



## Announcement: Region 8 Employees Change Roles

Nara Jirik, former Consumer Confidence Rule Manager, is now Region 8's Water Security Coordinator. Bailey Smith, in addition to maintaining her previous role as nitrate rule manager, will now manage CCRs for the Region. As they transition into new roles, both Nara and Bailey remain available to answer questions about CCRs, water security, or nitrates. Please use the contact list below if you need to reach out to either Nara or Bailey. The tribal team is always available as a point of contact for any questions you may have regarding drinking water.

### THIS MONTH

Announcement: Region 8 Employees Change Roles

Explanation: Protect Your Distribution System—How Much Chlorine Do You Need?

Training: Water Treatment – Level 2 Online Training Course – Free for Tribal Personnel

Training: Lead Testing and Remediation in Drinking Water in Child Care and Early Childhood Facilities – New Dates

Upcoming Webinars

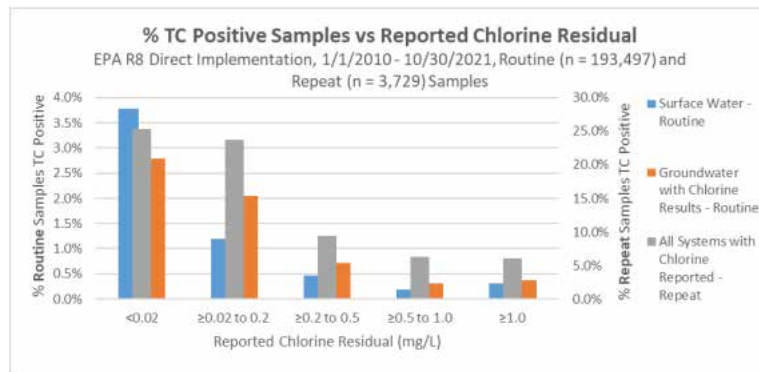
Upcoming Regulatory Deadlines

Key EPA Contacts

## Explanation: Protect Your Distribution System—How Much Chlorine Do You Need?

Maintaining an adequate chlorine residual in your distribution system reduces the health risk posed by disease-causing pathogens that may exist in the pipes; offers protection against waterborne diseases from cross-connections, low pressure events, or localized issues; and limits biological growth and nitrification along the pipe walls. The health risks associated with opportunistic pathogens in the distribution system, like Legionella and nontuberculous mycobacteria (NTM), have been identified as a national issue in recent years. Researchers have found that concentrations of Legionella are significantly higher in water with low chlorine residual levels. This appears to be true regardless of the water system's source water type (i.e., surface water or groundwater).

Failure to maintain an adequate chlorine residual in the distribution system is also associated with an increased incidence of total coliform (TC) positive sample results. Below is a graph with a summary of the historic total coliform samples and associated chlorine residual results, collected during the timeframe from January 2010 to October 2021, at all public water systems in Wyoming and Region 8 Indian Country. In this summary, it appears that maintaining a chlorine residual greater than 0.02 mg/L results in a significant decrease in total coliform detections in routine samples (no change for repeat samples), with a decrease observed for both routine and repeat samples when the residual is maintained at greater than 0.2 mg/L. An additional small improvement in the percentage of total coliform positive samples is observed for both routine and repeat sample results with a reported chlorine residual of greater than 0.5 mg/L.



EPA Region 8 recommends that all systems, including groundwater systems, maintain a minimum chlorine residual of 0.2 mg/L free chlorine or 0.5 mg/L total chlorine throughout the distribution system. This recommendation is consistent with the results of the above analysis.

\*This article was originally published in Region 8's annual newsletter, available [here](#).

## Training: Water Treatment – Level 2 Online Training Course – Free for Tribal Personnel

This training course is designed to enhance the skills and knowledge of Tribal water treatment facility operators and to help them advance to Level 2 operator certification. Course topics include: surface water and groundwater sources, water quality, federal regulations, disinfection, water treatment approaches and associated operations and maintenance, instrumentation and controls, water quality monitoring, records and reporting, math, worker safety, and much more. This course covers a significant amount of content and requires students to study outside of class. Free Operator Certification exams available through computer-based testing services after the conclusion of the course.

