

From: Director-DWP, Program (DEP)
Sent: Friday, October 23, 2015 3:16 PM
Subject: Regulatory Information About RTCR
Importance: High



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Department of Environmental Protection

One Winter Street Boston, MA 02108 • 617-292-5500

Charles D. Baker
Governor

Karyn E. Polito
Lieutenant Governor

Matthew A. Beaton
Secretary

Martin Suuberg
Commissioner

October 23, 2015

Re: Getting Ready for the Revised Total Coliform Rule - Start Date April 1, 2016

Dear Public Water Supplier,

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, Drinking Water Program (MassDEP DWP) is in the process of incorporating the Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR) into the Massachusetts Drinking Water Regulations 310 CMR 22.00, in accordance with the federal Safe Drinking Water Act. The RTCR takes effect nationwide on April 1, 2016, and applies to all Public Water Systems (PWSs).

Key provisions of the RTCR include:

- Requirements for seasonal systems (i.e., Non-community Water Systems (NCWSs) not operated on a year-round basis that start up and shut down at the beginning and end of each operating season) to monitor and certify the completion of a state-approved start-up procedure.
- Requirements for assessments and corrective actions when monitoring results show that a PWS may be vulnerable to contamination.
- Requirements for monitoring total coliform and E. coli according to an approved coliform sampling siting plan and frequency specific to the PWS.

To get ready for April 1, 2016, MassDEP DWP is encouraging systems to take the following actions:

1. Seasonal Systems

If your system is one of the 312 active seasonal systems in the state, you should review the seasonal system start up and certification procedures under the RTCR. For more information on the start up and certification procedures, go to:

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/drinking/water-systems-ops.html#39> .

2. Level 1 Assessments

The RTCR replaces monthly total coliform maximum contaminant level (MCL) violations with triggered assessments. To be prepared, you should review and complete a Level 1 assessment form if you have a monthly coliform MCL violation between now and April 1, 2016. For more information on the Level 1 Assessment form, please go to:

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/drinking/water-systems-ops.html#39>

3. Sampling Site Locations and Plans

Your current approved coliform sampling TCR sampling plan will remain in effect until you are informed otherwise by the MassDEP DWP. Please be aware that the RTCR, like the current Total Coliform Rule, requires all PWSs to collect total coliform samples according to a written coliform sampling plan. Your plan must contain the location of routine and repeat sample sites representative of your distribution system. Entry points, storage tanks and any sample site location that will be used to meet the triggered source water monitoring requirements under the Ground Water Rule (GWR) must also be included in your coliform sampling plan. In preparation for the RTCR, your MassDEP DWP Regional Office may contact you or your certified operator to confirm the coliform sampling sites for your system.

Training

To help you to prepare for the RTCR, MassDEP DWP and its partners are providing training. The training sessions will provide an overview of the RTCR and specific steps a PWS should take to get ready to comply with the RTCR. Each session will offer two training contact hours (TCH) and will be limited to the first 50 registrants. Please see the attached agenda or go to: <http://www.massrwa.org/index.php?id=2> for more information. You may register for a session by calling Mass Rural Water Association at 413-498-5779. You may also check for future trainings at the MassDEP DWP website at: <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/drinking/drinking-water-training-class-schedules.html>.

Technical Assistance

If you have any questions regarding the RTCR or wish to be contacted by a technical assistance provider please use the following contact information:

DEP Location	Name	Phone #	Email #
WERO	Susan Steenstrup	413-755-2264	susan.steenstrup@state.ma.us
CERO	Paula Caron	508-767-2719	paula.caron@state.ma.us
NERO	James Persky	978-694-3227	james.persky@state.ma.us
SERO	Karen Dube	508-946-2720	karen.dube@state.ma.us
Boston	Paul Niman	617-556-1166	paul.niman@state.ma.us

You may also reach the Drinking Water Program by email at Program.director-dwp@state.ma.us .

For more information on the RTCR please go to:

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/drinking/water-systems-ops.html#39> and http://water.epa.gov/lawsregs/rulesregs/sdwa/tcr/regulation_revisions.cfm.

To receive updates by email, please keep your email address current by emailing any changes to Program.director-dwp@state.ma.us or by submitting a change request form. Email address change request forms are located at <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/approvals/drinking-water-forms.html#23>.

The MassDEP DWP looks forward to continuing to work with you to get ready for the RTCR. Thank you for your continued work to provide safe drinking water.

Very truly yours,



Yvette DePeiza
Program Director
Drinking Water Program
MassDEP BWR

CC: Kevin Reilly, USEPA Region 1, Denise Springborg, USEPA Region 1
Attachments: Training Agenda

TITLE: REVISED TOTAL COLIFORM RULE - ARE YOU READY?

COST: FREE

REGION	DATE & TIME	LOCATION
WERO	Tuesday, November 3, 2015 8:30 AM – 11:00 AM	Northampton Water Treatment Plant, 137 Mountain St., Williamsburg (GPS Haydenville) MA 01039
SERO	Wednesday, November 4, 2015 8:30 AM – 11:00 AM	Brewster Water Dept., 165 Commerce Park Rd., Brewster, MA 02631
CERO	Thursday, November 5, 2015 8:30 AM – 11:00 AM	DEP Regional Office, 8 New Bond St., Worcester, MA 01606
NERO	Tuesday, November 10, 2015 8:30 AM – 11:00 AM	Wilmington Town Hall, 121 Glen Rd. Wilmington, MA 01887
CERO	Tuesday, November 17, 2015 8:30 AM – 11:00 AM	Sturbridge Town Hall, 308 Main St., Sturbridge, MA 01566
SERO	Wednesday, November 18, 2015 8:30 AM – 11:00 AM	DEP Regional Office, 20 Riverside Dr., Lakeville, MA 02347

During these trainings, we will discuss the RTCR and how it will affect all systems. Topics include: well construction and water quality; common sources of groundwater contamination and well protection

tips; storage, distribution and treatment system construction and maintenance; start-up and shut-down practices; and bacteria problems – causes and cures.

Attendees completing this class will be awarded two TCH's.

Speakers: Massachusetts Rural Water Association (MassRWA) and MassDEP DWP Staff

8:30-8:45 Registration

8:45-9:45 Class

9:45-10:00 Break

10:00-11:00 Class

To register: Call MassRWA at 413-498-5779

Y/DWPArchive/RTCR Preparation/2015

This information is available in alternate format. Call Michelle Waters-Ekanem, Diversity Director, at 617-292-5751. TTY# MassRelay Service 1-800-439-2370

MassDEP Website: www.mass.gov/dep