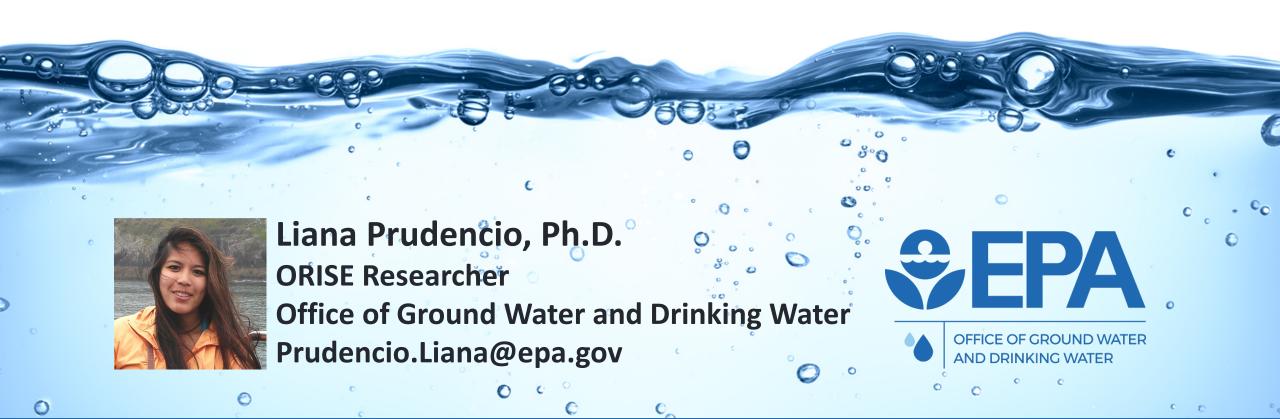
# All Rise for Safe Water: Federal and Local Opportunities to Support Manufactured Housing Communities

Thank you for joining us.
The webinar will begin shortly.

# All Rise for Safe Water: Federal and Local Opportunities to Support Manufactured Housing Communities

May 6, 2021





### **Disclaimer**

This research was supported in part by an appointment to the Research Participation Program at the Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, administered by the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education through an interagency agreement between the U.S. Department of Energy and EPA. The views expressed in the following presentations are those of the speaker(s) and do not necessarily represent the views or policies of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Any mention of trade names or commercial products does not constitute EPA endorsement or recommendation for use.

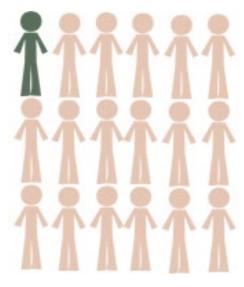


## Background on Manufactured Homes

- ~22 million Americans live in a manufactured (aka mobile) home
- Often in rural areas or commercial- and industrial-zoned areas
- More likely than residents of other housing types to be Hispanic or Latino, American Indian or Alaska Native, or of two or more races (American Housing Survey)
- Experience reduced water service reliability and increased likelihood to have contaminant levels in their drinking water that put their health at risk compared to other housing types<sup>1,2</sup>



1 in 7 new homes built annually is a manufactured home



1 in 18 Americans lives in a manufactured home



## **Project Objectives**

To better understand the state of drinking water systems in manufactured housing communities and identify the challenges and needs of these communities to improve federal and local support.

### **Data and Methods**

- SDWIS data on systems that primarily serve "Mobile Home Parks"
  - Trend analysis: Mann-Kendall Test and Sen Slope Estimation<sup>3,4</sup>
  - More than 30 maps developed to identify hotspots of different categories of drinking water violations
- 2. Case studies: examples of manufactured housing communities that overcame SDWA compliance issues



# Trend Analysis (through Q2 2020)

Violations Over Time Results from Mann-Kendall Test and Sen's Slope Estimation (0.05 alpha level)

