



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

**Northwest District Office**

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Ted Strickland, Governor  
Lee Fisher, Lieutenant Governor  
Chris Korleski, Director

Re: Allen County  
Ebenezer Mennonite Church  
Transient Non-Community Water System  
PWS ID # 0251112

November 10, 2008

OH0251112

EBENEZER MENNONITE CHURCH

11/10/2008

Lynn Laymen  
Ebenezer Mennonite Church  
8905 Columbus Grove-Bluffton Rd.  
Bluffton, Ohio 45817



Dear Congregation:

**Subject: Notice of Violation for Failure to Respond to a Significant Deficiency**

This letter is notification that the Ebenezer Mennonite Church has not complied with requirements issued during this Agency's last survey performed on July 17, 2008, in violation of Ohio Administrative Code, Rule 3745-81-60. The Ebenezer Mennonite Church was notified in correspondence dated August 6, 2008 of the requirement to respond in writing within 45 days, with a schedule for corrective actions to address the following:

1. OAC Rule 3745-07-03(B)(3) states that, " A public water system shall be classified as a class A public water system when the public water system meets all of the following criteria: (a) Is a ... transient noncommunity public water system that serves a population greater than two hundred fifty; (b) Uses only purchased water or a ground water source; (c) Does not provide precipitative softening or treat for a chemical contaminant to meet a maximum contaminant level as defined in rule 3745-81-01 of the Administrative Code; and (d) Has no serious public health or environmental hazard associated with the operation of the public water system."

Due to the population of the church increasing from 200 to 450 people the public water system will meet the requirements stated above and be classified as a Class A public water system. A Class A public water system must obtain an operator of record certified as a Class A water operator or higher to provided technical supervision for the system. A list of operators was provided to the church office by e-mail on July 23, 2008.

2. OAC Rule 3745-7-09(A) specifies that the owner and operator of a public water system must maintain operation and maintenance records for the public water system. The records must include at a minimum, "(a) Identification of the public water system, sewerage system, or treatment works; (b) Date and times of arrival and departure for the operator of record and any other operator required by this chapter; (c) Specific operation and maintenance activities that affect or have the potential to affect the quality or quantity of sewage or water conveyed, effluent or water produced; (d) Results of tests performed and samples taken, unless documented on a laboratory sheet; (e) Performance of preventative maintenance and repairs or requests for repair of the equipment that affect or have the potential to affect the quality or quantity of sewage or water conveyed, effluent or water produced; and (f) Identification of the persons making entries.

OAC Rule 3745-7-09(A) states that, "Some formats in which the records can be maintained include...hard bound books with consecutive page numbering, time cards, separate operation and maintenance records, or well organized computer logs."

When an operator of record is obtained for the public water system he must maintain records that contain all of the information specified above and in a format specified above.

3. OAC Chapter 3745-95 requires that a public water system is protected from contamination due to backflow from other sources.

The backwash waste lines from the ion exchange softeners must be protected against contamination from backflow by maintaining an appropriate air gap at the point of discharge into the drain. The air gap must be at least 1.5 times the diameter of the drain line.

4. OAC Rule 3745-95-06(C)(3) states that, "The consumer shall, on any premises on which backflow prevention devices required by rules 3745-95-04 and 3745-95-05 of the Administrative Code are installed, have thorough inspections and operational tests made of the devices at the time of installation or repair, and as may be reasonably required by the supplier of water or the director, but in all cases at least once every twelve months..."

Lynn Laymen  
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The backflow prevention device installed at the facility must be inspected at times of repair or at least annually by a person qualified to inspect and test backflow prevention devices. Records of these inspections must be kept on file at the facility.

**The water system must respond in writing within 15 days from the date of this letter with the required information.** Failure to comply may result in further enforcement action.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 419-373-3101 or via Email at [ben.smith@epa.state.oh.us](mailto:ben.smith@epa.state.oh.us).

Sincerely,



Ben Smith  
Environmental Specialist 2  
Division of Drinking and Ground Waters

/csf

pc: Doug Messinger, Maintenance  
Allen County Health Department  
DDAGW, CO, attn: Dave Evans  
DDAGW, NWDO file