

Region 8 Tribal Drinking Water Monthly Newsletter

June, 2023

Announcement: Technical Assistance to Develop Drinking Water Lead Service Line Inventories

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency recently published revisions to the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations regarding requirements for monitoring and treatment for lead and copper in drinking water. As part of the revisions, all public water systems which must meet the requirements of the lead and copper rule are required to develop an initial lead service line inventory and submit the initial inventory to EPA no later than the compliance deadline of October 16, 2024.

EPA will provide direct technical assistance to public water systems that require support to develop a lead service line inventory. The technical assistance will help public water systems develop the lead service line inventories, identify lead pipes and be positioned to obtain funding to remove and replace lead pipes with non-lead pipes. If lead materials are identified, the public water system will work with EPA to develop a project to replace them. We anticipate this technical assistance will be available by fall 2023. Interested tribes should attend one of the upcoming webinars (more information on the webinars below).

THIS MONTH

Announcement: Technical Assistance to Develop Drinking Water Lead Service Line Inventories

Announcement: Technical Assistance to Address Emerging Contaminants in Drinking Water

Announcement: Possible Direct Grants for Projects that Address Emerging Contaminants or Lead Service Line Inventory & Replacement

Announcement: Informational Webinars for Technical Assistance and Grant Funding Opportunities in July

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Announcement: Technical Assistance to Address Emerging Contaminants in Drinking Water

The Region 8 Drinking Water Program has a goal of sampling all tribal drinking water systems located on Region 8 reservations for the presence of PFAS, manganese, and other emerging contaminants. The purpose is to identify systems with the contaminants and at what concentrations. Systems that have emerging contaminants may be eligible for funding to treat and remove these contaminants. Interested tribes should attend one of the upcoming webinars (more information on webinars below).

Announcement: Possible Direct Grants for Projects that Address Emerging Contaminants or Lead Service Line Inventory & Replacement

Currently, EPA Region 8 uses the existing Indian Health Service Sanitation Deficiency System (SDS) list as a mechanism for ranking priority projects. Tribes work with their local IHS offices to place projects on the SDS list. EPA Region 8 will be requesting your insight for creating direct tribal grant projects that address emerging contaminants or lead service line inventory & replacement. The direct grant projects would be funded through the tribal DWSRF funding increases from BIL for specific types of projects and will be in addition to the traditional investment in SDS list ranked projects. A new grant program will create a supplemental funding method for tribal public water systems to complete lead service line inventories and replacements and address emerging contaminants in the drinking water.

EPA Region 8 is currently preparing a new Tribal Set-Aside grant program "Request for Proposals" and pending Tribal insight, this grant opportunity could be available in late summer 2023. Interested tribes should attend one of the upcoming webinars (more information on webinars below).

Announcement: Informational Webinars for Technical Assistance and Grant Funding Opportunities in July

EPA Region 8 will host three informational webinars on the new opportunities, technical assistance and grant funding discussed in the articles above. The webinars are scheduled for:

| Date | July 6 | July 11 | July 13 |
|-------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | (10-11am MST) | (8:30-9:30 am MST) | (2pm-3pm MST) |
| Teams link | Join on your computer, | Join on your computer, mobile | Join on your computer, mobile |
| | mobile app or room device | app or room device | app or room device |
| | Join on the web * | Join on the web * | Join on the web <u>*</u> |
| | Meeting ID: 228 446 276 32 | Meeting ID: 227 124 406 897 | Meeting ID: 226 096 179 943 |
| | Passcode: SCjxRV | Passcode: eSucan | Passcode: qNuwq6 |
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| Call in | Or call in (audio only) | Or call in (audio only) | Or call in (audio only) |
| (audio only | +1 202-991- | <u>+1 202-991-</u> | +1 202-991- |
| link) | <u>0477,,382809132#</u> United | <u>0477,,107896266#</u> United | <u>0477,,509774399#</u> United |
| | States, Washington DC Phone | States, Washington DC | States, Washington DC |
| | Conference ID: 382 809 132# | Phone Conference ID: 107 896 | Phone Conference ID: 509 774 |
| | | 266# | 399# |
| | | | |

* 2 ways to join the meeting:

1. Click on the "Join on the web" link: You can join the meeting using your browser. You will need to enter the Meeting ID and passcode listed for that specific meeting.

2. By phone (audio only): Call the listed phone number. You will need to enter the meeting ID#.

Reminder: 2022 CCR Reports due to EPA by July 1, 2023

Every community water system (CWS) must prepare and distribute a Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) (i.e. water quality report) annually. The CCR must be prepared and delivered to your customers, <u>in addition to sending a copy of the report to EPA Region 8</u>, by July 1st of each year. Please provide the PWS# in the submission.

In order to help water systems meet the regulatory deadlines for the Consumer Confidence Report Rule and create their CCRs, EPA has developed a CCR implementation guidance document and a program called CCRiWriter, respectively. These materials can be found on EPA's CCR compliance website at <u>Click here</u>.

