska. In 1990, David accepted a position as an Environmental Engineer with the ADEC. It was his first experience working directly for a governmental agency. He was interested in gaining a different perspective on wastewater issues and regulations and excited to be able to have direct input on how wastewater regulations were written and implemented in the state. Over the past thirteen years, David has been committed to making changes to the state's wastewater regulations that are



based on sound science and engineering principals, and are fair and equitable to the people of Alaska.

David is actively involved in many volunteer activities sponsored by his church and community. He and his family like to spend their leisure time exploring the beauty of Alaska by hiking, skiing, and riding snowmachines. David is a very important member of the ADEC team, working to ensure the protection of public health throughout the state. ~

Sanitary Sewer Overflow Rule cont'd *by Linda Taylor*

enforcement in cases where overflows are caused by factors beyond their reasonable control or severe natural conditions, provided there are no feasible alternatives."

Expanding Permit Coverage to Satellite Systems: "Satellite municipal collection systems are those collection systems where the owner or operator is different than the owner or operator of the treatment facility. Some 4,800 satellite collection systems will be required to obtain NPDES permit coverage to include the requirements under this proposal (SSO)."

This rule has not been published in the Federal Register and has not gone out for public comment. According to EPA, the proposed rule will be published in the spring of 2003. The public comment period will be 120 days following the publishing of the proposed rule. If you want more information about the Sanitary Sewer Overflow Rule visit the EPA website at <http://www.epa.gov/owm/sso.htm> or contact Kevin Weiss at: weiss.kevin@epamail.epa.gov. ~

Message from the Manager cont'd by James Weise

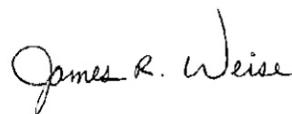
Also planned for the latter half of calendar year 2003 is the adoption by reference of the federal Lead and Copper Rule Minor Revisions, Public Notification Rule, and Radionuclides Rule. For Alaska to continue to maintain primacy for the safe drinking water program, the State is required to have these Rules adopted in a timely manner. The State currently has two year extension agreements with U.S. EPA for all of these Rules and has delayed adoption of these Rules in response to staffing levels and funding as long as practical.

As noted in past issues of the Northern Flows newsletter, staffing remains a dynamic feature of the ADEC DW/WW Program. I want to take this opportunity to note that Fred Zonzel in the Fairbanks Office and Lugene O'Fallon in the

Anchorage Office have left the DW/WW Program for new endeavors. Several new staff have joined the DW/WW Program over the past several months. These staff are: Karen Leis, Regulation Specialist in the Anchorage Office; Daniel Rogers, Analyst Programmer in the Anchorage Office; James Elam, Environmental Specialist in the Anchorage Office; Abigail McQueen, Environmental Specialist in the Anchorage Office; and Catherine Tide, Environmental Technician in the Juneau Office. A new feature in our quarterly newsletter is a DW/WW Program "Staff Profile." This profile includes a spirit-capturing photo of the staff member in action and a brief biographical summary. This is an important way for us to recognize the staff for their diligence and good work. It also allows you, the reader, an opportunity to also put a "face

with a name" for someone you have probably dealt with many times, but may have never met. The staff member for this newsletter's Staff Profile is David Johnson, an Environmental Engineer II in the Soldotna Office.

Continue to enjoy our mild winter, and let's prepare together for calendar year 2003. As always, if you have any comments or questions about any articles in Northern Flows please don't hesitate to call me or send an E-mail to me at: James_Weise@envircon.state.ak.us ~



James Weise
Manager
DW/WW Program

Working Group Established to Study Sewage Lagoons in Alaska cont'd

by David Johnson

minimum acceptable statewide criterion for wastewater lagoon design is necessary. The criteria was to be based on measured performance of lagoon systems in Alaska. To accomplish that task, a working group was established consisting of John Warren (ANTHC), Kurt Egelhofer and Doug Poage (DEC/VSW Program), Tim Wingerter (DEC Air and Water Quality Division) and Bill Rieth and David Johnson (DEC/Drinking Water and Wastewater Program). The groups first task was to gather available performance information on existing permitted Alaskan lagoon systems by reviewing discharge-monitoring reports (DMR). That effort confirmed everyone's suspicion that available DMR information was insufficient and that additional information needed to be gathered. A joint effort between the three divisions within DEC and the ANTHC identified several potential systems that could be sampled and inspected in the coming year. That way samples could be taken under similar conditions and a visual inspection of the lagoon could be performed at the same time.