	Significant Trend?	Annual Rate of Change
All Violations	Yes	+192 violations per year
Health-Based Violations	Yes	+13 violations per year
Lead and Copper Violations	Yes	+11 violations per year
Total Coliform M&R Violations	Yes	-16 violations per year

Annual Net Change Results from Mann-Kendall Test and Sen's Slope Estimation (0.05 alpha level)

	Significant Trend?	Annual Rate of Change
All Violations	Yes	-180 violations per year
Health-Based Violations	Yes	-15 violations per year
Lead and Copper Violations	No	_
Total Coliform M&R Violations	Yes	-65 violations per year



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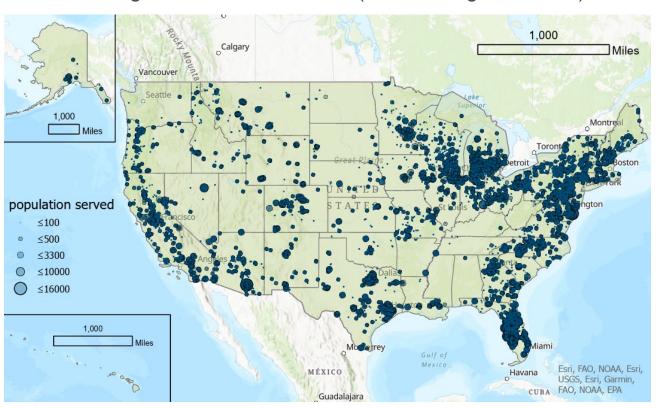
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## Mapping of SDWIS Data

Drinking Water Violations for Systems Primarily Serving Manufactured Homes (1976 through Q2 2020)



Manufactured housing communities are served by small and very small drinking water systems



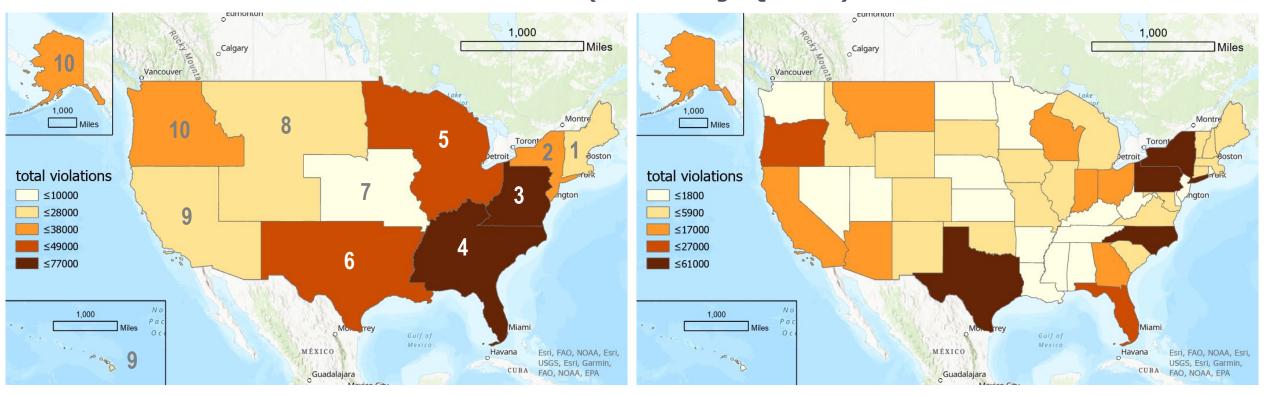
~99.8% are small systems (<3,300 people)

~18% very small systems (<50 people)



## **EPA Regional and State Heat Maps**

#### **Total Violations (1976 through Q2 2020)**





# **Guest Speakers**



Sandi Spiegel

Delaware Department of Health &

Social Services



Amanda Ames
Louisiana Department of Health



Melissa Blake
Louisiana Department of Health



# Delaware

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH
DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND





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# Size comparison

Size (miles)	Delaware	Texas
Length (longest)	96	790
Width (narrowest)	9	
Width (widest)	35	660

- Delaware population is ~975,000
- Texas population is ~29,000,000



### Delaware's Endless Discoveries

☐ In Delaware, public and private water systems get their drinking water from surface water like the Brandywine, White Clay and Red Clay creeks and reservoirs, or from groundwater aquifers.

