SAMPLING and REPORTING REQUIREMENTS for COLIFORM BACTERIA TESTING in DRINKING WATER SAMPLES

**Notes to the water system operator**

- The laboratory simultaneously tests for Total Coliforms and E. coli in all samples
- Systems are encouraged to contact the lab after about 24 hours after submitting a sample in order to learn of the test result

**If ROUTINE coliform Bac-T sample test result is**

**TC –**
- PWS keep all sample and test records
- Collect required samples at the next scheduled sampling period

**TC +**
- Do **BOTH** of the following actions

**TCR**
(total coliform rule)
- REPEAT process from the distribution system
- Preservation
  Samples do not require chilling but should not be allowed to overheat during transport

For regular systems
- community (c) = serves at least 15 service connections used by year-round residents or regularly serves 25 year-round residents
- non-transient non-community (ntnc) = serves at least the same 25 non-residential individuals during 6 months of the year
- transient non-community (nc) = serves at least 25 non-residential individuals (transient) during 60 or more days per year

**Collect and test samples as follows**
- Original site
- Upstream within 5 connections
- Downstream within 5 connections
- Other, IF ROUTINE ≤ 1 sample/month

**GWR**
(groundwater rule)
- special process for the groundwater well
- Preservation
  Sample MUST arrive at the lab on ice and be ≤ 10°C or in the process of cooling

For non-public systems
- (np, “minor”)

**Collect and test samples as follows**
- 1 sample from each well source in use at the time of ROUTINE TC+
- If multiple wells had been used in the past 30 days, test each of these

**Notes**
- By regulation, TCR repeat and GWR samples below should be collected within 24 hours after learning of the TC+ result.
- The PWS should make arrangement with the lab for testing and then make every effort to collect these samples as soon as reasonable.

- PWS keep all sample and test records
- Collect required samples at the next scheduled sampling period

**If any TCR REPEAT sample is TC–**
- Collect and test the next month
- 5 TCR ROUTINE samples

**If any TCR REPEAT sample is TC+**
- AND
  - the next month
  - Collect and test the usual TCR ROUTINE samples

**If GWR sample is TC-**
- is TC-
  - No action required
  - the next month
  - Collect and test the usual TCR ROUTINE samples

**If GWR sample is TC+**
- is TC+
  - Lab contacts PWS and DEQ.
  - WATER SYSTEM OPERATOR CONTACTS DEQ.

**If GWR sample is EC+**
- is EC+
  - Lab contacts PWS and DEQ.
  - WATER SYSTEM OPERATOR CONTACTS DEQ.

**For the 2nd and subsequent repeat sets, regardless of the location of a given TC+ result, the original site (OS) remains the same as the location of the original routine TC+ sample. No new GWR sample needed.**

- The lab sends all TCR and GWR test results to DEQ.
- The lab reports all EC+ samples by telephone to DEQ.
  - Panhandle area field agents:
    - Lin Kottke 580-651-6283 or Ashley Nelson 580-216-4563
  - TC/EC coordinators (contact in this order)
    1) Jennifer Alig 405-702-8219 or 405-760-8874
    2) Michele Welsh 405-702-8127 or 405-818-3659
    3) Patty Thompson 405-702-8187 or 405-612-3967