Public Water Systems (PWS) instructions for Tap Water Sampling

2016 REDUCED Schedules
June 1 – September 30, 2016

2016 CHANGES: Please read through all the paperwork as finding your own laboratory to help you with bottles and analyzing is new this year. Sampling pool address updates are also required this year.

2016 SCHEDULE: Systems who are scheduled to sample along with the bottle count are listed online at TCEQ Lead and Copper Program at http://www.tceq.texas.gov/drinkingwater/chemicals/lead_copper as well as on Texas Drinking Water Watch at **http://dww2.tceq.texas.gov/DWW/**.

SAMPLE POOL ADDRESS REQUIREMENTS

- **All PWSs shall have their sampling pool addresses updated prior to sampling. Only addresses from an approved sampling pool will be accepted for compliance. Send TCEQ Form 20467 with all available sampling pool addresses to the TCEQ prior to sampling this year. Make sure you have correctly identified the targeted Tiers on the form. If you normally sample 10 addresses, your sampling pool should consist of 10 normal addresses plus 10 backup addresses. You should update your monitoring plan at the same time.**

  Review sample pool addresses. Please go to http://dww2.tceq.texas.gov/DWW/ and look up Sampling Points and compare them to the last time you sampled. Lead and Copper sample addresses are shown in the Distribution System and start with LCR001, LCR002, etc.

- 2016 REDUCED is defined as sampling between June 1 and September 30, 2016
- Samples must be analyzed in accordance with EPA methods for drinking water.
- Verify that sample bottles from laboratory are 1 liter wide-mouth, laboratory grade, and unpreserved bottles.
- PWSs should not recommend the removal or cleaning of aerators prior to or during the collection of tap samples gathered for purposes of the Lead and Copper Rule. The removal or cleaning of aerators during collection of tap samples could mask the added contribution of lead at the tap, which may potentially lead to the PWS not taking appropriate or additional actions needed to reduce expose to lead in drinking water.

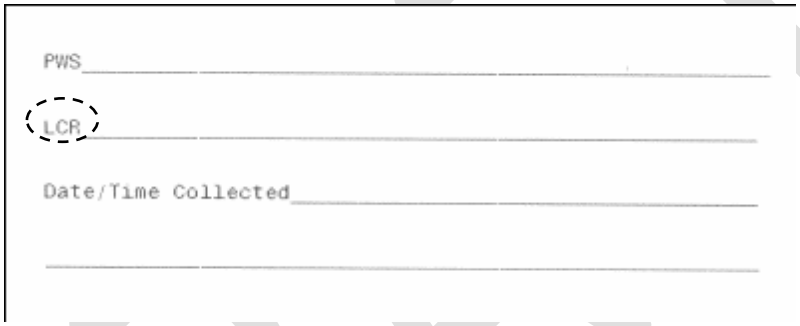
- Please ensure all samples are collected at regularly used inside kitchen or bathroom sinks using only the COLD water.
- Please ensure water has sat still in the lines and faucet where you collect your sample for at least 6 HOURS.
- Please do not sample from faucets with point-of-use or point-of-entry devices including homes with water softeners. If all homes have water softeners, sample as many Tier 1 sites as possible.

PAPERWORK REQUIRED FOR SAMPLING:

- PWS Sampling Instructions
- Homeowner Instructions for community public water systems only
- PWS Lead and Copper Rule Chain of Custody Form 20683 goes along with the bottles to the laboratory. **Sample addresses will be rejected** if they do not match your approved

sampling pool addresses. Remember there is a 14-day period for getting the samples to the laboratory for analyzing. This 14 day period is described as 14 (24 hour) periods before the laboratory is required to preserve the samples. The laboratory will reject the samples if they receive them after 14 days from collection.

- PWS Lead and Copper Rule Chain of Custody Form 20683 goes along with the bottles to the laboratory. **Sample addresses will be rejected** if they do not match your approved sampling pool addresses. Remember there is a 14-day hold time from the time you collect your samples to the time the laboratory receives and preserves them.
- If customers are helping you with the sampling, please mark the back of the Homeowner Instructions with the correct LCR number and sample pool address. They are required to give you back the label on the back of the Homeowner Instructions filled out correctly along with the filled sample bottle.
- Ensure sampling has been collected properly **per instructions** and completed - Site Location, Collection Date, Time, Last Water Use Date, and Time and the sink which the samples was collected such as the kitchen sink.
- Place a label on each bottle and ensure that all LCR numbers match.



- **Caution:** Missing or incomplete forms will lead to rejection at the laboratory.
- Send the sample bottles to your laboratory for processing along with the completed, dated and signed Lead and Copper Rule Chain of Custody Form 20683.
- List of laboratories:

  http://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/compliance/compliance_support/qa/txnelap_lab_list.pdf

- **All sample results must be reported to TCEQ on or before October 10, 2016.**
- **CONSUMER NOTIFICATION:** PWS Lead Consumer Notification Template Form 20680(a) or (b).

  After the samples have been analyzed and in accordance with 30 TAC §290.117(j) and (i), PWSs must provide a consumer notice of lead tap water monitoring results to persons served at the sites that are tested within 30 days of learning the results from the laboratory. You then must certify and mail to TCEQ within 90 days after the end of the monitoring period a copy of the Lead Consumer Notice along with the certification Form 20680(a) or (b).

TCEQ CONTACT INFORMATION: For all Lead and Copper Program Questions, please contact the TCEQ at (512) 239-4691. http://www.tceq.texas.gov/drinkingwater/chemicals/lead_copper

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