



# Sample Siting Plan

## Revised Total Coliform Rule

### Instructions

In accordance with the Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR) and 30 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §290.109(d), every public water system (PWS) must develop a Sample Siting Plan (SSP). The SSP is a coliform monitoring plan and schedule used to complete routine and additional microbial monitoring. The SSP is also a required component of your system's Monitoring Plan. Additional guidance including requirements based on the population you serve is available in [How to Develop a Monitoring Plan for a Public Water System](#) (RG-384) and [Coliform Monitoring, Analyzing, and Reporting Guide](#) (RG-421). The SSP includes:

- a map of the distribution system,
- a coliform sampling schedule,
- routine distribution coliform sample sites,
- repeat sample sites for each routine site, and
- groundwater wells.

The PWS must develop a SSP and maintain it as part of their monitoring plan. The SSP and map must be revised as needed. A copy of up-to-date documents must be available at the PWS for inspection purposes.

**The SSP template, distribution map example, guidance on coliform sample collection, and other guidance documents can be found at the [Revised Total Coliform Rule](#)<sup>1</sup> webpage.**

For questions concerning the SSP, distribution map, or RTCR compliance, please contact the TCEQ RTCR Program at (512) 239-4691 or at [TCRDATA@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:TCRDATA@tceq.texas.gov).

### Public Water System Information

Public Water System Name:	
Public Water System ID:	
PWS Representative Name:	
Title:	
Phone Number:	
Email:	
Date:	

<sup>1</sup> [www.tceq.texas.gov/drinkingwater/revised-total-coliform-rule](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/drinkingwater/revised-total-coliform-rule)

# Developing your SSP

## Select Coliform Sample Sites

The PWS is encouraged to identify coliform sample sites with the following features:

- free of leaks,
- a downward-facing outlet at least 12 inches above the floor or ground,
- constructed of material that can be properly disinfected,
- free of obstructions such as tall grass or shrubbery,
- free of any attachments or point of use devices such as a water hose, water softener, or aerator, and
- at a customer's residence, dedicated sampling tap, or other active service connections.

## Generate the Distribution System Map

The PWS must include a map of the distribution system. The map must be clearly labeled and identify each of the following:

- routine distribution coliform sample sites,
- distribution water main locations and sizes,
- locations at which treated water enters the distribution system,
- water storage facilities locations and capacities (if applicable), and
- pressure plane boundaries (if applicable).

## Monthly Coliform Sampling Schedule

The PWS must collect routine coliform samples at regular time intervals throughout the month. A PWS using only purchased or groundwater and serves less than 4,900 people may collect all required routine samples on a single day. Samples should be collected early in the week and early in the month to allow time for collection of repeat or replacement samples.

In the boxes below, indicate the required number of monthly coliform samples and the PWS coliform sample schedule.

For example: If the PWS is required to collect 40 monthly samples, the PWS collects 10 samples on Tuesday each week. If the PWS is required to collect 1 monthly sample, the PWS collects the sample on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month.

<b>Required Number of Monthly Coliform Samples:</b>	
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<b>Coliform Sampling Schedule</b>

## Repeat Sampling Requirements

When a PWS is notified by the laboratory of a routine total coliform-positive (TC+) sample, a set of three repeat samples must be collected within 24 hours. The three repeat samples include,

- One repeat sample from the original routine TC+ sample site.
- One repeat sample at a site within 5 connections upstream of routine TC+ sample site.
- One repeat sample at a site within 5 connections downstream of routine TC+ sample site.

## Routine and Repeat Coliform Sampling Sites

The PWS must identify sample sites with an address and/or physical location. Repeat monitoring is only required at one upstream and one downstream site. The SSP should include as many upstream/downstream options as possible to ensure repeat samples can be collected.

In the following tables, enter the address or physical location for each ROUTINE SAMPLE SITE. For each routine sample site enter the address or location for five “Repeat Upstream” and “Repeat Downstream” repeat sample locations.

