

TEMPORARY Disinfection Byproduct (DBP) Sampling Options During the Coronavirus Outbreak

EGLE recognizes that access to some sampling points may be restricted as a result of the COVID-19 mitigation strategies. However, it is important that samples continue to be collected across the distribution system to ensure the safety of the water being supplied to the public. Please review the following guidance to remain in compliance.

Take Pro-active Steps

- Review your DDBP Monitoring Plan.
- Contact sampling sites to determine if they are still accessible.
- Identify where special accommodations may be needed.
- Check back with sites as conditions change during this event.
- Identify temporary alternative sampling locations, if necessary (see below).
- Ensure samplers exercise proper precautions (minimize contact with others, use proper handwashing techniques, disinfect surfaces, etc.).
- Check with your laboratory regarding availability and/or potential changes to drop-off/delivery practices. If you use the EGLE laboratory, visit Michigan.gov/EGLELab.

Sampling Guidance

Total Trihalomethane (TTHM) and Total Haloacetic Acid (HAA5) compliance is based on a locational running annual average at each site. Therefore, sites should not be changed if it can be avoided.

- If entry into a routine site is not permitted, first try to collect samples from an exterior tap at the routine site, such as a hose bib. Be sure to flush the tap so the water being sampled represents normal use.
- If a routine site is entirely unavailable, an alternate site may be used as described below.

Temporary Alternate Sites

If routine sites are unavailable, temporary alternate sites may be used. **Before sampling an alternate site, contact your EGLE district office** to discuss the options below and to receive approval of the alternate site(s).

- Alternate sites should be as close to the routine location as possible and represent the same water quality.
- If no alternate locations are available that represent the same water quality, identify an alternate site that is representative of a high TTHM location or a high HAA5 location (dependent on the reason the routine site was originally selected). See [guidance on TTHM/HAA5 site selection](#).
- Sites can include hydrants, pump stations or tanks. If hydrants are selected for sampling, limit flushing volume to the hydrant barrel and hydrant lead to ensure a representative result.

Alternate Site Reporting

When submitting results to EGLE, document each instance where an alternate site was used. Include the following information:

- Why the alternate location was necessary.
- The address of the alternate location.
- Which routine location was replaced.
- Whether the alternate site represents the same water quality as the routine site.