

**** IMPORTANT DOCUMENT - KEEP FOR YOUR RECORDS ****

Please note that the Drinking Water Program (DWP) reserves the right to adjust testing requirements in accordance with state and federal drinking water regulations for the protection of public health.

**Please Remember:**

- The laboratory (lab) you choose must be certified by the State of Maine to perform the required water tests and the test results must be sent to the DWP directly from the certified laboratory. **If your primary lab is sub-contracting work, that sub-contracted lab must also hold the appropriate Maine lab certification.**
- **Your lab must submit the sample results to the DWP by the 10th day of the month after the sample was analyzed**, or you will be issued a Violation (Notice of Non-Compliance). Inform your lab that the sample is for DWP compliance purposes and must be submitted to the DWP. Include your system's name and Public Water System Identification Number (PWSID#) on all forms and mark **"for compliance"** on the sample sheet/chain of custody.
- If you do not receive a sample kit from your lab, it is **your responsibility** to obtain a sample kit from your lab and ensure they submit the results to the DWP by the 10th of the month after the sample was analyzed. Call your Public Water System Inspector if you have switched labs or if the lab indicated on the Required Testing Report is incorrect.

Where Should Samples Be Collected?

- Collect samples for **Total Coliform Bacteria, Disinfection By-Products, Lead/Copper, and Asbestos** from pre-approved locations within the distribution system.
- Collect samples for **Inorganics** (Nitrate, Nitrite, Arsenic, etc.), **Volatile Organics, Semi-Volatile Organics** (Chlorinated Acids, Carbamates, PEST 508, Endothall, Diquat), and **Radionuclides** (Gross Alpha, Radium, Radon, Uranium) from a tap after all water treatment but before the water enters the distribution system. (Usually a sample tap or faucet in the pump house that is located after treatment).

Special Collection Times for Certain Samples

- **When Lead/Copper** sampling is required once per year or once every three years, samples must be collected between **June 1st and September 30th**, unless otherwise noted. If your system is on a 6-month lead/copper testing schedule, collect samples any time within the 6-month periods of 1/1-6/30 or 7/1-12/31.
- **When Disinfection By-Products (DBP)** samples are required once per year or once every three years, samples must be collected between **June 1st and September 30th**. Quarterly Stage 2 DBP sampling is required each **calendar quarter and within a pre-determined month in that quarter**. The Stage 2 DBP samples must be **collected at pre-approved locations**. When collecting DBP samples, if the Test Description on the 2020 Drinking Water Testing Requirements Report indicates "DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS," you are required to collect a dual sample (HAA5 **and** TTHM) from that location. If the Test Description indicates either "TRIHALOMETHANES" **or** "HALOACETIC ACIDS", then you are required to collect a sample for just that particular test at that site. Call your Public Water System Inspector if you have questions about which month you need to test in or what your locations are.
- When SOC samples are required once every 3 years, samples must be collected in the 3rd and/or 4th quarter. Pay attention to the number of samples you are required to collect.

Samples Shipped To Out-of-State Labs

For more information on which out-of-state labs are certified by Maine, consult the list of certified labs on the DWP website, www.medwp.com or call your Public Water System Inspector. Please tell your out-of-state lab to e-mail, mail or fax a copy of the results directly to the DWP. **Note: Maine does require the monitoring of Methyl tertiary-butyl ether (MtBE). Please ensure your laboratory is aware of this requirement.**

*****Systems failing to collect any required samples will be issued a Violation (Notice of Non-Compliance), with a requirement to provide public notification. To resolve all Failure to Monitor/Report Violations, sample collection must be completed within 30 days, unless otherwise noted. *****

Questions? Should you have any questions about water testing requirements for your public water system, please call your Public Water System Inspector.