

FACTSHEET: Revised Total Coliform Rule

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?

<u>Step 1</u>

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

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

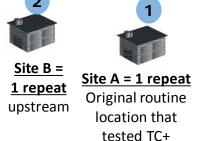
You must collect a set of 3 repeat samples after EACH TC+ ROUTINE SAMPLE. You must continue to collect a set of 3 repeat samples until either TC is not detected in one complete set of repeat samples or you trigger an assessment.

ATTENTION!

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

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.





<u>1 repeat</u> downstream

ATTENTION!

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COLLECT ALL 3 REPEAT SAMPLES. If you do not collect and analyze at least 3 repeat samples (for <u>each</u> 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 <u>ALL</u> REPEAT **TC**+ SAMPLES FOR *E. COLI*.*

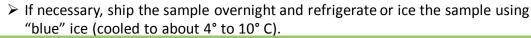
NOTE: Systems using a Groundwater Source must also collect a triggered Source Water Sample for each source in use at time of TC+.

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.



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.

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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. 1. 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. 1. NOTIFY THE DRINKING WATER PROGRAM within 24 hours of receiving sample results. 2. HAVE A LEVEL 2 ASSESSMENT CONDUCTED BY AN APPROVED INSPECTOR. 3. 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. 1. NOTIFY THE DRINKING WATER PROGRAM within 24 hours of receiving sample results. 2. HAVE A LEVEL 2 ASSESSMENT CONDUCTED BY AN APPROVED INSPECTOR. 3. 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. 1. 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. 1. NOTIFY THE DRINKING WATER PROGRAM within 24 hours of receiving sample results. 2. HAVE A LEVEL 2 ASSESSMENT CONDUCTED BY AN APPROVED INSPECTOR. 3. ISSUE A PUBLIC NOTICE (PN). 	<i>E. coli</i> MCL violation*
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