

Region 8 Tribal Drinking Water Monthly Newsletter

August 2024

Announcement: New LCR 90th Percentile Reporting Form and Lead Tier 1 Public Notice

All community and non-transient non-community public water systems sample for lead and copper in their distribution systems. Public Water systems located in the state of Wyoming and Region 8 Indian Country are now required to submit the 90th percentile reporting form to confirm all lead samples have been collected and analyzed for the monitoring period according to their tap sample site plan (TSSP).

An exceedance of the action level for lead requires public water systems to perform a Tier 1 Public Notice (PN) within 24-hours of the lead action level exceedance (ALE). The 90th percentile reporting form will direct the water system to the Tier 1 lead PN template when a lead ALE occurs (https://www.epa.gov/region8-waterops/lcr-lead-action-level-exceedance-template).

In summary, public Water systems shall perform the following <u>after</u> the lead and copper samples have been analyzed by the lab:

- Calculate the 90th percentile using the LCR 90th percentile calculation form with all results, site location information, and site tiering using this form: https://www.epa.gov/region8-waterops/lead-and-copper-rule-90th-percentile-calculator.
- Submit a copy of the form as part of your standard compliance to Region 8 at R8DWU@epa.gov.

If there is a lead ALE, the form will notify you to perform the lead Tier 1 Public Notice.

THIS MONTH

Announcement: New LCR 90th Percentile Reporting Form and Lead Tier 1 Public Notice

Announcement: EPA Region 8 Lead Service Line Inventory Program Update

Training: EPA Water Utility Resilience Trainings: Cybersecurity 102 Webinar

Training Resource: EPA Small Drinking Water Systems Webinar Series: PFAS: National Primary Drinking Water Regulation, Initial Monitoring Requirements, Implementation, and Community Engagement and Risk Communication

Training Resource: Community Change Grant

Resource: WaterTA

Resource: Lead Service Line Inventories (LSLI)
Monthly Office Hours – Ask EPA

Reminder: Public Water System Facility and Contact Changes

Upcoming Regulatory Deadlines

Key EPA Contacts

What specifically is a Tier 1 Public Notice? A Tier 1 Public Notice is provided to persons served drinking water as soon as practical but no more than 24 hours after learning of the lead ALE. The public notice informs the consumers about the potential lead impacts in their drinking water and any actions to take to minimize lead exposure. Additionally, the water system must also provide a copy of the notice to EPA Region 8. The water system must provide the notice in a manner that can reach all persons using one or more of the following methods:

- Broadcast Media, such as radio and television
- Hand delivery
- Posting in conspicuous locations throughout your water service area
- Another method approved in writing by EPA Region 8.

The water system may need to use multiple methods of delivery (e.g., broadcast along with providing multiple copies to hospitals, clinics, or apartment buildings, etc). If you post or hand deliver the notice, EPA recommends printing your notice on your system's letterhead, if you have it. As a best practice, consider coordinating with your local health department.

If you have any questions, please contact Bolor Bertelmann, LCR Compliance Manager, at bertelmann.bolor@epa.gov.

Announcement: EPA Region 8 Lead Service Line Inventory Program Update

The EPA Region 8 Lead Service Line Inventory Webpage

The October 16, 2024 deadline for submitting your Lead Service Line Inventory (LSLI) to EPA Region 8 is quickly approaching. Visit the EPA Region 8 Lead Service Line Inventory Webpage to stay up to date with the LSLI requirements, access to LSLI forms and templates, instructions for submitting your inventory, information about our LSLI technical assistance programs, EPA Region 8's LSLI team contact information, and more. Here are some highlights you can find on our webpage.

EPA Region 8's Tribal Community Lead Service Line Inventory Technical Assistance Program

EPA Region 8 has contracted with the Oneida Total Integrated Enterprises and CH2M Joint Venture (OCH JV) to offer free technical assistance to eligible Tribal public water systems for development of initial service line inventories. OCH JV can assist eligible Tribal water systems with reviewing existing records, listing all service connections, assigning location identifiers, completing EPA's Service Line Inventory Template, and submitting the initial service line inventory to EPA. For more information about the project, check the links below or contact TribalCommunityLSLI@jacobs.com.

