

FACT SHEET



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Chemical Contaminant Monitoring (IOCs, SOCs and VOCs) Requirements for Public Water Systems Office of Water Quality

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Introduction

Public Water Systems that supply drinking water must follow certain federal and state safe drinking water regulations. Drinking water is any water supplied for the purpose of human consumption or domestic use. The source of the water can be ground water from wells or surface water from rivers and lakes. Community Water Systems and Nontransient NonCommunity Water Systems must monitor and report for three chemical contaminant groups: inorganic chemicals (IOCs), synthetic organic compounds (SOCs) and volatile organic compounds (VOCs). The purpose of this fact sheet is to explain these requirements.

<i>Which Public Water Systems are required to monitor for chemical contaminants in drinking water?</i>	<i>All Community Water Systems and Nontransient Noncommunity Water Systems are required to monitor for chemical contaminants.</i>
<i>What contaminants should I monitor for?</i>	<i>Monitoring is required for these three chemical contaminant groups: inorganic chemicals (IOCs), synthetic organic compounds (SOCs), and volatile organic compounds (VOCs). Potential sources of IOCs, VOCs and SOCs in drinking water include erosion and decay of natural and manmade deposits; air emissions and wastewater discharges from industrial operations; storm water run-off containing excess herbicides and pesticides; and stored industrial solvents and petroleum products that are accidentally released to the environment.</i>
<i>How frequently will I need to sample for chemical contaminants?</i>	<i>Chemical monitoring is not a "one size fits all" initiative. Several factors must be considered in determining a Public Water System's chemical contaminant monitoring schedule. IDEM's Drinking Water Branch will determine your system's monitoring frequency based on established criteria for source water type, past detections, assessed vulnerability to contaminants, population, and use of contaminants in your area.</i>
<i>What should I do if I detect contaminants?</i>	<i>If your Public Water System detects any chemical contaminant(s), contact IDEM's Drinking Water Branch at (317) 234-7430 for further assistance. The Drinking Water Branch will provide you with information on: possible health effects of the detected contaminant(s); treatment options; public notice requirements; and updated monitoring requirements for your system.</i>

What is a waiver?	IDEM offers chemical monitoring waivers to all qualified Community Water Systems and Nontransient Noncommunity Water Systems on a conditional basis. For example, the Drinking Water Branch may grant a Public Water System a chemical monitoring waiver if said system meets established criteria for source type, nondetection, vulnerability, population, and use of contaminants in the area. The monitoring waiver program offers substantial savings to qualified Public Water Systems by reducing the chemical monitoring frequency per contaminant within each compliance period. The types of monitoring waivers available include a “use” waiver for VOCs and SOCs, a “statewide” waiver for PCBs and dioxin, a “susceptibility” waiver for glyphosate and cyanide, and a “use” waiver for asbestos.
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IDEM’s Role:

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) is responsible for protecting human health and the environment while providing for safe industrial, agricultural, commercial and governmental operations vital to a prosperous economy. IDEM’s Office of Water Quality, Drinking Water Branch regulates, monitors, permits and licenses drinking water facilities and operators.

Rule Citations: 327 IAC 8-2-4, 8-2-4.1, 8-2-5, 8-2-5.1, 8-2-5.4, and 8-2-5.5.

Public Water System’s Role:

Community Water Systems must understand and comply with regulations for monitoring, treating and reporting. Community Water System owners and operators may contact IDEM’s Drinking Water Branch at (317) 234-7430 to request free compliance and technical assistance.

Citizen’s Role:

Citizens can find drinking water quality information by visiting IDEM’s Drinking Water Watch website at <https://myweb.in.gov/IDEM/DWW/> and contacting their local Community Water Supply for the latest Consumer Confidence Report. Citizens can find information about source water protection at <http://www.in.gov/idem/4142.htm>.

Additional Information:

- For more information on chemical contaminant monitoring for IOCs, SOCs, and VOCs, please visit the United States Environmental Protection Agency’s (U.S. EPA’s) website at <http://water.epa.gov/lawsregs/rulesregs/sdwa/chemicalcontaminantrules/basicinformation.cfm>.
- For Indiana’s rules on Drinking Water Standards (327 IAC 8), including rules for the collection of samples for inorganic chemical testing, visit <http://www.in.gov/legislative/iac/t03270/a00080.pdf>.
- For compliance information for Indiana Public Water Systems, visit <http://in.gov/idem/cleanwater/2386.htm>.
- In addition to IDEM’s Office of Water Quality Drinking Water Branch at (317) 234-7430, U.S. EPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline, at 1-800-426-4791, offers assistance to Public Water System owners and operators and the public.

This fact sheet is intended solely as guidance and does not have the effect of law or represent formal Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) decisions or final actions. This fact sheet shall be used in conjunction with applicable rules and statutes. It does not replace applicable rules and statutes, and if it conflicts with these rules and statutes, the rules and statutes shall control.

