

P. The Pipeline

Drinking Water Laboratory
Policy & Procedures Update

A publication of the Ohio EPA/DES/DDAGW ————— Winter 2001

New Micro Manual On its Way

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In the very near future the 2001 edition of the Laboratory Manual for Microbiological Analyses of Public Drinking Water will be sent to all laboratories certified for microbiological procedures. It will also be available shortly on the Ohio EPA laboratory certification web page. This edition, as usual, will contain new quality control forms. These forms have been extensively changed from past forms, therefore, you must put copies of these forms into use upon receipt. The 'sampling/reporting' section has been completely re-written to comply with sampling/reporting requirements of the Division of Drinking and Ground Waters. When you get the manual if you have questions concerning sampling/reporting, please call either your district office or the Division of Drinking and Ground Waters central office at : 614-644-2752. All test procedural questions should be directed to the laboratory certification section.

Manual Integration

Questions come up from time to time concerning guidelines for determining acceptable practices when performing a manual integration of gas chromatograph, (GC/GCMS) peaks for organic chemistry analysis. Often, laboratories establish their own limits and guidelines to determine when to do a manual integration and the procedure for doing it. In the next several months, the Ohio EPA will be looking at this in more detail, hoping to establish a standardized way of doing this. If your laboratory currently does manual integrations of GC peaks, we welcome your input into our decision making process.



Please send ideas/solutions or your in-house guidelines to Jim Dolfi at the laboratory certification section.

Web Sources

Many people ask about web access to the Ohio EPA. The following is a list of Ohio EPA web resources:

Main Ohio EPA web page:

<http://www.epa.state.oh.us/>

The laboratory certification section web page, contains PDF versions of all applications and the latest laboratory manuals. Please note that even though the laboratory certification section is located in the Division of Environmental Services, the web page is linked through the Division of Drinking and Ground Waters:

<http://www.epa.state.oh.us/ddagw/labcert.html>



PT Information

The 2001 proficiency test (PT) schedule was issued on January 18, 2001. Laboratories that are certified for chemistry for **nitrate, nitrite, sulfate, cyanide, trace metals, or organics** are required to participate in both March through May and September through November studies as a requirement for maintaining certification. **All** certified microbiology laboratories must participate in the September through November study. PT Results for the second half chemistry and microbiology studies are still being submitted to the laboratory certification office by the PT providers. After all the results have been received and tabulated, each laboratory will be notified as to their status regarding each study. Any questions relating to the PT program may be directed to Mr. James Evans at (614) 644-4222.

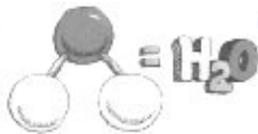


The Division of Drinking and Ground Waters web page:

<http://www.epa.state.oh.us/ddagw/ddagwmain.html>

The Division of Environmental Services web page (the EPA laboratory):

<http://www.ej> [in.html](#)



2001 Microbiological Water Testing Courses

Operator Training Committee of Ohio, Inc. in conjunction with the Ohio EPA/DES Laboratory Certification Section has three microbiological laboratory courses scheduled this year.

March 22-23, 2001; MMO-MUG Procedure at the Cincinnati-Miller Water Plant Laboratory

June 7-8, 2001; MMO-MUG Procedure at the Canton Water Plant Laboratory

October 17-18-19, 2001; MMO-MUG & Membrane Filter procedures at the Del-Co Water Company/Alum Creek Lab

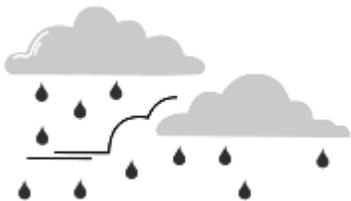
Contact OTCO at (614) 268-6826 for registration forms, fees, and continuing education contact hours for these courses.

Notification of Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) Exceedances

As a reminder, certified labs are required to notify the Ohio EPA by fax or electronic mail of analytical results which indicate a positive result for microbiological contaminants, all repeat sample results for microbiological contaminants, or an exceedance of drinking water maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) or standards. Ohio EPA must be notified **no later than the end of the next business day** after the result was obtained (following quality control verification).

Reporting with Unique Sample Numbers

Please make sure that you are not re-using sample numbers from last year. If you want to recycle sample numbers from last year, then you must use a different numerical prefix in front of last year's sample numbers (e.g. use 2001 as the prefix for sample number 93845: 200193845). Each sample number from an individual lab needs to be unique to avoid overwriting data. Sample numbers should include only numbers (no letters or dashes) and they are limited to no more than 10 digits. Also, sample number.



Transient Public Water Systems Guide Available

Ohio EPA Division of Drinking and Ground Waters recently published a "Transient Public Water Systems Guide" to assist and educate transient public water system owners and operators of Ohio EPA rules and requirements. A copy can be requested by contacting Holly Kaloz at (614) 644-2752, and will soon be available on Ohio EPA's web site at:

<http://www.epa.state.oh.us/ddagw/>

Name Changes

There have been a few program name changes in the Division of Drinking and Ground Waters. The Water Quality Unit is now called the Chemical Monitoring and Compliance Unit (CMCU). The Enforcement and Water Quality Section is now called the Compliance Assurance Section. If you have questions regarding one of the chemical monitoring programs, please call one of the following CMCU staff members: Rich Ciotola (VOCs/THMs); Holly Kaloz (Nitrate/Nitrite); Ildi Pallos (SOCs); Wendy Sheeran



Bob Taft, Governor of Ohio
Christopher Jones, Director of Ohio EPA



The Pipeline Newsletter is published three times each year. It is produced by The Ohio EPA, Division of Environmental Services, Laboratory Certification Section with contributions from the Division of Drinking & Ground Waters. It is distributed to all certified drinking water laboratories.