



John R. Kasich, Governor  
Mary Taylor, Lt. Governor  
Craig W. Butler, Director

November 3, 2017

**Subject: General Introduction to the Revised Total Coliform Rule**

Dear public water system owner or operator:

This letter is to notify you that your public water system is affected by the Revised Total Coliform Rule. The Revised Total Coliform Rule applies to all public water systems and includes the monitoring and response requirements for total coliform bacteria. Additional information is available on the Ohio EPA website at <http://epa.ohio.gov/ddagw/rtcr.aspx>.

The following requirements apply to all community public water systems, all surface water public water systems, and noncommunity ground water public water systems serving more than 1,000 people:

- **You must have an up-to-date total coliform sample siting plan.** The “[General Total Coliform Sample Siting Plan Template](#)” is available on our website.
- **You are required to collect total coliform samples from the locations listed in your Sample Siting Plan.**
- **You must collect routine total coliform samples according to your monitoring schedule.**
- If one or more of your routine total coliform samples tests unsafe (positive/present) for total coliform bacteria, then you must collect:
  - **Three repeat samples** for each unsafe (positive/present) routine sample within 24 hours of being notified of the unsafe result.
  - **A source water sample if you have multiple wells or substantial treatment (excludes surface water systems).** This sample must also be collected within 24 hours of notification. See Section 1c of the “General Total Coliform Sample Siting Plan Template” to determine if this requirement applies to your system.
- If any routine or repeat total coliform sample is unsafe (positive/present), the laboratory must also analyze that sample for E. coli.
- If any repeat sample result is positive for total coliform or E. coli, the Revised Total Coliform Rule requires a “find & fix” approach. This is accomplished by performing an assessment. There are two types, a Level 1 Assessment and a Level 2 Assessment. More information about the assessments is provided in the fact sheet: “[The Revised Total Coliform Rule: Large Noncommunity, Surface Water and Community Public Water Systems](#).”
- The RTCR also includes specific requirements for seasonal public water systems. Please contact the local Ohio EPA District Office if you think your water system operates on a seasonal basis.

All forms and paperwork are available online at <http://epa.ohio.gov/ddagw/rtcr.aspx>. Please contact the local Ohio EPA District Office if you need assistance.