

Ground Water Source Testing Schedule



This summary does not replace the current drinking water regulations.

Test	Frequency	Class A		B	
		C	NT		
TCR / Nitrate / Nitrite					
Sanitary Survey	Every 5 Years	☑	☑	☑	Sanitary surveys must be performed by DEC staff or a DEC-approved third party sanitary survey inspector.
Total Coliform Bacteria	Every Month	☑	☑		If the water system serves more than 1,000 people per day, see 18 AAC 80.405, Table D for the increased number of tests required.
	Every Quarter			☑	
Nitrate (NO₃)	Annually	☑	☑	☑	If nitrate test result exceeds 5.0 mg/l, begin testing quarterly. Contact DEC to discuss how long quarterly sampling is required.
Nitrite (NO₂)	1 Sample Record	☑	☑	☑	Only a single nitrite test required if the results are below 0.5 mg/l.

Inorganic Chemicals / Asbestos / Lead and Copper

Old Inorganics (Phase II)	Once per Period	☑	☑		Barium, Cadmium, Chromium, Fluoride, Mercury, Selenium. After three periodic test results are below the MCLs, a waiver is available to reduce sampling frequency from once per period to once per cycle*. (At least one of the three tests must be since 1990.)
New Inorganics (Phase V)	Once per Period	☑	☑		Antimony, Beryllium, Cyanide, Nickel, Thallium. After three periodic sample results are below the MCL, a waiver is available to reduce sampling frequency from one sample per period to one sample per cycle*. (At least one of the three tests must be since 1990.)
Arsenic (As)	Once per Period	☑	☑		PWS may be reduced to one sample every cycle if the last three periodic sample results are below 10.0 ppb for data collected after January 1, 2005.
Asbestos	Once per Cycle	☑	☑		The sample must be taken once in the first period of each 9 year cycle. No asbestos sampling is required if a waiver is approved. New systems contact DEC for requirements.
Lead and Copper	Every 6 Months	☑	☑		The number of lead/copper samples is based on population, minimum sample set contains 5 samples regardless of the number of sampling sites. See 18 AAC 80.545, Table E. After 90th percentile test results from two consecutive six months are below the Action Levels, annual sampling is allowed. After two annual samples with results below action level, sample once every three years.
	Annually	☑	☑		
	Every 3 Years	☑	☑		

Organic

Pesticides (SOCs), & Other Organics	Every Quarter (unless waived)	☑	☑		No SOC sampling is required if a waiver is approved. If waiver is denied, four quarters of testing required each compliance period. Contact DEC for more information.
Volatile Organic Chemicals (VOCs)	Every Quarter	☑	☑		After four quarterly tests that detect no regulated compound over 0.5 ug/l, sample annually. After one year of quarterly sampling and two annual sets of tests that detect no volatile organic chemicals, a groundwater system can sample once per period.*
	Annually	☑	☑		
	Every Period*	☑	☑		

Radionuclides (Revised)

Gross Alpha Radioactivity	Every Quarter	☑			First time compliance is based on either the test result from the composite of four consecutive quarterly samples, or on the average of the test results from four samples <u>taken</u> at consecutive quarterly intervals. Depending on the results, routine monitoring may be reduced to once every 3, 6, or 9 years.
Radium 226, Radium 228 Uranium	Every Quarter	☑			First time compliance is based on either the test result from the composite of four consecutive quarterly samples, or on the average of the test results from four samples <u>taken</u> at consecutive quarterly intervals. Depending on the results, routine monitoring may be reduced to once every 3, 6, or 9 years.

Reporting

Fluoride	Daily	☑	☑	☑	Fluoride sampling is required if fluoride is added to water. Testing is required every day fluoride is added to water. Report test results monthly. Fill-and-draw systems test fluoride daily while it is being added, and weekly after it has been added.
Entry Point Chlorine	Continuous or Grab Samples	☑	☑	☑	If chlorine is added, test and record daily. (includes Class B systems that use chlorine dioxide)
Consumer Confidence Report	Annually	☑			Community Water Systems (CWS) distribute to DEC and deliver to all customers by July 1 each year for the previous year's data. Contact your local DEC Staff or look on our website for further details.

Disinfection/Disinfectant Byproducts

Samples must be taken in the month of warmest temperature.

TTHM/HAA5 (if Disinfect. is added)	Pop < 10,000	Annually	☑	☑	One sample per year per treatment plant for routine monitoring. PWS may be reduced to one sample every 3 years if the running annual average of the analytes are not greater than the following levels after one year of sampling: HAA5 <=15ppb, TTHM <= 20ppb or HAA5 <=30ppb, TTHM <= 40ppb for two consecutive years.	
		Every 3 Years	☑	☑		
	Pop ≥ 10,000	Quarterly	☑	☑		PWS may be reduced to one sample per year if the running annual average of the analytes are not greater than the following levels after one year of sampling: HAA5 <=30ppb, TTHM <= 40ppb for one year.
		Annually	☑	☑		
Distribution Chlorine (if Chlorine is added)	Monthly	☑	☑		Distribution point chlorine test is required at the same time and location as total coliform samples are collected. Report test results monthly on the operator report.	
Bromate	Monthly	☑	☑		Only those systems that use ozone are required to test for bromate.	

*Period = 3 years (1999-2001, 2002-2004, 2005-2007, etc.) Cycle = 9 years (1993-2001, 2002-2010, etc.)

Surface Water Source Testing Schedule



This summary does not replace the current drinking water regulations.