☐ In Delaware, the lowest point is sea level and the highest is 450 feet above sea level (at PA border).



Manufactured Home Community (MHC)
Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF)
System Compliance Assistance Strategies

- Forest Park Set Aside Activities
- Holiday Pines Regionalization





### Forest Park

Recalcitrant System Returns to compliance through a collaborative effort among EPA, DHSS's Office of Drinking Water, Office of Engineering and DWSRF Technical Assistance contract with the Delaware Rural Water Association (DRWA)



**DWSRF \$:** 0; 100% system funded for nitrate removal and upgrades; Technical Assistance via Set-Aside Activities

Population: 46 persons; 25 connections

# Forest Park

**Problem:** Forest Park has been on EPA's ETT list for several years with numerous violations including nitrate exceedances.

**Solution:** The Park owner worked with DWSRF's Technical Assistance Provider, DRWA to return to complete compliance using the 2% and 15% Set-Asides



# Forest Park

### **EPA Issued:**

Notice of Violation on 3/22/17

Administrative Order on 7/5/17

Close out letter issued in November/December 2017



# Forest Park Timeline to compliance 2017...

### **May 16**

Conference call with:

EPA R3

#### **May 10**

EPA Region 3 contacts DE DWSRF for assistance DE DWSRF

Office of Drinking Water

Health Systems Protection Leadership **May 22** 

Meeting with:

Forest Park Owner

DRWA

Source Water Protection-DNREC

### **May 24**

Owner contacts 2 water treatment companies for preliminary consults

DRWA Begins work on CCRs for 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2016



### June 7

Water treatment contractor selected

Lead/Copper samples collected

### June 13

Floor in converted shed prepped

for concrete installation

### June 19

CCRs reviewed by ODW

Contract signed with Water treatment contractor

Lead/Copper Sampling Plan started



### **July 13**

Plans received by the Office of Engineering for nitrate removal equipment installation

### **July 31**

Nitrate removal equipment installed

### **August**

CCR Compliance achieved

Nitrate Compliance achieved

Owner completed
Sampler/Tester course
(8/29/17)



# DRWA Performed 10 site visits totaling 21.5 hours

This did not include:

Phone and email correspondence with

Treatment contractor

Regulatory officials

**CCR Preparation** 





**Holiday Pines** 

Recalcitrant System Returns to compliance due to regionalization with a private water company, Tidewater Utilities Inc.

**DWSRF \$:** \$1,578,667.43

Population: >200 persons





**Problem:** Holiday Pines is small mobile home community, lacking managerial capacity. A recalcitrant owner and CCR, lead/copper issues plagued public health authorities and residents for many years.



**Solution:** Tidewater Utilities Inc., a for-profit company in southern Delaware purchased the system for a nominal fee and interconnected it with one of their existing water districts.



The interconnection bolsters managerial capacity, provides storage, a more consistent water source, and fire protection.



# Holiday Pines

Although water quality was not an issue, other public health and public communication requirements were not being met. The project relieved the owner of a burdensome and antiquated water system, which he inherited.



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# LOUISIANA ENFORCEMENT: LEGAL ACTIONS



Amanda Ames, P.E. LDH Chief Engineer

Melissa Blake LDH Attorney





# ENFORCEMENT IMPROVEMENTS

- DWRLF Consolidation program
  - Closed 4 loans over the past year totaling ~\$9M
  - Inactivated 4 systems that had administrative orders
- Began making orders executory
  - Get in front of a judge!
- Going forward:
  - Legislation including better consolidation authority, water system grading, improved receivership authority





