



MassDEP

Drinking Water Program

One Winter Street – 5th Floor; -Boston, MA 02108

Program.Director-DWP@mass.gov or 617-292-5770

The Drinking Water Updates can be found on-line at:
mass.gov/lists/communication-to-public-water-suppliers

or at the Statehouse Archives at : <https://archives.lib.state.ma.us/handle/2452/826119>



Drinking Water Program Updates

2020-06-12

This week's program director email has these topics of interest:

1. MassDEP COVID-19 Information
MassDEP Public Water Supply Information
MassDEP COVID-19 Conference Calls
2. PFAS Treatment Design Grants
3. PFAS - Source Water Protection Guide and Toolkit and Webinar
4. Environmental Analysis Laboratories Regulations (310 CMR 42.00) Finalized
5. Reminder: CCRs Due July 1
6. Water Quality Management Planning Grant
7. Free Compliance Resources for M&R
8. Advanced Tips and Tricks for Social Media
9. Training Calendar

MassDEP COVID-19 Information

For all information go to <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-state-of-emergency>

Sign-up for the state messaging tool called “AlertsMA” which sends real-time notifications of COVID-19 alerts. To subscribe to these real-time notifications text the keyword **COVIDMA** to **888-777**. After

signing up, you will receive short messages and links to information on your cell phone or other mobile device.

Masks and Face Coverings: On May 1, Governor Baker issued an order requiring the use of masks or face coverings in public situations when appropriate social distancing measures are not possible. [Order](#) | [Guidance](#)

Phase 2 - Re-opening Massachusetts

Until a treatment or vaccine for COVID-19 is available, life will not return to normal. We each have a collective responsibility to ensure that reopening proceeds smoothly and safely. Everyone must follow public health directives and use common sense to protect yourself, your family, your neighbors, and vulnerable populations across the Commonwealth.

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/reopening-massachusetts>

MassDEP Public Water Supply Information

MassDEP is coordinating with the water supply industries, agencies, and organizations to provide information about the impacts of COVID-19 in Massachusetts.

- Recorded weekly meetings with Commissioner Suuberg: [Water Suppliers Meetings on COVID-19](#)
- Questions from drinking water operators answered by MassDEP [Water Supplier FAQs](#)
There is an update to Question (Inspections/Repairs12) pertaining to Cross Connection: The needed cross connection form is now available by going to <https://mass.gov/media/2131936/download>.
- [Bacteria sampling at outside taps/spigots/hose bibs](#) (PDF 97 KB)
- [Bacteria sampling at hydrants using hydrant sampler](#) (PDF 87 KB)
- [Mitigating lead and copper levels in facilities after school closure due to COVID-19](#) (PDF 115 KB)
- Emergency Certification for Public Water System Temporary Closure (Non-Operational Status) For Non-Community (TNC/NTNC) public water suppliers ([Word 40KB](#)) ([PDF 149 KB](#))
- Drinking Water Operator license Extension Guidance during the public health emergency <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/guidance-regarding-the-orders-by-the-governor-extending-certain-occupational-and>
- Mass DEP Building Flushing Information <https://www.mass.gov/doc/massdep-building-flushing-information>
- Form to document non-compliance related to COVID-19 <https://www.mass.gov/doc/documentation-for-failure-to-comply-with-a-requirement-as-a-result-of-the-covid-19-emergency>

MassDEP COVID-19 Conference Calls

MassDEP's Commissioner Suuberg is now holding *bimonthly* (every two weeks) Zoom conference calls to all operators and interested parties. Here is a link to MassDEP's webpage, where recordings

of Commissioner Suuberg's calls with the operators as well as FAQs for both water supply and wastewater are published: <https://www.mass.gov/lists/covid-19-information-for-drinking-water-and-wastewater-operators>. MassDEP will continue to populate this webpage with other relevant information related to the COVID-19 crisis.

The next call with Commissioner Suuberg is scheduled for Tuesday, June 16, at 2 PM. Please email all drinking water questions to MassDEP at program.director-dwp@mass.gov. You may also email questions to jpederson@masswaterworks.org by noon on Tuesday.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/550814507>

By Phone: +1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

With Computer Audio: <https://zoom.us/j/716180953> (please turn your video off!)

Meeting ID: **550 814 507**

One tap mobile

+19294362866,,550814507# US (New York)

+13126266799,,550814507# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 301 715 8592 US

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US

Meeting ID: **550 814 507**

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/anAJCjR7G>

PFAS Treatment Design Grants

On May 20, 2020, the MassDEP offered a grant opportunity to support the planning and design of systems for treatment of drinking water in PFAS-impacted communities. The PFAS Treatment Grant also provides for the reimbursement for costs and expenses already incurred by the PWS for the design of treatment systems for PFAS. Questions and Answers regarding the PFAS Treatment Grant Opportunity have now been posted on the following webpage: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/water-resources-grants-financial-assistance#pfas-treatment-grant>. Also see this webpage for more information on the grant program and instructions on how to apply.

The application deadline is **Friday, July 10, 2020**.