- Lead Service Line Inventory Technical Assistance Project Flyer (pdf) (769.1 KB)
- Tribal Lead Service Line Inventory Technical Assistance Project (For more information, check this link)

Submitting your Lead Service Line Inventory to EPA Region 8:

Option 1: Announcing the EPA Service Line Inventory GeoSolution - A GIS Version of The EPA Service Line Inventory Template - (EPA Region 8's preferred method)

The GeoSolution is a GIS version of the EPA Service Line Inventory Template. This tool is a free service available to water systems on Tribal lands in EPA Region 8 to use for developing and maintaining their Service Line Inventories

and submitting them to EPA Region 8. Your inventory data is securely hosted by EPA and kept private from public or unauthorized use and access. When your inventory is complete you will submit it through the GeoSolution – ArcGIS Online Platform. If your water system would like to learn more about or sign up for the GeoSolution please visit our webpage below.

- To learn more about the EPA Lead Service Line Inventory GeoSolution, visit our webpage Here
- To sign your water system up for the *EPA Service Line Inventory GeoSolution* Opt-In Here.

Option 2: EPA Region 8 Service Line Inventory Online Submittal Repository

Water systems that do not use the EPA Service Line Inventory GeoSolution can submit their Service Line Inventory files to EPA Region 8 using the EPA Service Line Inventory Upload Submittal Form. This form provides water systems an online repository to submit their service line inventories to EPA Region 8. Only use this form if you are turning in your completed service line inventory to EPA. No partial or draft copies please.

Recommended file formats for the Service Line Inventory: Spreadsheet, Shapefile, File Geodatabase (FGDB). Please keep spreadsheets in original file format, do not convert to PDF. The Repository can handle file sizes up to 100 MB.

- To learn more about the EPA Region 8 Lead Service Line Inventory Repository, visit our webpage Here
- To submit your completed Lead Service Line Inventory to EPA Region 8, upload it online Here.

Region 8 Service Line Inventory Contacts

EPA Region 8 Safe Drinking Water Branch lead service line inventory contacts:

- Jill Minter, Lead Service Line (LSL) Coordinator, minter.jill@epa.gov, 303-312-6084
 - Point of Contact for Lead Service Line Inventory Regulatory and Compliance Requirements, EPA
 Contact for Tribal Lead Service Line Inventory Technical Assistance Program.
- Erica Wenzel, LSL Specialist, wenzel.erica@epa.gov , 303-312-6411
 - Point of contact for: EPA Lead Service Line Inventory GeoSolution, EPA Region 8 Lead Service Line Inventory Repository, Lead Service Line Inventory Regulatory and Compliance Requirements, EPA Liaison for WYRISKIT? - WY Lead Service Line Technical Assistance Program.

Training: EPA Water Utility Resilience Trainings: Cybersecurity 102 Webinar

EPA's Water Infrastructure and Cyber Resilience Division will provide training on cybersecurity basics to water and wastewater utilities to reinforce their foundational understanding of cybersecurity and how it applies to the water sector.

Applications have been submitted for all water and wastewater operators to receive continuing education units for participating in the training. Check the registration pages for the most up-to-date list of state CEU approvals.

Webinar Details:

Date: Wednesday, September 4, 2024 Time: 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. Eastern Time Registration: <u>Click here to register</u> Training Resource: EPA Small Drinking Water Systems Webinar Series: PFAS: National Primary Drinking Water Regulation, Initial Monitoring Requirements, Implementation, and Community Engagement and Risk Communication

EPA's Office of Research and Development (ORD) and Office of Water (OW), in collaboration with the Association of State Drinking Water Administrators (ASDWA), host this free webinar series to communicate the latest information on solutions for challenges facing small drinking water systems. The series topics vary each month and are primarily designed for state, territory, and tribal staff responsible for drinking water regulations compliance and treatment technologies permitting. Others may also benefit from the webinars, including water system operators, technical assistance providers, NGOs, local government personnel, academia, and private sector.

Webinars are typically held on the last Tuesday of the month from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. ET with an optional Q&A session from 3:00 to 3:30 p.m. ET. For more information. Please see the <u>Small Drinking Water</u> <u>Systems Webinar Series website</u>.