Preliminary results are in for the lagoon systems located in Egegik, Upper Kalskag, King Salmon, Naknek, and Bethel. The information is from a variety of different lagoon designs with differing types of discharges (continuous and single or multiple discharge events). The working group will summarize the results and attempt to draw some useable design criterion conclusions from the data. It is likely that one inescapable conclusion will be that additional data is needed to establish specific minimum criteria for design of wastewater treatment lagoons for Alaskan conditions. ~

If you have any comments or suggestions for articles you would like to see please E-mail us at northernflows@envircon.state.ak.us

2003 Certified Installer and Approved Homeowner Training by Margaret French

Current state regulations require that contractors who install conventional onsite septic systems be certified by ADEC to perform that work (unless an engineer inspects their work). Certified Installers may install conventional systems serving single family or duplex residences, and small commercial facilities (less than 500 gallons per day).

To become certified an individual must:

- have a current contractor's license (general, specialty-excavation or specialty- sewer and water) or be working under another's license, or be employed by a government or health corporation; AND
- complete ADEC sponsored training provided by Mining and Petroleum Training Services

(MAPTS); AND pass a written examination; AND pay the required certification fee.

** The Municipality of Anchorage and the City of Valdez have additional requirements. Check with these local authorities.*

After successfully completing the training and passing the written exam, a person who seeks to be a "Certified Installer" must pay a certification fee of \$625 to ADEC for a two-year certification period. This fee may be paid in two annual installments of \$340. The individual must have on file with ADEC a copy of their current contractor's license prior to certification. If a person is working under another's license, ADEC requires a copy of that license and a letter from the licensed contractor indicating the person is

employed by that contractor. If the person is employed by a government agency or health corporation, ADEC requires a letter indicating the person is employed by that organization. To become certified an individual must complete the class and pass the examination every two years. Cost for attending the training is \$65 per person. Mining and Petroleum Training Services (MAPTS) is providing the training.

The Certified Installer classes have been divided according to experience. New students should sign up for the "initial" classes and those who have been previously certified should sign up for the "refresher" classes.

To register for one of these classes, please fill out an application form

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Training Locations and Times

Date	Course	Time	Area	Location
February 20, 2003	refresher	8am - 5 pm	Anchorage	Mining & Petroleum Training Service – UC Room 116
February 21, 2003	initial	5 pm		
Directions: University of Alaska Anchorage at the University Center is in the old theater area. Entrance to MAPTS classrooms is through the double glass doors on the back side of the building that faces the New Seward Highway. Parking is available there.				
February 27, 2003	refresher	8am - 5 pm	Fairbanks	Tanana Valley College Tech Center – Room A Downstairs
February 28, 2003	initial	5 pm		
Directions: 2093 Van Horn Road, Fairbanks 99701 – Diagonal parking along front and side of building. Additional parking in back or building.				
March 6, 2003	refresher	8am - 5 pm	Kenai - Soldotna	MAPTS Life Safety Institute (LSI)
March 7, 2003	initial	5 pm		
Directions: Marathon Road is between Kenai Kings Inn and Kenai Chrysler. Stay on the pavement, travel one half mile, turn right at the gate. The LSI is on the left before the road doglegs to the right.				
March 27, 2003	refresher	8am - 5 pm	Valdez	City Council Chambers
March 28, 2003	initial	5 pm		
Directions: Next to City Hall at 212 Chenega Avenue				

PLEASE NOTE: Student who have not paid in advance will not be admitted to class. Additional classes may be scheduled if there is student demand.

