

Dean Bloch

From: Hackbarth, Julie <Julie.Hackbarth@vermont.gov>
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2016 12:33 PM
To: Dean Bloch
Subject: Revised Total Coliform Rule - Reminder To Submit Total Coliform Sampling Plan

Hopefully by now you are aware that the Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR) goes into effect on April 1, 2016. You are receiving this correspondence because the Drinking Water and Groundwater Protection Division (Division) records indicate that you are either an Administrative Contact or an operator of a public water system and we have not yet received a copy of an updated RTCR sampling plan for your system. Every public system in Vermont needs to have a sampling plan under the new rule, **to be submitted to the Division no later than March 31, 2016**. Completed sampling plan forms must be mailed or faxed to the Division at 802-585-1541. We cannot accept plans via email.

We appreciate the systems that have already submitted sampling plans. If you have submitted a plan and you haven't heard from us, please be patient, we'll be in touch soon to inform you of the status of your plan. If you submit a plan and don't hear from us before April 1, 2016, **please start sampling according to your new plan as on April 1, 2016**. To assist those who have not submitted plans yet or who have submitted plans and received word from the Division that the plans are not able to be approved, the Division has added guidance to our website. This guidance includes several completed examples of sampling plan forms and an instructional video walking through how to fill out the plan form. We also have a condensed 1-hour training session on the RTCR on our YouTube channel. If you have not yet submitted a sampling plan, if you are unsure how to fill out the form, or you aren't aware about the details of the new rule, we are hoping that this guidance makes things a little easier. We ask that you work to submit the plans as soon as possible to assist in our ability to review and approve plans in a timely manner.

The sampling plan video, forms, completed examples, and RTCR guidance may be found on the Division's website by clicking on this link: <http://www.drinkingwater.vt.gov/pcwsapps.htm>. A little over half way down the page you'll see the title "**RTCR Forms & Examples**" in bold text. Below **RTCR Forms & Examples** you'll see links to RTCR guidance, blank sampling plan forms, several examples of completed sampling plan forms, and a link to the sampling plan training video. Please feel free to review the materials provided in order to complete your system's sampling plan. Note that the Division's website will be updating in the next couple of months and this link will eventually not be valid, so we ask that you complete and submit your plans soon. The Division's YouTube channel and related training videos can be accessed directly here: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIfE55Z9sYe981Mg5u-ckTA>

The Division is working with Vermont Rural Water Association to offer trainings throughout the state on how to complete sampling plan forms and on how to conduct a Level 1 Site Assessment starting in this month. We will also continue to provide the RTCR overview training over the next several months, beyond when the RTCR goes into effect. Take a look at Vermont Rural Water Association's website for all classes being offered by clicking the following link: <http://vtruralwater.org/training/schedule.php>. RTCR classes for January through March are listed and April through June classes should be posted soon.

We encourage systems to attend training on the RTCR in order to learn about the changes and general requirements that go into effect April 1, 2016. Over the next few months we will continue to add resources to our website and YouTube channel, so check back often for updates.

In order to help transition to the RTCR, we are requesting that systems sample early. This means for quarterly systems, to sample early this quarter (we're in the quarter now, so it's not too early to think about taking your first quarter 2016 sample) and for monthly systems to sample early in March. Also, as a reminder, seasonal TNC systems (those systems that shut down or don't serve a public population for at least one calendar quarter) will be required to sample on a monthly frequency under the RTCR. That means if your system opens for the season after April 1, 2016 you'll need to sample monthly upon opening.

Feel free to contact the following Division personnel with any questions you may have on the RTCR:

| Community/NTNC Systems | | |
|---|--|---|
| Ben Montross ben.montross@vermont.gov 802-498-8981 | David Love david.love@vermont.gov 802-585-4902 | Julie Hackbarth julie.hackbarth@vermont.gov 802-585-4897 |
| TNC Systems | | |
| Meredith Simard meredith.simard@vermont.gov 802-585-4896 | Nick Giannetti nick.giannetti@vermont.gov 802-477-2237 | Jeff Girard jeff.girard@vermont.gov 802-585-0314 |