Please send us your completed 2022 CCR by July 1, 2023, using one of the methods listed below:

Instead of submitting the CCRs by mail, we strongly encourage water systems to submit their CCRs via electronic format (email or fax). If you find it difficult to utilize these means of submitting your CCR to the EPA, please contact the CCR Rule Manager, Bailey Smith, immediately.

- 1. Email: <u>R8DWU@epa.gov</u> (Preferred method of delivery)
- 2. Fax: 1-(877) 876-9101
- Mail: Attn: Bailey Smith 1595 Wynkoop Street Mailcode: 8WD-SDB Denver, CO 80202-1129

Remember to check our website <u>every year</u> to download the most current version of the appropriate CCR certification form that certifies to EPA how you distributed your reports to your consumers: <u>Click here</u> (click on "Consumer Confidence Reports (CCR)"). The form is due by October 1, 2023.

Resources:

- Region 8 & Tribal CCR website- Click here
- CCR iWriter <u>Click here</u>
- EPA CCR website <u>Click here</u>
- CCR Factsheets & Guidance Best Practices & Unit Conversions located at <u>Click here</u> and <u>Click here</u>
- RTCR PN Templates: <u>Click here</u>.
- Drinking Water Watch for DW Data and Water Quality Data Table: Click here
- In progress website FAQ updates

Training Resource: EPA Small Drinking Water Systems Webinar Series - Bipartisan Infrastructure Law - June 27, 2023, from 2 to 3 p.m. ET with optional Q&A session from 3 to 3:30 p.m. ET.

<u>Register for the Webinar</u> Webinar Flyer

Presentation 1: EPA Water Technical Assistance Opportunities

All communities deserve access to safe, clean, and reliable water. Yet too many communities across America—rural, urban, and suburban, small and large—face challenges in providing safe drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater services to their residents. EPA's free water technical assistance supports communities to identify water challenges; develop plans; build technical, financial, and managerial capacity; and develop application materials to access water infrastructure funding. This webinar will highlight EPA's water technical assistance opportunities and how to request assistance.

Presentation 2: Supporting the Selection and Implementation of Technologies to Remove PFAS from Drinking Water and from Treatment Residuals

EPA is initiating a program designed to support public drinking water systems as they select and implement technologies to remove PFAS from drinking water and from drinking water treatment residuals. A major portion of this effort involves partnering with water systems to provide piloting, sampling, analytical, and optimization support. This assistance can be provided for pilot-scale, temporary full-scale, or recently installed full-scale permanent

treatment units. This webinar will highlight this program and how the information gained from these interactions will be used to assist the partner systems and to develop case studies, treatment performance models, and cost models that will be freely accessible to systems nationwide with similar water qualities.

Presentation 3: Applied Research and Technical Assistance Project on Lead Service Line Identification Technologies

EPA has initiated research to evaluate commercially available and emerging technologies that can be used by communities to determine where lead service lines are located. This project is intended to fill data gaps related to technology performance, accuracy, costs, and ease of use, and help communities move toward the goal of removing all lead pipes across the United States over the next decade. This webinar will highlight this effort and how researchers will develop the information and tools needed by states, Tribes, and public water systems to select and implement technologies that rapidly identify LSLs, build accurate inventories, and cost-effectively leverage available Drinking Water State Revolving Fund monies authorized under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to replace them.

Training Resource: EPA Headquarters Upcoming Webinars and Past Webinar Recordings

<u>Click here</u> to receive notifications for upcoming webinars.

Upcoming Webinars (registration not yet available):

| Date | Торіс |
|-----------------|--|
| July 25, 2023 | Wildfire Impacts on Drinking Water |
| August 29, 2023 | Cybersecurity |
| September 26 | Fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring rule (UCMR 5) |
| October 31 | PFAS |
| November 28 | TBD |

Upcoming Regulatory Deadlines

| Date | Event | Location |
|----------------------------------|---|---|
| Last day of every calendar month | Last day to collect monthly total coliform samples | Sites approved on your RTCR sample plan |
| 10 th of every month | Last day for EPA to receive total coliform and DBP samples collected during the previous month | N/A |
| June 30 th | Many monitoring periods for different rules (e.g., TOCA, RADS, Chems, Nitrate, LCR) conclude. Refer to your monitoring requirements or tickler for system-specific information. Call EPA with questions. | Sites approved for each rule |
| July 1 st | Deadline to provide CCR report to EPA for many community water systems. | N/A |

Key EPA Contacts

Region 8 Tribal Team

Motaz Zarooq – Denver, CO Office – 303-312-6780 – <u>zarooq.motaz@epa.gov</u> Joe Faubion – Helena, MT Office – 406-457-5005 – <u>faubion.joseph@epa.gov</u> Andrea Griese – Pierre, SD Office – 605-945-1192 – <u>griese.andrea@epa.gov</u>

Other R8 Drinking Water Employee Contact Information Can be Found Here.

This newsletter can be viewed online by visiting: <u>https://www.epa.gov/region8-waterops/epa-region-8-tribal-</u> <u>drinking-water-monthly-newsletter</u>.

If you would like to be added or removed from this newsletter distribution list, please email griese.andrea@epa.gov.