Dollars and Cents

by Kathleen Soga

The average cost in the United States for a cubic meter of water (35.3 cubic feet or 250 gallons) is 52 cents. In Juneau the average person uses approximately 90 -110 gallons of water per day. It might be more or less for your community depending on the size of the community and what type of industry your community supports.

Leaks, if left unattended, can add up to thousands of gallons of wasted potable water per day. It costs money to treat and deliver the water sent to homes and businesses. Even a small leak in a garden hose may waste as much as 700 gallons per day.

Leaky toilets are often silent. These leaks can waste more than 50 gallons of water a day. An easy way to test for leaks in the toilet is to put food dye in the toilet tank. Let it sit for an hour or two without flushing. If you see dye in the toilet bowl, you have a leak. A quick check for a leaky toilet is to make sure the overflow tube is not flowing continually.

Just imagine how much extra energy would be used if you let your hot water tap drip, drip, and drip. Hot

water is not cheap. Because it has an immediate impact on your pocket book, you would fix that leak right away. It's the same for cold water leaks. You may not see an immediate cost to your pocketbook, but eventually it'll catch up to you



through increased water rates from your utility. If your service is metered and you have leaks in your household you may notice changes in your monthly water bill.

Payment of your water bill supports numerous services directly related

to consumer health and safety. Your community, and you, will benefit from responsible customers who make timely payments. The budget for water utilities is used to support numerous services and activities that include: watershed protection plans; emergency response plans; operating and maintaining the water treatment plant; repair and maintenance of pumps and water distribution pipes; exercising fire hydrants to maintain safety and operation integrity; water quality monitoring; operator training; as well as customer service to name a few.

No one benefits when water is wasted. Responsible water use saves money on both your water and sewer bills. Everyone wants safe, high quality, reasonably priced drinking water. Over the long run your community may grow. Wise water use can help your community delay building new treatment, collection, or storage facilities and give you time to plan for the future. Meanwhile, the more efficiently we all use water, the more water we have to provide for future services.

2003 Certified Installer cont'd by Margaret French

(available at MAPTS or your local ADEC office) and submit a separate application form and \$65 fee for each student to MAPTS - 155 Smith Way, Suite 101, Soldotna, AK 99669. MAPTS telephone number is 262-2788, their fax number is 262-2812. There is limited seating, therefore please have your application to MAPTS as soon as possible.

It is essential that all new students obtain and review the Installers

Manual for Conventional Onsite Domestic Wastewater Treatment and Disposal systems prior to attending class. The manual is available online www.state.ak.us/dec/deh/septic.htm or from your local ADEC office: Anchorage office, 269-7517; Mat-Su office, 376-5038; Fairbanks office, 451-2109; and Kenai office, 262-5210.

An interactive CD that provides general septic tank maintenance tips

and trains Approved Homeowners to install conventional on-site systems for their own home, is available. If you would like a copy of the CD, or for further information about the Certified Installer Program contact your local ADEC office or Margaret French, ADEC/Kenai Area Office. Margaret may be contacted at 262-5210 extension 223, or by E-mail at Margaret_French@envircon.state.ak.us

Resource Corner -

Alaska Rural Water Association by Sherri Trask

Sometimes to achieve regulatory compliance, or increase the proficiency of their operations, public water system operators need a little technical assistance. I would like to highlight one organization in particular that has become a powerful resource for the PWS owners and operators in the past year. This organization has come to the forefront by the hard work and determination of one person; Mr. Brad Ault, of the Alaska Rural Water Association (ARWA).

For the first time, there is an Alaskan membership base for the National Rural Water Association. In April or May of this year, ARWA will hold their first organizational meeting and select an Alaskan Board of Directors from the membership base. Alaska Rural Water Association, although a member of the National Rural Water Association, will be directed by Alaskans, for Alaskans. The voting membership base is made entirely of water utilities in Alaska. Others, such as individuals, service companies and corporations may become "Associate Members;" however, only utility members will have a vote in Association matters. Once this organization happens, one of the first impacts will be an expansion of ARWA's staff. ARWA currently has one part time office

assistant, Luke Oliphant, and it is anticipated, that by the end of the 2003, a wastewater specialist (circuit rider), a ground water technician, and a security specialist will be added to the group.

