

Writing your Consumer Confidence Report

Ohio EPA

DDAGW



Outline

- Why?
- What?
- Who? Where? When? How?
- Resources

Why do we have to write a CCR?

The 1996 amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), passed under President Bill Clinton, emphasized public right to know.

As a result, all community water systems are required to prepare and distribute an annual report about the water they provide, the water source, information on detected contaminants, and language regarding possible health effects.



What needs to be included in the CCR?

PWS Contact
Information

Public
Participation
Opportunities

Source Water
Information

Mandatory/
Required
Language

Definitions of
Terms

Table of
Detected
Contaminants

PWS Contact Information

- Name
- Phone
- Fax
- Email
- Address

Public Participation Opportunities

- Community meetings
- Water board meetings
- Emergency meetings
- “To participate in decisions regarding your drinking water contact ...”

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Source Water Information

- Source water type: ground water or surface water
- Source name: name of aquifer, river, lake etc.
- Emergency or auxiliary connections

Source Water Susceptibility

- Surface water systems:
“All surface water systems are considered highly susceptible to contamination.”
- Ground water systems:
“A Source Water Assessment Report was prepared for this water system by Ohio EPA. The report indicates a _____ susceptibility to contamination. (high, moderate, low)
- Your SWAP can be found at <https://oepa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=38d04980a40d41f59d832a50f3fc0b92>

What are the sources of contamination to drinking water?

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Who needs to take special precautions?

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Lead Educational Information

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License to Operate

Sec. 18

Mandatory/
Required
Language

Turbidity Monitoring Information (SW or PSW systems only)

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Definitions of Terms

Mandatory

- Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- Maximum Contaminant level (MCL): The highest level of contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Definitions of Terms

Required if Used in the CCR

- Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)
- Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)
- Action Level (AL)
- Treatment Technique (TT)
- Contact Time (CT)
- Level 1 Assessment
- Level 2 Assessment
- Parts per Million (ppm) or Milligrams per Liter (mg/L)
- Parts per Billion (ppb) or Micrograms per Liter ($\mu\text{g/L}$)
- The “<” symbol
- Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)
- Microcystins
- Cyanobacteria
- Cyanotoxin

Water Quality Table 2016

Contaminant	Date	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Detected	Detected	Violation	Typical Source of contaminants
Inorganic Contaminants								
Barium	2016	ppm	2	2	0.02	0.02	no	Discharge of drilling wastes. Discharge from metal refineries, erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	2016	ppm	4	4	1.29	0.84-1.29	no	Erosion of natural resources, additive which promotes strong teeth
Nitrates	2016	ppm	10	10	0.67	0.10-0.98	no	Runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks, sewage, erosion of natural deposits
Microbiological								
Turbidity	2016	NTU	100% <0.3 NTU	NA	0.16 & 100%	0.06-0.16	no	soil runoff
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	2016	none	N/A	TT removal > 1.0	1.08	1.0-1.76	no	normally present in environment
Total Coliform	2016	% positive	5%	0	0%	0	no	Bacteria Present in environment
Residual Disinfectant								
Total Chlorine	2016	ppm	4.0 (MRDL)	4.0 (MRDLG)	1.54	1.11-1.76	no	water additive used to control microbes
Volatile Organic Contaminants								
Total Trihalomethanes	2016	ppb	80	N/A	46	14.5-72.7	no	byproduct of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids	2016	ppb	60	N/A	24.2	6.7-49.4	no	byproduct of drinking water chlorination
Lead and Copper								
Lead (ppb)	Action level (AL)	Individual Results over the AL	90% of test results were less than		Violation	Year Sampled	Typical Source of Contaminants	
	15 ppb	16.5	ND		NO	2015	Corrosion of household plumbing fixtures, erosion of natural deposits	
Copper (ppm)	1 out of 30 samples were found to have levels in excess of the lead action level of 15 ppb							
	1.3 ppm	NA	0.11		NO	2015	Corrosion of household plumbing fixtures, erosion of natural deposits	
0 out of 30 samples were found to have levels in excess of the copper action level of 1.3 ppm								
Microcystins								
Microcystins	2016	0.3 Children under 6 years 1.6 anyone 6 or older		ND	NA	no	Toxins produced by harmful algal blooms	
Radioactive Substances (pCi/L)								
Gross Alpha	2015	pCi/L	15	0	ND	N/A	no	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 228	2015	pCi/L	15	0	ND	N/A	no	Erosion of natural deposits

How to read the water quality table: the EPA establishes the safe drinking water regulations that limit the amount of contaminants allowed in drinking water. The table shows the concentrations of detected substances in comparison to regulatory limits. Substances not detected are not included in the table

