WHO does this Factsheet Apply to?

All public water systems (PWSs) that are required to conduct repeat monitoring when a water sample is positive for total coliform (TC+) bacteria.

ATTENTION!

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

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.

Additional RTCR Factsheets:

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

For assistance, please contact DOH - Hillsborough:

Name: Kathy Norman
Phone: 813-307-8059 Ext. 5938

Name: Therese LaDoucuer
Phone: 813-307-8059 Ext. 5934

REMINDER: Analyze all repeat TC+ samples for E. coli.*

Frequency & Timing

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 DOH - Hillsborough 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 DOH - Hillsborough County for an approved extension if logistical problems prevent collection within 24 hours.
### Step 2: Conduct Actions Required as a Result of Your Repeat Sampling

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If Routine Sample Is:</th>
<th>And</th>
<th>Any Repeat Sample Is:</th>
<th>Action: What do your sample results mean?</th>
<th>Violation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TC+ EC-</td>
<td>&amp;</td>
<td>TC+ EC-</td>
<td>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. <strong>Conduct a Level 1 or Level 2 Assessment.</strong> Contact our office for help determining which type of assessment is required. 2. <strong>Issue a Public Notice (PN).</strong></td>
<td>No MCL violation</td>
</tr>
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<td>TC+ EC-</td>
<td>&amp;</td>
<td>TC+ EC?</td>
<td>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 <em>E. coli</em> was not tested, it is unknown whether or not the water is safe to use. 1. <strong>Notify our Office</strong> within <strong>24 hours</strong> of receiving sample results 2. <strong>Conduct a Level 2 Assessment.</strong> 3. <strong>Issue a Public Notice (PN).</strong></td>
<td><em>E. coli</em> MCL violation*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>&amp;</td>
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**Note:** You are required to provide Tier 1 public notice within **24 hours** in response to an *E. coli* MCL violation.