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FACT SHEET

Type III Drinking Water Supply Sampling at Campgrounds

Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE)
Environmental Health Section, Campground Program

A Type III public water supply is a water system that provides drinking water to persons other than the supplier of water, and is not a community public water supply (Type I), noncommunity public water supply (Type II), or a waterworks system that supplies water to only one living unit (Private).

Since Type III wells are public water supplies, they are regulated under the Safe Drinking Water Act, 1976 PA 399, as amended, and the administrative rules (Act 399).

Below are two rule references from Act 399. Please refer to pages 2 and 3 of this document to read the entire rules referenced below.

- **Rule 704(a)(2) gives the department (EGLE or Local Health Department [LHD]) the authority to require Bacteriological Sampling.**
- **Rule 710(2) gives the department (EGLE or LHD) the authority to require Inorganic Chemical Sampling.**

The EGLE Campground Program supports local health departments to require annual bacteriological and nitrate sampling. Sampling should occur prior to opening to ensure the water is safe before serving it to the public and then as often as deemed necessary by the local health department.

R 325.10704 Coliform sampling.

Rule 704. (1) Until March 31, 2016, community and noncommunity water systems shall collect samples and cause analyses to be made for coliform bacteria to determine compliance with the state drinking water standards. Beginning April 1, 2016, the total coliform provisions of R 325.10704a to R 325.10704k are applicable, with supplies required to begin regular monitoring at the same frequency as the supply-specific frequency required on March 31, 2016.

(2) Until March 31, 2016, the department may require samples to be collected and analyzed for coliform bacteria for type III public water systems at a frequency as may be considered necessary by the department. Beginning April 1, 2016, supplies shall comply with R 325.10704a(2).

(3) If any routine or repeat sample is total coliform-positive, the supplier shall analyze that total coliform-positive culture medium to determine if fecal coliforms are present. Analysis for *E. coli* may be performed instead of fecal coliforms.

(4) All of the following provisions apply until March 31, 2016:

(a) R 325.10705 collection and analysis of samples for coliform bacteria; community water systems.

(b) R 325.10706 collection and analysis of samples for coliform bacteria; noncommunity water system.

(c) R 325.10709 special purpose and invalidated samples.

(5) All of the following provisions apply until all required repeat monitoring under R 325.10707 and fecal coliform or *E. coli* testing under subrule (3) of this rule that was initiated by a total coliform-positive sample taken before April 1, 2016 is completed, as well as analytical method, reporting, recordkeeping, public notification, and consumer confidence report requirements associated with that monitoring and testing:

(a) R 325.10707 repeat monitoring for total coliform.

(b) R 325.10707a invalidation of total coliform samples.

(c) Subrule (3) of this rule, analyze culture for fecal coliforms.

(d) R 325.10707b general notification requirements for total coliform and fecal coliform/*escherichia coli* (*E. coli*).

History: 1979 AC; 2003 AACCS; 2015 AACCS.

R 325.10704a Total coliform; general.

Rule 704a. (1) All of the following rules, also known in these rules as the total coliform rules, include both maximum contaminant level and treatment technique requirements:

(a) R 325.10704a total coliform; general.

(b) R 325.10704b total coliform; analytical methods.

(c) R 325.10704c total coliform; general monitoring.

(d) R 325.10704d total coliform; routine monitoring; noncommunity; serving 1,000 or fewer people; groundwater.

(e) R 325.10704e total coliform; routine monitoring; community; serving 1,000 or fewer people; groundwater.

(f) R 325.10704f total coliform; routine monitoring; subpart H; serving 1,000 or fewer people.

(g) R 325.10704g total coliform; routine monitoring; community and noncommunity; serving more than 1,000 people.

(h) R 325.10704h total coliform; repeat monitoring; *E. coli*.

(i) R 325.10704i total coliform; treatment technique triggers; assessments.

(j) R 325.10704j total coliform; violations.

(k) R 325.10704k total coliform; reporting and recordkeeping.

(2) The total coliform rules apply to all community and noncommunity water supplies. The department may require samples to be collected and analyzed for coliform bacteria for type III public water systems at a frequency as may be considered necessary by the department.

(3) Supplies falling under direct oversight of the EPA, where the EPA acts as the department, shall comply with decisions made by the EPA for implementation of these total coliform rules. The EPA has authority to establish the procedures and criteria as are necessary to implement these total coliform rules.

(4) Failure to comply with these total coliform rules is a violation of these rules.

(5) Supplies shall comply with these total coliform rules beginning April 1, 2016, unless otherwise required in these total coliform rules.

R 325.10707b General notification requirements for total coliform and fecal coliform/*Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*).

Rule 707b. (1) Except as noted in this rule, a supplier of a public water system shall report to the department the results of the analyses as required in R 325.10734(1).

(2) A supplier that has failed to comply with a coliform monitoring requirement, including the sanitary survey requirement, shall report the monitoring violation to the department within 10 days after the system discovers the violation.

(3) A supplier of a public water system that exceeded the MCL for total coliform under R 325.10602 shall report the violation to the department not later than the end of the next business day after the supplier learns of the violation.

(4) If fecal coliform or *E. coli* are determined to be present in any routine or repeat sample, the supplier shall notify the department by the end of the day that the supplier is notified of the test result, unless the supplier is notified of the result after the department office is closed, in which case the supplier shall notify the department before the end of the next business day.

History: 1991 AACS; 2003 AACS.

R 325.10708 Collection of additional samples.

Rule 708. (1) A single sample shall not be attributed to more than 1 monitoring period.

(2) If a sample that is needed to meet monitoring requirements is invalidated under these rules, and the public water supply does not learn of the invalidation until after the monitoring period has ended, and the supply collects a valid sample when they learn of the invalidation, then the valid sample may be used to determine compliance with these rules for the monitoring period that has ended.

(3) If the department collects a sample for the purpose of enforcement when a public water supply is delinquent in meeting a monitoring requirement, then the sample collected after the monitoring period has ended may be used to determine compliance with these rules for the monitoring period that has ended.

History: 1979 AC; 1991 AACS; 2009 AACS; 2015 AACS.

R 325.10709 Special purpose and invalidated samples.

Rule 709. Special purpose samples, such as those taken following water main placement, replacement or repair, and samples invalidated pursuant to the provisions of R 325.10707a shall not be used to determine compliance with the provisions of R 325.10705 and R 325.10706.

History: 1979 AC; 1991 AACS; 1998 AACS.

R 325.10710 Collection and analysis of samples for inorganic chemicals.

Rule 710. (1) Suppliers of water of community and noncommunity water systems shall collect water samples and cause analyses to be made for inorganic chemicals to determine compliance with the state drinking water standards in R 325.10604c. Suppliers shall monitor at the time designated by the department during each compliance period.

(2) The department may require samples to be collected and analyzed at a prescribed frequency for inorganic chemicals for type III public water supplies.

(3) Beginning in the initial compliance period, suppliers of community and nontransient, noncommunity water systems shall monitor under this rule to determine compliance with the MCLs for inorganic contaminants in R 325.10604c. Beginning in the initial compliance period, suppliers of transient, noncommunity water systems shall monitor under this rule to determine compliance with the nitrate, nitrite, and total nitrate and nitrite MCLs in R 325.10604c.

(4) Suppliers shall monitor in the following manner:

(a) Suppliers of groundwater systems shall take at least 1 sample at every entry point to the distribution system representative of each well after treatment, also known as sampling point. The