



Repeat Monitoring Requirements For Small Systems

WHO DOES THIS FACTSHEET APPLY TO?

ALL PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS (PWSS) SERVING 1,000 OR FEWER PEOPLE THAT ARE REQUIRED TO CONDUCT REPEAT MONITORING WHEN A WATER SAMPLE IS POSITIVE FOR TOTAL COLIFORM (TC+) BACTERIA.

RTCR

What to Do?

Step 1

Collect 3 repeat samples after each TC+ routine sample.

Step 2

Conduct required actions after collecting repeat samples.

FOR ASSISTANCE, PLEASE CONTACT THE PROPER ALASKA DRINKING WATER OFFICE:

ANCHORAGE

PHONE:
(907) 269-7623 OR
(866) 956-7656 TOLL-FREE OUTSIDE OF ANCHORAGE

FAIRBANKS

PHONE:
(907) 451-2108 OR
(800) 770-2137 TOLL-FREE OUTSIDE OF FAIRBANKS

SOLDOTNA

PHONE:
(907) 262-5210

WASILLA

PHONE:
(907) 376-1850

ATTENTION!

Starting April 1, 2016, all public water systems (PWSs) must comply with the RTCR.

STEP 1: COLLECT 3 REPEAT SAMPLES FOR EACH ROUTINE TC+ SAMPLE

YOU MUST COLLECT A SET OF 3 REPEAT SAMPLES AFTER EACH TC+ ROUTINE SAMPLE.

You must continue to collect a set of 3 repeat samples until either TC is not detected in one complete set of repeat samples or you trigger an assessment.

Repeat Sampling Locations

You must collect at least 3 repeat samples at the locations described in your sample siting plan: (1) 1 repeat sample at the original routine location, (2) 1 repeat sample within five service connections upstream, and (3) 1 repeat sample within five service connections downstream of the TC+ sample. You may choose alternative repeat sampling locations on a situational basis—contact the Drinking Water Program for more information.



Site B = 1 repeat upstream



Site A = 1 repeat Original routine location that tested TC+



Site C = 1 repeat downstream

ATTENTION!

COLLECT ALL 3 REPEAT SAMPLES.

If you do not collect and analyze at least 3 repeat samples (for each routine TC+) you will have to perform a Level 1 or Level 2 assessment.

See the **RTCR Factsheet: Level 1 & Level 2 Assessments and Corrective Actions.**

REMINDER: ANALYZE ALL REPEAT TC+ SAMPLES FOR E. COLI.*

NOTE: Systems using a Groundwater Source must also collect a triggered Source Water Sample for each source in use at time of TC+.

Frequency & Timing

Collect all 3 repeat samples **WITHIN 24 HOURS** AFTER RECEIVING NOTIFICATION FROM THE STATE-CERTIFIED LAB OF THE TC+ SAMPLE RESULT.** The repeat samples must be taken on the same day.



- Remember the lab must begin analyzing the drinking water sample no later than the 30th hour from the collection time, unless you have an approved 48-hour waiver in place.
- If necessary, ship the sample overnight and refrigerate or ice the sample using “blue” ice (cooled to about 4° to 10° C).

NOTES

*CALL the Drinking Water Program on the same day you learned of the *E. coli*-positive (EC+) result, or by the end of the next business day if the result came in after business hours and tell them you received an EC+ result.

**Contact the Drinking Water Program for an approved extension if logistical problems prevent collection within 24 hours.

STEP 2: CONDUCT ACTIONS REQUIRED AS A RESULT OF YOUR REPEAT SAMPLING

TC+ = Total coliform-positive or present; **TC-** = Total coliform-negative or absent
EC+ = *E. coli*-positive or present; **EC-** = *E. coli*-negative or absent; **EC?** = *E. coli* not analyzed

You must **COMPLETE AN ASSESSMENT AND SUBMIT THE FORM TO THE DRINKING WATER PROGRAM WITHIN 30 DAYS** after you learned your PWS has triggered an assessment. See the **RTCR Factsheet: Level 1 & Level 2 Assessments and Corrective Actions**.

If <u>Routine</u> Sample Is:	And	Any <u>Repeat</u> Sample Is:	Action: What do your sample results mean?	Violation
TC+ EC-	&	TC+ EC-	The presence of total coliform bacteria in both your original routine sample and in your follow-up repeat sample suggests there could be a problem and your water may not be safe to use. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> CONDUCT A LEVEL 1 OR LEVEL 2 ASSESSMENT. Contact the Drinking Water Program for help determining which type of assessment is required. 	No MCL violation
TC+ EC-	&	TC+ EC?	The presence of total coliform bacteria in both your original routine sample and in your follow-up repeat sample suggests there could be a problem and because <i>E. coli</i> was not tested, it is unknown whether or not the water is safe to use. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> NOTIFY THE DRINKING WATER PROGRAM within 24 hours of receiving sample results. HAVE A LEVEL 2 ASSESSMENT CONDUCTED BY AN APPROVED INSPECTOR. ISSUE A PUBLIC NOTICE (PN). 	<i>E. coli</i> MCL violation*
TC+ EC-	&	TC+ EC+	The presence of <i>E. coli</i> bacteria in your water is an indicator of fecal contamination and your water may not be safe to use. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> NOTIFY THE DRINKING WATER PROGRAM within 24 hours of receiving sample results. HAVE A LEVEL 2 ASSESSMENT CONDUCTED BY AN APPROVED INSPECTOR. ISSUE A PUBLIC NOTICE (PN). 	<i>E. coli</i> MCL violation*
TC+ EC-	&	Any or all repeat samples missing	The presence of total coliform bacteria in your original routine sample suggests there could be a problem and because repeat samples were not tested, it is unknown whether or not the water is safe to use. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> CONDUCT A LEVEL 1 OR LEVEL 2 ASSESSMENT. Contact the Drinking Water Program for help determining which type of assessment is required. 	No MCL violation
TC+ EC+	&	TC+	The presence of <i>E. coli</i> bacteria in your water is an indicator of fecal contamination and your water may not be safe to use. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> NOTIFY THE DRINKING WATER PROGRAM within 24 hours of receiving sample results. HAVE A LEVEL 2 ASSESSMENT CONDUCTED BY AN APPROVED INSPECTOR. ISSUE A PUBLIC NOTICE (PN). 	<i>E. coli</i> MCL violation*
TC+ EC+	&	Any or all repeat samples missing	The presence of <i>E. coli</i> bacteria in your water is an indicator of fecal contamination and your water may not be safe to use. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> NOTIFY THE DRINKING WATER PROGRAM within 24 hours of receiving sample results. HAVE A LEVEL 2 ASSESSMENT CONDUCTED BY AN APPROVED INSPECTOR. ISSUE A PUBLIC NOTICE (PN). 	<i>E. coli</i> MCL violation*

NOTE: * You are required to provide Tier 1 public notice within 24 hours in response to an *E. coli* MCL violation.