

## MONTHLY MONITORING

### Revised Total Coliform Rule

Beginning April 1, 2016, this fact sheet applies to all public water systems (PWSs) serving 1,000 or fewer people that are required to collect at least one routine total coliform (TC) sample monthly.

#### STEP 1: DEVELOP / UPDATE SAMPLE SITING PLAN

Develop a sample siting plan and have it ready for use by April 1, 2016. If the system already has a sample siting plan for the Total Coliform Rule (TCR), update this plan to meet the requirements of the RTCR.

- LIST THE LOCATIONS WHERE SAMPLES WILL BE TAKEN (ROUTINE AND REPEAT) OR INCLUDE A STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE (SOP) WITH THE SYSTEM'S SAMPLE SITING PLAN THAT EXPLAINS HOW THE SYSTEM WILL DETERMINE WHERE REPEAT SAMPLES WILL BE TAKEN;\*
- LIST THE LOCATION(S) WHERE TRIGGERED GROUND WATER SAMPLES WILL BE TAKEN;
- UPDATE TO REFLECT CHANGES AT THE PWS: The sample siting plan is a living document and should be updated when necessary to reflect changes at the PWS such as: major changes in population; a new or additional water source; infrastructure changes, such as a change in the distribution system (i.e., extended / abandoned lines) or pressure zones; or changes in disinfection or other treatment.

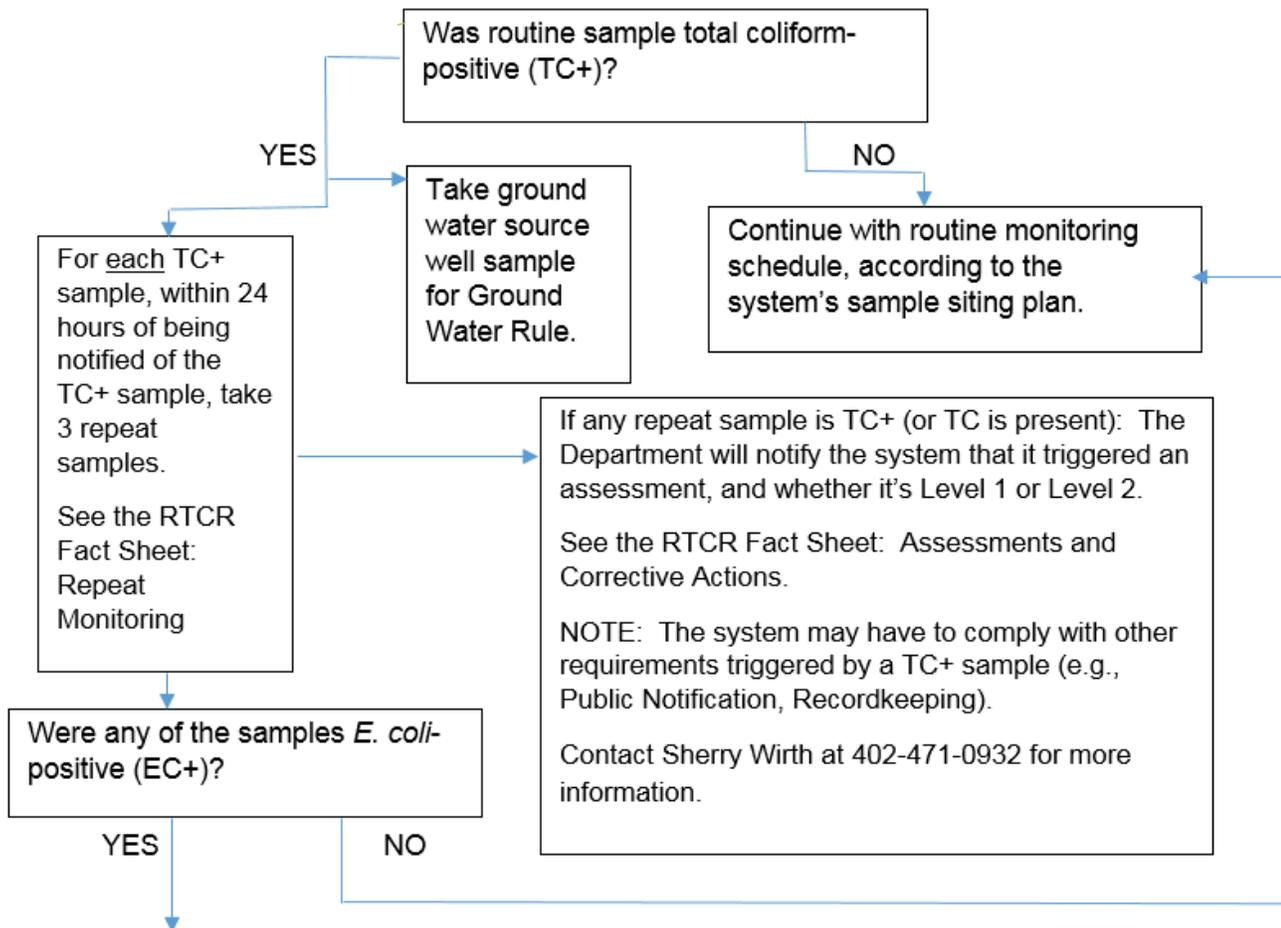
#### STEP 2: COLLECT DRINKING WATER SAMPLES

- COLLECT AT LEAST ONE 100 ML routine drinking water sample every calendar month.
- IMMEDIATELY SEND THE SAMPLE TO A STATE-CERTIFIED LAB that performs total coliform drinking water analyses.
  - ✓ Remember the lab must **begin analyzing** the drinking water sample no later than the 30<sup>th</sup> hour from the collection time.
  - ✓

#### \*Sample Siting Plan Repeat Sample Site SOP

Repeat samples will be taken within 5 service connections upstream and downstream from the TC+ site when feasible. They may be taken more than 5 service connections from the TC+ sample when no site within that distance is available that meets the criteria for a routine sample. A repeat site will be clean, representative of the distribution system, available, and in the same area of the distribution system as the site at which the TC+ sample was taken. A template is available online at <http://dhhs.ne.gov/drinkingwater>

## STEP 3: CONDUCT ACTIONS REQUIRED AS A RESULT OF SAMPLING RESULTS



After any of the following occurrences, the Department will notify the system that a Level 2 Assessment is required:

- TC+ Routine and EC+ Repeat sample;
- EC+ Routine and TC+ Repeat sample;
- The PWS fails to take and analyze all 3 required repeat samples following an EC+ routine sample.

Within 30 days after a system learns it has triggered an assessment, a completed assessment form must be submitted to the Department.

See the RTCR Fact Sheet: Assessments and Corrective Actions.

NOTE: The sample siting plan is subject to review and revision by the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, Office of Drinking Water and Environmental Health, PO Box 95026, Lincoln, NE 68509. Phone: 402-471-0521. Visit our website at <http://dhhs.ne.gov/drinkingwater> for more information.