

# Repeat Monitoring Requirements For Small Systems

## 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**.

### 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
- Level 1 & Level 2 Assessments and Corrective Actions

**FOR ASSISTANCE, PLEASE CONTACT DOH - HILLSBOROUGH:**

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#### ATTENTION!

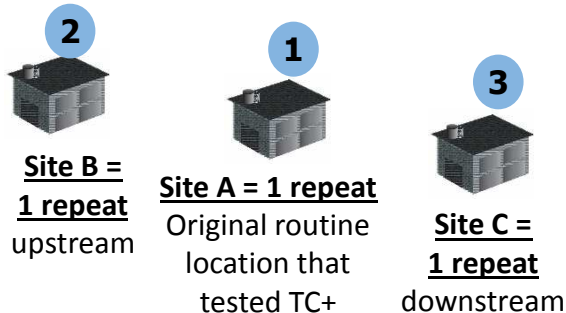
April 1, 2016, all public water systems (PWSs) must comply with the RTCR.

### 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.



#### 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 30<sup>th</sup> 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

- **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 DEPARTMENT 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
<b>TC+</b> <b>EC-</b>	<b>&amp;</b>	<b>TC+</b> <b>EC-</b>	<p>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.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>CONDUCT A LEVEL 1 OR LEVEL 2 ASSESSMENT.</b> Contact our office for help determining which type of assessment is required.</li> <li>2. <b>ISSUE A PUBLIC NOTICE (PN).</b></li> </ol>	No MCL violation
<b>TC+</b> <b>EC-</b>	<b>&amp;</b>	<b>TC+</b> <b>EC?</b>	<p>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.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>NOTIFY OUR OFFICE</b> within <b>24 hours</b> of receiving sample results</li> <li>2. <b>CONDUCT A LEVEL 2 ASSESSMENT.</b></li> <li>3. <b>ISSUE A PUBLIC NOTICE (PN).</b></li> </ol>	<i>E. coli</i> MCL violation*
<b>TC+</b> <b>EC-</b>	<b>&amp;</b>	<b>TC+</b> <b>EC+</b>	<p>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.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>NOTIFY OUR OFFICE</b> within <b>24 hours</b> of receiving sample results</li> <li>2. <b>CONDUCT A LEVEL 2 ASSESSMENT.</b></li> <li>3. <b>ISSUE A PUBLIC NOTICE (PN).</b></li> </ol>	<i>E. coli</i> MCL violation*
<b>TC+</b> <b>EC-</b>	<b>&amp;</b>	Any or all repeat samples missing	<p>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.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>CONDUCT A LEVEL 1 OR LEVEL 2 ASSESSMENT.</b> Contact our office for help determining which type of assessment is required</li> <li>2. <b>ISSUE A PUBLIC NOTICE (PN)</b></li> </ol>	No MCL violation
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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.