ROUTINE SAMPLE SITE 1 <a href="#">click or tap here to enter text</a>	
Repeat Upstream	Repeat Downstream
1:	1:
2:	2:
3:	3:
4:	4:
5:	5:

ROUTINE SAMPLE SITE 2 <a href="#">click or tap here to enter text</a>	
Repeat Upstream	Repeat Downstream
1:	1:
2:	2:
3:	3:
4:	4:
5:	5:

ROUTINE SAMPLE SITE 3 <a href="#">click or tap here to enter text</a>	
Repeat Upstream	Repeat Downstream
1:	1:
2:	2:
3:	3:
4:	4:
5:	5:

<b>ROUTINE SAMPLE SITE 4</b> <a href="#">click or tap here to enter text</a>	
<b>Repeat Upstream</b>	<b>Repeat Downstream</b>
1:	1:
2:	2:
3:	3:
4:	4:
5:	5:

<b>ROUTINE SAMPLE SITE 5</b> <a href="#">click or tap here to enter text</a>	
<b>Repeat Upstream</b>	<b>Repeat Downstream</b>
1:	1:
2:	2:
3:	3:
4:	4:
5:	5:

<b>ROUTINE SAMPLE SITE 6</b> <a href="#">click or tap here to enter text</a>	
<b>Repeat Upstream</b>	<b>Repeat Downstream</b>
1:	1:
2:	2:
3:	3:
4:	4:
5:	5:

<b>ROUTINE SAMPLE SITE 7</b> <a href="#">click or tap here to enter text</a>	
<b>Repeat Upstream</b>	<b>Repeat Downstream</b>
1:	1:
2:	2:
3:	3:
4:	4:
5:	5:

<b>ROUTINE SAMPLE SITE 8</b> <a href="#">click or tap here to enter text</a>	
<b>Repeat Upstream</b>	<b>Repeat Downstream</b>
1:	1:
2:	2:
3:	3:
4:	4:
5:	5:

ROUTINE SAMPLE SITE 9 <a href="#">click or tap here to enter text</a>	
Repeat Upstream	Repeat Downstream
1:	1:
2:	2:
3:	3:
4:	4:
5:	5:

ROUTINE SAMPLE SITE 10 <a href="#">click or tap here to enter text</a>	
Repeat Upstream	Repeat Downstream
1:	1:
2:	2:
3:	3:
4:	4:
5:	5:

## Triggered Source Monitoring

When a PWS using groundwater wells is notified of a routine total coliform-positive (TC+) sample, a raw well sample must be collected at each active well within 24 hours. These are referred to as triggered source monitoring (TSM) samples.

If a groundwater system uses only one well and serves 1,000 people or less, the TSM sample can also be used as a repeat sample.

If the PWS purchases groundwater from a wholesaler, the PWS must notify the wholesale system(s) within 24 hours of being notified of the TC+ routine distribution sample. A wholesale groundwater system that receives notice of a TC+ must collect a TSM sample from each of its groundwater sources within 24 hours of the notification.

Groundwater Wells		
Assigned Source ID (Ex. G#PWSID#A)	Sample Location (Physical location of well)	Repeat Sample Site? (Y/N) (ONLY IF 1 well system serving ≤1,000)
<a href="#">Click here to enter Source ID.</a>	<a href="#">Click here to enter well location.</a>	Choose an item.
<a href="#">Click here to Source ID.</a>	<a href="#">Click here to enter well location.</a>	Choose an item.

## Alternative Repeat Sampling SOP (Optional)

A PWS may choose to specify alternative repeat locations or criteria for selecting repeat sampling sites in a written standard operating procedure (SOP).

If the PWS elects to propose an Alternative Repeat Sampling SOP, attach it to this document along with the RTCR Distribution System Map.

The PWS's Alternative Repeat Sampling SOP must identify repeat sampling locations that best verify and determine the extent of potential contamination relative to the initial TC+ location.