

Repeat Monitoring Requirements For Small Systems

WHO DOES THIS FACTSHEET APPLY TO?

ALL PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS (PWSs) SERVING 1,000 OR FEWER PEOPLE that are required to conduct repeat monitoring when a water sample is POSITIVE FOR TOTAL COLIFORM (TC+) BACTERIA.

RTCR

What to Do?

Step 1

Collect 3 repeat samples after each TC+ routine sample

Step 2

Conduct required actions after collecting repeat samples



Additional RTCR Factsheets:

- Requirements for Small Systems on Monthly Monitoring
- Requirements for Small Systems on Quarterly/ Annual Monitoring
- Requirements for Seasonal Systems
- Level 1 & Level 2 Assessments and Corrective Actions

FOR ASSISTANCE, PLEASE CONTACT
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ATTENTION!

April 1, 2016, all public water systems (PWSs) must comply with the RTCR.

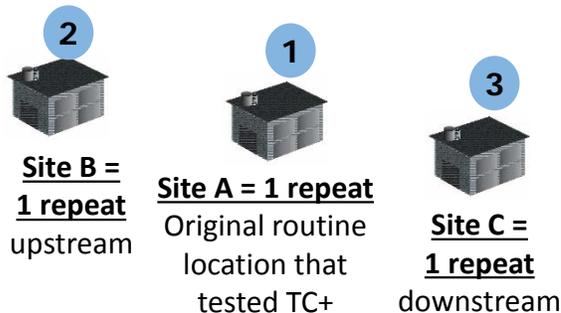
✓ Are you a PWS? Contact your TDEC Region Office at 1888-891-8332.

STEP 1: COLLECT 3 REPEAT SAMPLES FOR EACH ROUTINE TC+ SAMPLE

YOU MUST COLLECT A SET OF 3 REPEAT SAMPLES AFTER EACH TC+ ROUTINE SAMPLE. You must continue to collect a set of 3 repeat samples until either TC is not detected in one complete set of repeat samples or you trigger an assessment.

Repeat Sampling Locations

You must collect at least 3 repeat samples at the locations described in your sample siting plan: (1) 1 repeat sample at the original routine location, (2) 1 repeat sample within five service connections upstream, and (3) 1 repeat sample within five service connections downstream of the TC+ sample. You may choose alternative repeat sampling locations on a situational basis—contact your state for more information.



ATTENTION!

COLLECT ALL 3 REPEAT SAMPLES.

If you do not collect and analyze at least 3 repeat samples (for each routine TC+) you will have to perform a Level 1 or Level 2 assessment.

See the **RTCR Factsheet: Level 1 & Level 2 Assessments and Corrective Actions.**

Frequency & Timing

REMINDER: ANALYZE ALL REPEAT TC+ SAMPLES FOR *E. COLI*.*

Collect all 3 repeat samples **WITHIN 24 HOURS** AFTER RECEIVING NOTIFICATION FROM THE STATE-CERTIFIED LAB OF THE TC+ SAMPLE RESULT.** The repeat samples must be taken on the same day.



- Remember the lab must begin analyzing the drinking water sample no later than the 30th hour from the collection time.
- If necessary, ship the sample overnight and refrigerate or ice the sample using “blue” ice (cooled to about 4° to 10° C).

NOTES

*CALL YOUR TDEC Region Field Office at 1-888-891-8332 on the same day you learned of the *E. coli*-positive (EC+) result, or by the end of the next business day if the result came in after business hours and tell them you received an EC+ result.

**Contact your state for an approved extension if logistical problems prevent collection within 24 hours.

STEP 2: CONDUCT ACTIONS REQUIRED AS A RESULT OF YOUR REPEAT SAMPLING

- **TC+** = Total coliform-positive or present; **TC-** =Total coliform-negative or absent
- **EC+** = *E. coli*-positive or present; **EC-** = *E. coli*-negative or absent; **EC?** = *E. coli* not analyzed

You must **COMPLETE AN ASSESSMENT AND SUBMIT THE FORM TO THE STATE WITHIN 30 DAYS** after you learned your PWS has triggered an assessment. See the **RTCR Factsheet: Level 1 & Level 2 Assessments and Corrective Actions**.

If Routine Sample Is:	And	Any Repeat Sample Is:	Action: What do your sample results mean?	Violation
TC+ EC-	&	TC+ EC-	The presence of total coliform bacteria in both your original routine sample and in your follow-up repeat sample suggests there could be a problem and your water may not be safe to use. 1. CONDUCT A LEVEL 1 OR LEVEL 2 ASSESSMENT. Contact the state for help determining which type of assessment is required.	No MCL violation
TC+ EC-	&	TC+ EC?	The presence of total coliform bacteria in both your original routine sample and in your follow-up repeat sample suggests there could be a problem and because <i>E. coli</i> was not tested, it is unknown whether or not the water is safe to use. 1. NOTIFY THE STATE within 24 hours of receiving sample results 2. CONDUCT A LEVEL 2 ASSESSMENT. 3. ISSUE A PUBLIC NOTICE (PN).	<i>E. coli</i> MCL violation*
TC+ EC-	&	TC+ EC+	The presence of <i>E. coli</i> bacteria in your water is an indicator of fecal contamination and your water may not be safe to use. 1. NOTIFY THE STATE within 24 hours of receiving sample results 2. CONDUCT A LEVEL 2 ASSESSMENT. 3. ISSUE A PUBLIC NOTICE (PN).	<i>E. coli</i> MCL violation*
TC+ EC-	&	Any or all repeat samples missing	The presence of total coliform bacteria in your original routine sample suggests there could be a problem and because repeat samples were not tested, it is unknown whether or not the water is safe to use. 1. CONDUCT A LEVEL 1 OR LEVEL 2 ASSESSMENT. Contact the state for help determining which type of assessment is required.	No MCL violation
TC+ EC+	&	TC+	The presence of <i>E. coli</i> bacteria in your water is an indicator of fecal contamination and your water may not be safe to use. 1. NOTIFY THE STATE within 24 hours of receiving sample results 2. CONDUCT A LEVEL 2 ASSESSMENT. 3. ISSUE A PUBLIC NOTICE (PN).	<i>E. coli</i> MCL violation*
TC+ EC+	&	Any or all repeat samples missing	The presence of <i>E. coli</i> bacteria in your water is an indicator of fecal contamination and your water may not be safe to use. 1. NOTIFY THE STATE within 24 hours of receiving sample results 2. CONDUCT A LEVEL 2 ASSESSMENT. 3. ISSUE A PUBLIC NOTICE (PN).	<i>E. coli</i> MCL violation*

NOTE

* You are required to provide Tier 1 public notice within 24 hours in response to an *E. coli* MCL violation.