



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

November 3, 2017

Subject: Small Noncommunity Public Water Systems – Introduction to the Revised Total Coliform Rule

Dear public water system owner:

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/rtrcr.aspx>.

The requirements in this letter apply to noncommunity public water systems that use ground water (a well) as their source and serve water to 1,000 people or fewer. Based on these characteristics, the Revised Total Coliform Rule will affect your system in the following ways:

- **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 positive 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.** 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.
 - **Three routine samples the following month.**
 - This requirement only applies if the routine sample was collected during a quarterly monitoring period. For example, if you are required to collect 1 sample during the first quarter (Jan-Mar), and that sample was positive, then you would be required to collect 3 routine samples the following month.
 - This requirement does not apply if the routine sample was collected during a monthly monitoring period (e.g., the monthly routine sample for June was TC+).
- If any routine or repeat total coliform sample is TC+, 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: Small Noncommunity Public Water Systems](#).”
- If you are on a quarterly monitoring schedule, your sampling frequency may increase to monthly if certain conditions exist, as explained in the fact sheet.
- The RTRCR 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/rtrcr.aspx>. Please contact the local Ohio EPA District Office if you need assistance.