Webinar Details

Subject: PFAS: National Primary Drinking Water Regulation, Initial Monitoring Requirements, Implementation, and Community Engagement and Risk Communication

- Date: Tuesday, September 24, 2024
- Time: 1:00-4:00 p.m. Eastern Time
- Registration: Registration information is available at the <u>Small Drinking Water Systems Webinar</u> Series website

Resource: Community Change Grant Program

EPA's new Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grants program (Community Change Grants) will invest approximately \$2 billion in Inflation Reduction Act funds in environmental and climate justice activities to benefit disadvantaged communities through projects that reduce pollution, increase community climate resilience, and build community capacity to respond to environmental and climate justice challenges. These place-based investments will be focused on community-driven initiatives to be responsive to community and stakeholder input. EPA expects most awards will be between \$10-20 million for multi-faceted projects addressing a range of pollution, climate change, and other priority issues. For more information and a list of eligible activities, please click here. This grant is now open and the deadline to apply is November 2024. To learn more about the grant, view a recording of the December informational webinar here. Free Technical Assistance to help in preparing a grant application is available and can be accessed here.

<u>Click here for more information</u> <u>Deadline to apply is November 21, 2024</u>

Resource: WaterTA

All communities deserve access to clean, reliable water. Yet too many communities across America face challenges in providing safe drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater services to their residents. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law presents an unprecedented opportunity to address water infrastructure needs by providing \$50 billion in new funding – the Iargest federal investment in water in the history of our nation. New and existing EPA Water Technical Assistance (WaterTA) programs will be utilized to support effective implementation of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

What is WaterTA?

EPA's free Water Technical Assistance (WaterTA) supports communities to identify water challenges, develop plans, build capacity, and develop application materials to access water infrastructure funding. To implement WaterTA, EPA collaborates with states, tribes, territories, community partners, and other key stakeholders. Learn more about WaterTA services and programs.

Help for Your Community

EPA WaterTA aims to assist communities with applications for federal funding, quality infrastructure, and reliable water services. If your community is facing water infrastructure challenges and could benefit from support, we encourage you to learn more about who.can.receive-WaterTA and the challenges WaterTA can help your community address then complete and submit a webform request by clicking on the link below:

Request Water Technical Assistance for Your Community

Resource: Lead Service Line Inventories (LSLI) Monthly Office Hours – Ask EPA

Jill Minter, Lead Service Line (LSL) Coordinator, and Erica Wenzel, Lead Copper Rule and LSL Specialist, will be holding virtual Lead Service Line Inventories monthly office hours, from 10am to 11am Central Time, and at the same time on the 3rd Wednesday of every month. The next office hours meeting is September 18. This will be a time for operators and managers to ask EPA any questions on developing lead service line inventories as well as hear questions from other operators. An email will be sent out each month to tribal public water system contacts with the LSLI Office Hours Teams meeting link, which is also copied below.

If interest is high, we can schedule additional LSLI Office Hours. We are thinking that holding monthly LSLI Office Hours will be an efficient way to answer questions and share information that may be common to multiple systems. The forum should also provide a good opportunity to learn from other operators who are also developing inventories and facing similar challenges. Do consider attending to listen in even if you do not have questions to ask that month. While we have scheduled monthly Office Hours, please know that water system operators and managers are always welcome to contact EPA with questions by email or by phone as well.

Monthly Meeting Info (3rd Wednesday of every month):

Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

Click here to join the meeting
Meeting ID: 216 909 557 054
Passcode: e2Efid
Download Teams | Join on the web

Or call in (audio only)

+1 202-991-0477,,904938593# United States, Washington DC Phone Conference ID: 904 938 593#
Find a local number | Reset PIN

Reminder: Public Water System Facility and Contact Changes

Please contact EPA Region 8 Drinking Water Program if your system has a change in the treatment process; you add or remove a water source; there is a change in the number of people served or the number of water connections; or different contact information becomes available for your water system. This allows us to keep you up to date on monitoring requirements and keeps our inventory current. Failure to notify EPA about water source or treatment changes may result in a violation.

To access the EPA's change form, send an email to R8DWU@epa.gov requesting the form or you can find the form on EPA Region 8 Drinking Water Operations website.

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
September 30 th	Last day to collect Lead and Copper samples for system who have a seasonal monitoring period of June – September (check your To-Do)	Sites approved on your LCR sampling plan

Key EPA Contacts

Region 8 Tribal Team

Motaz Zarooq – Denver, CO Office – 303-312-6780 – <u>zarooq.motaz@epa.gov</u>

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Colby Brakke – Pierre, SD Office – 605-945-1192 <u>brakke.colby@epa.gov</u>
Megan Falk – Helena, MT Office – 406-457-5041 – <u>falk.megan@epa.gov</u>
Joe Faubion – Helena, MT Office – 406-457-5005 – <u>faubion.joseph@epa.gov</u>
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Other R8 Drinking Water Employee Contact Information Can be Found Here.

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

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