Currently, the program is entirely funded by one grant from EPA. The National Rural Water Association headquartered in Duncan, Oklahoma, has received a grant from EPA to provide training and technical assistance to all 50 states. Since there was no state level association to which to contract this work, Brad Ault was hired by NRWA to perform these duties within Alaska. All the work presently performed by the Alaska office falls under the direction of the Training and Technical Assistance program coordinated by Brad Ault.

Initially, Mr. Ault has focused his efforts to provide quality service from a one-person program. This program began by specializing in helping small utilities improve their management and organizational structures. He believes that the single greatest vulnerability these small systems face is sustainability. There simply isn't enough money for many of these systems to continue to operate without tightening their belts and operating more efficiently. By

focusing on sustainability, his motto has become: "Do the most with what we have."

Brad Ault performs a number of services for small utilities, including sanitary surveys for ground water systems, management audits, asset valuation, management/board



training, operator training, community education (a vital link in the chain of accountability), vulnerability assessment assistance, and mediation/arbitration of dispute with customers and with regulators.

Mr. Ault's assistance to water utilities is NOT dependant upon membership status in ARWA. All services from ARWA are available free of charge to any public water system serving less than 10,000 persons. For those interested in becoming a member of this association, the membership dues are \$250.00 per year. Brad Ault can be reached by phone at (907) 694-6792, by fax at (907) 694-6793, or by E-mail at arwa@mtaonline.net.

Working Group Established to Study Sewage Lagoons in Alaska

by David Johnson

In February 2002, the Drinking Water and Wastewater (DW/WW) Program engineering staff met with representatives from the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC) and Village Safe Water (VSW) Program engineers to discuss

criteria used for designing wastewater treatment lagoons in Alaska. Current design references contain a wide range of criteria that makes design of economical, yet effective, sewage lagoons in Alaska difficult. Some of the most authoritative

references suggest conservative design criteria, which, if correct, increases land requirements and construction costs, particularly in rural Alaska.

It was agreed that establishing

It is a new year, and it's time to start thinking about your 2002 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR). Be proactive and start getting your data together and looking at your available resources.

The EPA had authority over the CCRs in '98 and '99. ADEC took over the authority in 2000 and in the last year initiated a review process for those reports that were turned in to ADEC for the 2001 CCR requirement. From that review, we created the following Q&A list.

Why do I have to write the CCR?

The CCR is your way to tell your customers what it is you do. It also lets you tell them why drinking water is expensive. If you have detected contaminants, it lets you tell your customers what you are doing to correct the situation. It is both educational and public health protection.

When is my CCR due?

You need to have your 2002 CCR published to your customers before July 1, 2003. A copy of your report and the certification must also be in to ADEC by July 1, 2003.

Remember to date your CCR Certification with the date you published the CCR, not the date you mailed the certification to ADEC.

How do I publish my CCR?

According to the CCR Rule, you

must make all reasonable efforts to get your CCR to all of your customers. The mail is your first source of publishing. Each billing address gets a copy of the CCR, but there are other options to consider. You can publish the CCR in locally distributed newspapers. You can post the CCR in highly visible places where your customers are likely to be. Don't forget the internet. If your water system has a website, put your CCR there, too. Do you have apartments or duplexes where the landlord pays the water bill? The customers living in those units should receive the CCR even though you probably don't have their addresses.

What do I have to put in my CCR?

There are several components to a CCR, this includes: information about the system and its source, required written information from the CCR Rule, a table of contaminants, and a section addressing violations.

What do I need to say about my system?

You need to include information on your water source: type, common names, how your customers can get a copy of your Source Water Assessment (SWA) if completed, and a summary of your source's susceptibility to contaminants (from the SWA). You also need to include a name and phone number of a person to contact at the utility.

What written information is required?