PFAS - Source Water Protection Guide and Toolkit And Webinar

June 18, 2020 1:00 – 2:30 pm ET

ASDWA is excited to let you know that we have published the new PFAS - Source Water Protection Guide and Toolkit and will host a webinar about its launch. The tool includes three main components (a Decision Support Tool, Technical Appendix, and Mapping Guidance) and a factsheet for Communicating with Industry on PFAS Contamination. You can view the tool and the June 18 webinar registration link on ASDWA's website at www.asdwa.org/pfas.

Amendment to Certification and Operation of Environmental Analysis Laboratories regulations (310 CMR 42.00) Finalized

Amendment to Certification and Operation of Environmental Analysis Laboratories regulations (310 CMR 42.00) as well as minor related changes in the Drinking Water Regulations (310 CMR 22.00) have been finalized.

On June 12, 2020, regulatory amendments to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection's (MassDEP's) regulations for Laboratory Certification and Drinking Water were finalized. The regulatory changes to the Certification and Operation of Environmental Analysis Laboratories regulations at 310 CMR 42.00 add a new certification category for Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). Applications can be found here: <https://www.mass.gov/lists/laboratory-certification-forms>

The regulatory changes to the Drinking Water regulations at 310 CMR 22.00 add specific EPA methods that must be used to test for PFAS. A reference to an approved method for analyzing another contaminant - 1,4-Dioxane was also added to the Drinking Water regulations.

Note that these changes to the Drinking Water regulations do NOT create a Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for PFAS. Those changes are expected to be finalized later this year.

The changes to both sets of regulations provide that laboratories certified by Massachusetts to test for PFAS and 1,4-Dioxane in drinking water must use one of the approved methods listed for those analytes in 310 CMR 22.00. The final regulations can be found here:

<https://www.mass.gov/regulations/310-CMR-4200-certification-and-operation-of-environmental-analysis-laboratories>

<https://www.mass.gov/regulations/310-CMR-22-the-massachusetts-drinking-water-regulations>

Reminder: CCRs Due July 1

There is only two and a half weeks left until the deadline for community systems to deliver their Consumer Confidence Reports (CCR) to customers and agencies. Deliver your CCRs, certification form, and other needed documents to MassDEP by email to Program.Director-DWP@mass.gov. Sending in by U.S. Postal Service is very much discouraged at this time; there is a chance your CCR will not be received as USPS mail is disrupted in the now closed offices.

When you deliver your CCR by email you will get a return email saying that MassDEP has received your CCR package. Save all emails as proof of delivery.

The CCR is a federal rule and EPA has not granted any extensions on delivery times. July 1 is the deadline date. MassDEP, MA DPH, your local board of health, and your customers must receive your CCR on or before the deadline date.

Note to non-community systems: Your system will be able to retrieve your CCR (or water quality report) soon from the MassDEP website. Stay tuned for that release date.

Water Quality Management Planning Grant

Request for Responses

Amendment #1 - June 9, 2020



The April 24, 2020 Section 604(b) Water Quality Management Planning Grant Program Request for Response for Federal Fiscal Year 2020 (Grant RFR) is being amended. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, MassDEP is unable to receive hand delivered applications in response to this Grant RFR.

The official amendment entitled FFY2020 604b RFR Amendment #1 can be found in the Additional Resources section of the 604b FFY2020 Grant Round portion of the MassDEP Grants & Financial Assistance: Watersheds & Water Quality website located at <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/grants-financial-assistance-watersheds-water-quality>.

Free Compliance Resources for M&R

July 21 @ 1:00 CDT

Click here to [Register for the Webinar](#).

Our next webinar is now open for registration. What if all the best resources about running a compliant, sustainable, public water system were in one place? They are and it's called WaterOperator.org; your free portal for water and wastewater information. Discover the most helpful resources related to monitoring and reporting compliance along with how to find them easily.

Topics for this year's webinar series fit into three categories: groundwater and well care, the best helpful free resources, and social media marketing. Each webinar is scheduled for ninety minutes and will be recorded. Certificates of attendance will be delivered upon request. Check with your certification body for acceptance criteria.

Advanced Tips and Tricks for Social Media

Recorded on June 3 and 4 2020

Click here to [Watch the Replay](#)

"This is a superior presentation!" That's what one of our participants had to say about our June free WaterOperator.org webinar. A recording of *Advanced Tips & Tricks for Social Media* is now available for viewing on YouTube.


Training

When you need training please look at the training calendar located at:

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/drinking/drinking-water-training-class-schedules.html> for upcoming trainings.

If you need a refresher on recently given trainings, you can review several training videos located at:

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLJn2AKOcYr7lutGJB-UfDKtQPF_o_249m

or click here:  **YouTube**

MassDEP is sending this important drinking water information to all PWS responsible persons who are listed on the state database. If you are no longer the correct responsible person for the PWS please reply with the correct contact information. MassDEP needs one responsible contact person from each PWS.

Operators, consultants, and others who are interested in Drinking Water Program updates are encouraged to request to be subscribed to this email list. You may also request to be unsubscribed by replying to this email.

This MassDEP Program Director technical assistance email is funded by the Safe Drinking Water Act Assessment (Section 70) Program. The Assessment is paid by all consumers of public water in Massachusetts and is collected by public water

systems. For more information about the Assessment Program, go to <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/news/advisory-committees/safe-drinking-water-act-assessment-advisory-committee.html>.