### REGIONAL OVERVIEW

- Abundant area of groundwater
  - Many small, independently minded systems
  - Additional water quality regulations have made small system compliance difficult
    - Minimal Cl<sub>2</sub> residual
    - Ammonia, Iron, Manganese, organics

- In this case:
  - Katrina funds:
    - Typically no match required
    - Quick construction, difficult oversight
  - Deferred maintenance
    - due to small customer base, difficult to overcome financial cost





### RV PARK IN ST TAMMANY PARISH

• Population Served: 87

• Service Connections: 29









## WATER VIOLATION HISTORY

- Historical violations/Intermittent compliance since 2006
- Major violations began in 2015
- District court Injunction ruling granted against co-owners
- Rule for contempt filed in 2016
  - Sparked compliance for a time (~2 years)
- 2018-2020:
  - 18 E. coli positive samples
  - 7 Level 2 Assessments performed
  - Boil order issued in 2019





### RECENT WATER VIOLATIONS

- Well
  - No second source
  - No flowmeter
- Monitoring Plan
  - Incorrect sample site locations
  - Improper sampling taps (nozzle and piping)
- Chemical Feed
  - No Secondary containment
  - Maintain Cl<sub>2</sub> residuals
  - No Calibration of feed system
  - Incorrect dosing equipment

- Hydro-pneumatic Tank
  - No bypass
  - No control equipment
- Other
  - Chlorine records
  - CCCP
  - O&M Plan
  - Cover exposed water lines
  - Certified Operator





## SITE WATER SYSTEM











## SEWER VIOLATION HISTORY

- Violations began in 2019
- Compliance Order issued by health department
- Order made Executory in district court





### RECENT SEWER VIOLATIONS

- LAC 51:XIII.305.A A person shall not directly or indirectly discharge, or allow to be discharged, the contents or effluent from any plumbing fixtures, vault, privy, portable toilet, or septic tank, into any road, street, gutter, ditch, water course, body of water, or onto the surface of the ground.
- LAC 51.XIII.505.A All component facilities of a community sewerage system shall, at all times, be maintained in the same configuration as permitted, in working order and operated efficiently to minimize upsets, discharges of excessive pollutants, bypassing of discharges from the system, and health hazards and nuisances
- Sewer Collection
  - Lines Need repair
  - Lines need to be buried
  - Sewer caps/ system must be sealed
  - SSO need to be cleaned and disinfected

- Treatment Plant
  - Needs current LDEQ discharge permit
  - Remove Vegetation
  - Aeration equipment in plant needed and sludge removed
  - Chlorination required
  - Security fence required
  - Need certified operator





# SITE SEWER SYSTEM







# SEWER SYSTEM PHOTOS







### **COURT CONSOLIDATION**

- 2020 Consolidation of sewer and water cases one Judge
- Filed rule for contempt on both



## JUDICIAL PROCEEDING AND CONTEMPT

- Evidence photos, historical violations
- Engineering team expert witnesses
- Guilty verdict contempt on both water and sewer violations
- Penalty
  - 30 days in prison for co-owners (suspended)
  - \$1000 fine





#### **CURRENT VIOLATION STATUS**

#### **WATER**

- Well
  - No second source
  - No flowmeter
- Monitoring Plan
  - Incorrect sample site locations
  - Improper sampling taps (nozzle and piping)
- Chemical Feed
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#### SEWER

- Sewer Collection
  - Lines need repair
  - Lines need to be buried
  - Sewer caps/system must be sealed
  - SSOs need to be cleaned and disinfected
  - No flowmeter
- Treatment Plant
  - Needs current LDEQ discharge permit
  - Remove vegetation
  - Aeration equipment in plant and sludge removed
  - Chlorination required
  - Security fence required
  - Need certified operator





# **CURRENT STATUS PHOTOS**

WATER SEWER

Before After Before After













## COMPLIANCE

- All violations remediated
- Fines paid
- Sewer and water woes eliminated for citizens





#### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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Melissa Blake LDH Attorney Melissa.blake@la.gov 225-342-7499







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