Test	Frequency	Class A		B
		C	NT	NC

TCR / Nitrate / Nitrite

Sanitary Survey	Every 3 Years	☑			Sanitary surveys must be performed by DEC staff or a DEC-approved third party sanitary survey inspector. For CWS, the three year period for surveys starts with the first survey performed on or after January 1, 2002.
	Every 5 Years		☑	☑	
Total Coliform Bacteria	Every Month	☑	☑	☑	If the water system serves more than 1,000 people per day, see 18 AAC 80.405, Table D for the increased number of tests required.
Nitrate (NO₃)	Every Quarter	☑	☑		New Class A systems test quarterly for at least four quarters. Routine annual monitoring if all test results are below 5.0 mg/l.
	Annually	☑	☑	☑	
Nitrite (NO₂)	1 Sample Record	☑	☑	☑	Only a single nitrite test required if the results are below 0.5 mg/l.

Inorganic Chemicals / Asbestos / Lead and Copper

Old Inorganics (Phase II)	Annually	☑	☑		Barium, Cadmium, Chromium, Fluoride, Mercury, Selenium. After three annual test results are below the MCLs, a waiver is available to reduce sampling frequency from once per year to once per cycle*. (At least one of the three tests must be since 1990.)
New Inorganics (Phase V)	Annually	☑	☑		Antimony, Beryllium, Cyanide, Nickel, Thallium. After three annual test results are below the MCL, a waiver is available to reduce sampling frequency from one sample per year to one sample per cycle*. (At least one of the three tests must be since 1990.)
Arsenic (As)	Annually	☑	☑		PWS may be reduced to one sample every cycle if the last three annual sample results are below 10.0 ppb for data collected after January 23, 2006.
Asbestos	Once per Period	☑	☑		The sample must be taken once in the first period of each 9 year cycle. No asbestos sampling is required if a waiver is approved. New systems contact DEC for requirements.
Lead and Copper	Every 6 Months	☑	☑		The number of lead/copper samples is based on population, minimum sample set contains 5 samples regardless of the number of sampling sites. See 18 AAC 80.545, Table E. After 90th percentile test results from two consecutive six months are below the Action Levels, annual sampling is allowed. After two annual sets of test results below action levels, sample once every three years.
	Annually	☑	☑		
	Every 3 Years	☑	☑		

Organic

Pesticides (SOCs), & Other Organics	Every Quarter (unless waived)	☑	☑		No SOC sampling is required if a waiver is approved. If waiver is denied, four quarters of testing required each compliance period. Contact DEC for more information.
Volatile Organic Chemicals (VOCs)	Every Quarter	☑	☑		After four quarterly tests that detect no regulated compound over 0.5 ppb, sample annually, no reduced monitoring allowed.
	Annually	☑	☑		

Radionuclides (Revised)

Gross Alpha Radioactivity	Every Quarter	☑			First time compliance is based on either the test result from the composite of four consecutive quarterly samples, or on the average of the test results from four samples <u>taken</u> at consecutive quarterly intervals. Depending on the results, routine monitoring may be reduced to once every 3, 6, or 9 years.
Radium 226, Radium 228 Uranium	Every Quarter	☑			First time compliance is based on either the test result from the composite of four consecutive quarterly samples, or on the average of the test results from four samples <u>taken</u> at consecutive quarterly intervals. Depending on the results, routine monitoring may be reduced to once every 3, 6, or 9 years.

Reporting

Fluoride	Daily	☑	☑		Fluoride sampling is required if fluoride is added to water. Testing is required every day fluoride is added to water. Report test results monthly. Fill-and-draw systems test fluoride daily while it is being added, and weekly after it has been added.
Turbidity	Continuous or Grab Samples	☑	☑	☑	Fill and draw systems measure while water is being filtered. All other systems measure daily at frequency determined by population and filtration type (see 18 AAC 80.660/80.665) Contact DEC for your requirements. Report test results monthly. Telephone DEC if turbidity limits are exceeded.
Entry Point Chlorine	Continuous or Grab Samples	☑	☑	☑	Population determines how many times a day chlorine is measured (See 18AAC 80.655) Report results monthly. Telephone DEC if entry point chlorine drops below 0.2 mg/l for 4 or more hours.
Distribution System Chlorine	Every Month	☑	☑	☑	Distribution point chlorine test is required at the same time and location as total coliform samples are collected. Report test results monthly on the operator report.
Consumer Confidence Report	Annually	☑	☑		Community Water Systems (CWS) distribute to DEC and deliver to all customers by July 1 every year, for the previous year's data. Contact your local DEC Staff or look on our website for further details.

Disinfection/Disinfectant Byproducts

Samples must be taken in the month of warmest temperature.

TTHM/HAA5	Pop <500	Annually	☑	☑		No surface water system may be reduced to less than one sample per year
	Pop 500 - 9,999	Quarterly	☑	☑		PWS may be reduced to one sample per year if the running annual average of the analytes are not greater than the following levels after one year of sampling: HAA5 <=30ppb, TTHM <= 40ppb and Monthly Raw Water TOC <= 4ppm.
		Annually	☑	☑		
Pop ≥10,000	4 samples/ Quarter	☑	☑		PWS may be reduced to one sample per quarter if the running annual average of the analytes are not greater than the following levels after one year of sampling: HAA5 <=30ppb, TTHM <= 40ppb and Monthly Raw Water TOC <= 4ppm.	
	Quarterly	☑	☑			
TOC and Alkalinity	Every Month	☑	☑		For conventional filtration systems, source water TOC, treated water TOC and source water alkalinity must be taken at the normal conditions	
	Quarterly	☑	☑		Monitoring frequency may be reduced to one paired sample and one source water alkalinity sample per plant per quarter if TOC < 2mg/l for 2 years or TOC < 1mg/l for 1 year.	
Bromate	Monthly	☑	☑		Only those systems that use ozone are required to test for bromate.	

*Period = 3 years (1999-2001, 2002-2004, 2005-2007, etc.) Cycle = 9 years (1993-2001, 2002-2010, etc.)