Table of Detected Contaminants

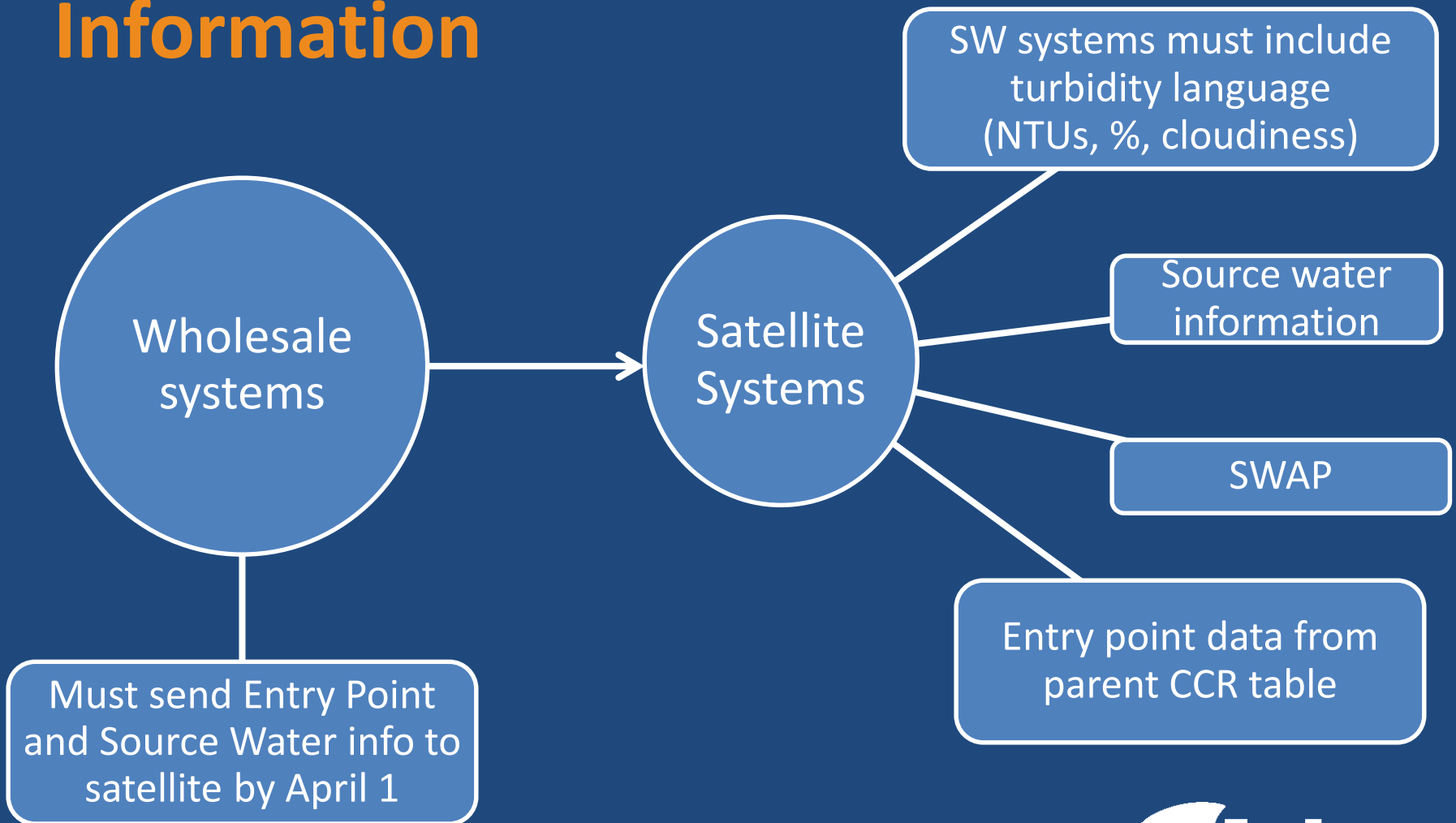
- Only include detections
- Must include chlorine
- Include most recent detections from 3, 6, or 9 year sample schedules
- SW and their constituent systems must include Turbidity
- Include the number of samples over the AL out of the total number of samples for lead and copper AND list all individual results above the AL

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Additional Information

- Sec. 11: Include the following if nitrate is > 5.0 ppm and < 10 ppm
- Sec. 12: Include the following if arsenic is > 5.0 ppb and < 10.0 ppb
- Sec. 13: Include if the lead action level was exceeded.
- Sec. 14: Include if cryptosporidium was detected in the raw or finished water.
- Sec. 15: Include if radon was detected in finished water.
- Sec. 16: Include if there were any significant deficiencies identified regarding your ground water well.
- Sec. 17: Include if you wish to provide an explanation of the changes to the Total Coliform Rule.

Additional Information



Monitoring Violation Information

- Type of violation
- Time period of violation
- Contaminant of concern
- Length of time in violation
- Steps to correct the violation

“During the month of March 2016, the City of Hometown Water Department failed to collect the required number of Total Coliform Bacteria samples as required by the Ohio EPA. The Water Department returned to compliance with bacteria sampling requirements in April 2016. Steps have been taken to ensure that all sampling will be conducted as required by enacting a more comprehensive management plan. This plan assigns responsibilities for sampling and contains contingency measures if the assigned Water Department personnel are absent.”

MCL, TT, or CT Violations

- Must contain all min requirements of a monitoring violation
- Specific health effects

“The City of Hometown Water Department failed to provide adequate filtration during the month of April, 2016. **Inadequately treated water may contain disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches.** The City of Hometown Water Department has taken the following steps to correct this violation and prevent future violations from occurring: The filters have been upgraded by replacing the filter media and steps have been taken to ensure proper cleaning and operation of the filters.”

When

July 1 annually

Ohio EPA must be in possession of your CCR on July 1

Who

All customers

Where

Direct delivery is required, but you may also post in conspicuous locations

How do I distribute my CCR?

Hand Delivery

- Physically passing out hard copies
- ex. Nursing home takes a copy to every patients room

Mail Delivery

- Mailing a hard copy to all customers
- Including a link on a water bill to online CCR

Electronic Delivery

- emailing link to customers
- embedded in email to customers

Resources

- [Ohio EPA CCR Webpage](#)
- [CCR Template PDF](#)
- [CCR Template Word](#)
- [CCR Instructions](#)
- [Certification Form](#)
- [US EPA CCR iWriter](#)