

Michigan Department of
Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE)
Community Water Supply

Weekly Program Update

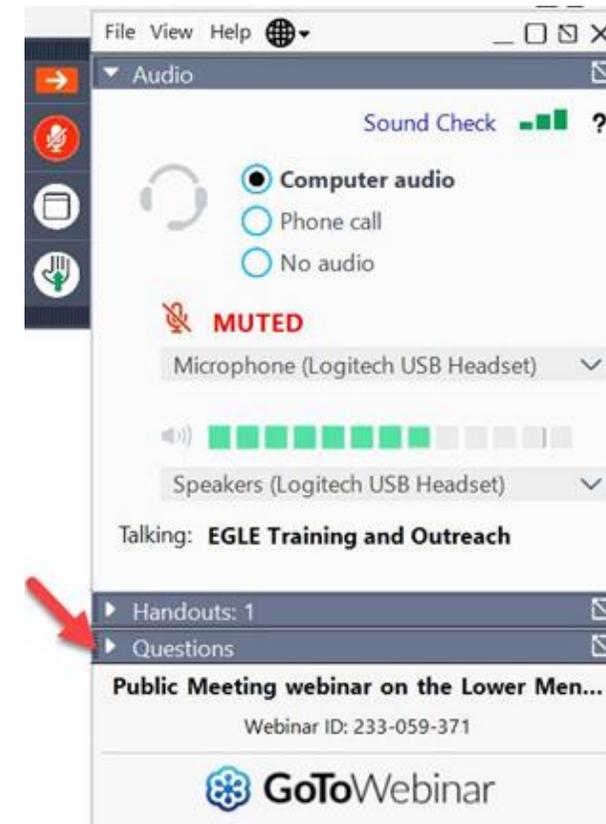
April 23, 2020



All lines are muted during the webinar.



Submit your questions using the “**Question**” box in your Go To Webinar tool bar.



Poll Question 1

Q & A Panel

- Eric Oswald
 - Drinking Water and Environmental Health Division Director
- George Krisztian
 - DWEHD Assistant Director
- Brian Thurston
 - DWEHD Field Operations Section Manager
- Kris Philip
 - DWEHD Community Water Supply Section Manager

Topics Covered Today

- Reminders & Resources
- Answers to Recent Questions
- EGLE Weekly Updates
- Poll Questions
- Other Updates
- Q&A Session

General Reminders

- EGLE staff are working remotely and available to assist you
 - Email & cell phone most efficient; desk phone voicemail being checked
 - *Non-critical* site visits have been suspended
- Operator Certification
 - May exams rescheduled to July 23, 2020
 - Operator certifications that would have expired 4/15 have been extended to 7/15
 - 150+ online courses available for CECs (Michigan.gov/EGLEoperatortraining)
- Lead and Copper Workshops
 - Workshops planned for May have been cancelled, looking to reschedule with webinar format

EGLE Lab Reminders

EGLE Drinking Water Laboratory Updates

- Pick-up of mail from the lab has been reduced to 3 days/week
 - Possible delay in delivery of test kits. Recommend ordering kits early.
 - Possible delay in receipt of mailed results. Recommend providing email address on analysis request form. Email reporting continues as normal.
- Deliveries to the lab continue as usual (daily)
- Not currently allowing sample drop-off. Consult with your local carrier service (U.S. Post Office, FedEx, etc.) prior to sampling to ensure sample delivery within required hold times.
- As always, it is recommended that sampling be conducted early in the monitoring period.

Resources

- Michigan Webpage: Michigan.gov/Coronavirus
- EGLE CWS Webpage: Michigan.gov/CommunityWater, then ["COVID 19: Information for Water Operators"](#)
- EPA has established a website to assist water utilities: ["Water Utility Resources for the COVID-19 Pandemic"](#)

Q&A from Last Week

Q: If a Stage 2 DBPR sampling site is inaccessible, is it acceptable to go to a nearby address to collect the sample? Are there guidelines for selecting a nearby site? Is it acceptable to delay the sampling until later in the quarter?

A: Some site flexibility can be accommodated. Alternate sites should be as close to the routine location as possible and represent the same water quality. **Contact your EGLE district office to discuss options and get approval for use of an alternate site.** Guidance will be available on the [EGLE website](#) soon. Samples must be collected during the supply's designated month and cannot be postponed until later in the monitoring period.

Q: Should supplies conduct annual hydrant flushing?

A: Water supplies should continue to operate their systems as necessary to meet service expectations. Water supplies should consider the potential impacts to their systems and staff to decide whether the value of these activities warrants taking action now versus waiting to a later date.

Q&A from Last Week (cont.)

Q: Do you have any results on the concentration of Coronavirus in wastewater? Is there anywhere to see other plants' results?

A: We do not currently have results from wastewater facilities. There are many studies underway and expanding literature on the topic, both within and outside Michigan.

Q: Has EGLE considered modifications to the sampling requirements related to lead and copper?

A: Not at this time. It is recommended that water supplies prepare for sampling while the Stay Home, Stay Safe Executive Order is in place. Actions such as ordering bottles, contacting sampling participants, and reviewing sampling plans can be done now in preparation for sampling within a potentially shortened window of time.

Poll Question 2

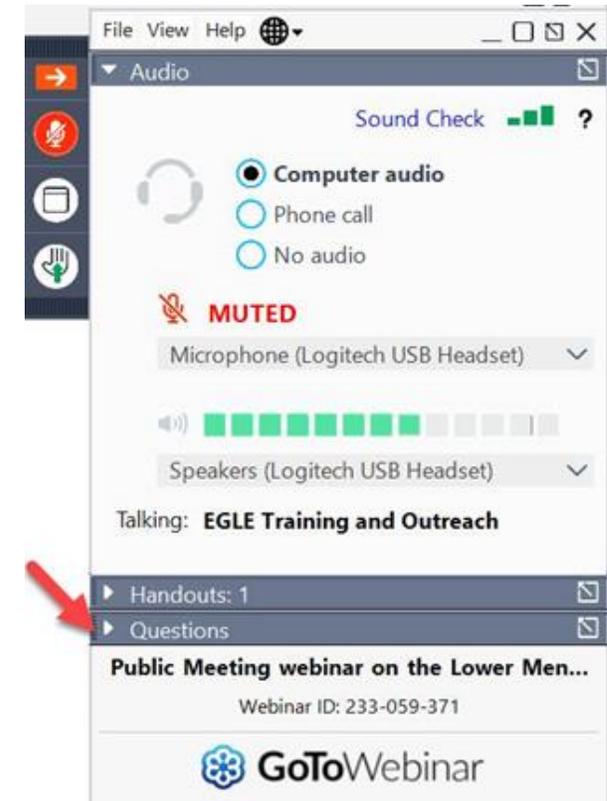
Availability of PPE

- If you need PPE, reach out to your County Emergency Operations Center
- EPA has been coordinating with DHS to include the water sector in the prioritization of PPE
 - FEMA is shipping cloth masks for critical infrastructure facilities and the water sector is included. N95 masks are still exclusively going to the medical community.
 - A shipment of cloth masks was supposed to be sent on 4/20.
 - The cloth masks are free and not just for WARN members.

Poll Question 3

Q&A Session

- Submit questions using the "Question" box in your Go To Webinar tool bar.
- Questions will be compiled and posted to the Community Water COVID-19 website as a Q&A document.
- Between meetings, general programmatic questions/issues can be sent to:
EGLE-DWEHD-CWS@Michigan.gov



Thank you for tuning in!

- Look for notification of future sessions
- Stay in contact with your district engineer and communicate any challenges you are facing
- Stay safe out there!