There are two required paragraphs concerning contaminants in the drinking water and the vulnerability of immuno-compromised populations. Information on these requirements can be found in the Resources section at the end of this article. You need to include definitions for Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) and Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG), Non Detect (ND), Parts Per Million (ppm), and Parts Per Billion (ppb). Also, if you list a violation for an Action Level (AL) or Treatment Technique (TT), they must be defined as well. Finally, for those of you with large non-English speaking populations, you need to include the statement concerning the need to get the CCR translated. This statement is provided by the EPA, and is available from their website. ADEC is trying to assemble a list of statement translations for you to use that will include many of the Alaska Native languages. The list will be available via the ADEC website by April 2003. Thank you to Bill Stokes of ADEC and Mary O'Connor of ANTHC for collecting these translations for us.

What goes in the contaminants table?

The table lists all contaminants that were detected during the 2002 calendar year, whether or not they exceeded the MCL or the AL. It also

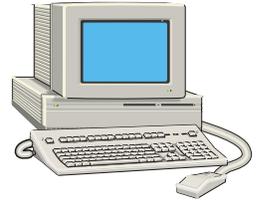
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Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
BARIUM (ppm)	2	2	2.5	2.5	6/18/02	Yes	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
COPPER (ppm)	AL=1.3	1.3	.0400	.0400	3/1/02	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
FLUORIDE (ppm)	4	4	.9 (average)	.3- 1.3	11/28/02	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

lists contaminants detected prior to 2002 if the monitoring period for them is longer than a year. For each contaminant, you must include the Contaminant and its MCL units, the MCL, the MCLG, the level found, the range, the sample date, if it's a violation, and the typical source of the contaminant. Remember: The MCL must be listed as a number greater than one. So, here's an example. The MCL for Mercury is 0.002 ppm or mg/L. For the CCR, this must be converted to 2 ppb or ug/L. If your sample came back at 0.001 ppm, then the conversion for the CCR would be 1 ppb. Also, if you listed a contaminant in your 2001 CCR as detected, and it was not detected in 2002, include that contaminant in your table as an ND.

What do I do if there is a violation in the table?

You have to include the mandatory Health Effects language written in Appendix A to the CCR Rule. This is available on the websites listed below under Resources.



Example: Barium

Some people who drink water containing barium in excess of the MCL over many years could experience an increase in their blood pressure.

This statement can go under the contaminants chart or in your Violations section. (See the next question)

What do I do if I have monitoring violations?

The CCR has to contain a section on violations. It is here that you would list out your monitoring violations, when they occurred, and what you are doing to prevent these violations in the future.

What about voluntary EPA studies and unregulated contaminants?

If you have data from an EPA project, such as the Radon project or Radionuclides project, or you are testing for unregulated contaminants, then this data must be included in a separate table in your CCR. You should also include a statement explaining why they are unregulated and what the EPA will do with the data.

Do I have to include state violations?

No. The CCR is a federal document, so state violations do not have to be included.

What do I do if I don't have a computer?

Contact Brad Ault with the Alaska Rural Water Association (contact information is below). He can provide you with a "write-in template" to use for your CCR, or you can contact Sonja Benson at Northern Testing Laboratories. For a fee, she can write your CCR for you. Then, you will need to copy, publish and certify it. If you need additional resources or help, contact Sherri Trask or James Elam at ADEC.

Resources:

There are several different resources for you to access.

For technical assistance on the Internet:

The ADEC DW/WW Program has a section on the CCR at: <http://www.state.ak.us/dec/deh/water/ccr.htm>

On EPA's website, they have a CCR information page at: <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/ccr1.html>

The Alaska Rural Water Association has a CCR Template at: <http://www.alaskaruralwater.org>

For technical assistance over the phone:

Contact Brad Ault of the Alaska Rural Water Association at: 11723 Old Glen Hwy., Ste. 203A, Eagle River, AK 99577, phone (907) 694-6792, fax (907) 694-6793.

Contact your local ADEC office, DW/WW Program Environmental Specialist.

Contact Sherri Trask (907) 269-3075 or James Elam (907) 269-2007, in the ADEC Anchorage office.

For a CCR writer:

Contact Sonja Benson of Northern Testing Laboratories at: 3330 Industrial Avenue, Fairbanks, AK 99701, phone (907) 456-3116, fax (907) 456-3125, toll free 800-478-8838 (in state). ~