**When:** Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays in June and July

**Registration:** Click [here](#).

## Training: Lead Testing and Remediation in Drinking Water in Child Care and Early Childhood Facilities – New Dates

The U.S Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and U.S. Health and Human Services (HHS) invite you to register for our 3-part training series on Lead Testing and Remediation in Drinking Water in Child Care and Early Childhood Facilities.

The [3-part series](#) builds on each other and is designed to provide all the resources you will need to complete a 3Ts (Training, Testing and Taking Action) plan to conduct lead testing and reduce exposure to children.

### Come and learn:

The EPA and HHS will take you through presentations, interactive tools, and case studies to build your 3Ts plan and share information on the increased funding opportunities (from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law passed in November 2021 by President Biden) available to childcare/early childhood facilities.

### Please register for the 3-part series:

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

- 1) **June 14, 2022** (11:00 pm – 12:30 pm MT): **PART 1 -- Training:** Implementing a 3Ts program for Lead Testing in Drinking Water in Child Care and Early Childhood Facilities.  
[REGISTER here.](#)
- 2) **June 23, 2022** (11:00 pm – 12:30 pm MT): **PART 2 -- Testing:** Implementing a 3Ts program for Collecting Lead Samples in Drinking Water in Child Care and Early Childhood Facilities.  
**REGISTER: [Go to your confirmation email for link!](#)**
- 3) **July 14, 2022** (11:00 pm – 12:30 pm MT): **PART 3 -- Taking Action:** Implementing a 3Ts program for Reducing Lead Exposure in Drinking Water in Child Care and Early Childhood Facilities.  
**REGISTER: [Go to your confirmation email for link!](#)**

## Upcoming Webinars

Title	Descriptions	Date	Registration
<b>Workforce Webinar: Women in Water</b>	This webinar is part of an ongoing webinar series hosted by EPA highlighting ways in which many organizations across the water sector are implementing programs to help utilities as they address their own workforce challenges. This one will specifically focus on women in the water workforce.	<b>June 21, 2022</b> (9:00 am MT)	<a href="#">Click here</a>

## Upcoming Regulatory Deadlines (Refer to Tickler for System-Specific Information)

Date	Event	Location
Last day of every calendar month	Last day to collect monthly total coliform samples	Sites approved on your RTCR sample plan
10 <sup>th</sup> of every month	Last day for EPA to receive total coliform and DBP samples collected during the previous month	N/A
June 30 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Many monitoring periods for different rules (e.g., TOCA, RADS, Chems, Nitrate, LCR) conclude. Refer to your monitoring requirements or tickler for system-specific information. Call EPA with questions.</b>	<b>Sites approved for each rule</b>
June 30 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Deadline to provide CCR report to EPA for many community water systems.</b>	N/A

## Key EPA Contacts

### Region 8 Tribal Team

Nate Delano – Denver, CO Office – 303-312-6318 – [delano.nathaniel@epa.gov](mailto:delano.nathaniel@epa.gov)

Emily Gillespie – Helena, MT Office – 406-457-5009 – [Gillespie.emily.j@epa.gov](mailto:Gillespie.emily.j@epa.gov)

Joe Faubion – Helena, MT Office – 406-457-5005 – [Faubion.joseph@epa.gov](mailto:Faubion.joseph@epa.gov)

Andrea Griese – Pierre, SD Office – 605-945-1192 – [griese.andrea@epa.gov](mailto:griese.andrea@epa.gov)

Other R8 Drinking Water Employee Contact Information Can be Found [Here](#).

This newsletter can be viewed online by visiting: <https://www.epa.gov/region8-waterops/epa-region-8-tribal-drinking-water-monthly-newsletter>.

If you would like to be added or removed from this newsletter distribution list, please email [delano.nathaniel@epa.gov](mailto:delano.nathaniel@epa.gov).