

**King County Group B Water Systems
Manager's (Purveyor's) Responsibilities
Title 12, King County Board of Health and Chapter 246-291 WAC**

As the operator (purveyor) or manager of a Group B water system, you have certain responsibilities as defined by the above codes to the other users of the water system, and Public Health, Seattle & King County. Listed below is a listing of some of these responsibilities. Please call Public Health staff at 206-296-4932, with any further questions you might have.

Perform routine testing on water produced by your system or make arrangements for sampling to be completed. For most Group B water systems, this is:

A bacteriological sample at least once a year; and a nitrate sample at least once every three years. Spring sources or susceptible shallow wells may require quarterly or more frequent sampling.

Complete any other sampling required for your specific system.

Your water system may have had specific additional sampling required as part of a waiver approval, or if it is a spring source. Check with Public Health, Seattle & King County Department if you are unsure about any additional sampling requirements for your system.

Complete any follow-up monitoring when a sample shows the presence of coliform bacteria, or other unsatisfactory result.

Send copies of all sampling results directly to the Public Health, Seattle & King County. Do not depend on water testing labs (except for samples taken to directly to the Public Health, Seattle & King County lab) to submit these results. Be sure to include a check or money order for \$15.00 with each sampling result sent in.

Maintaining a "Fully Approved" water system status depends on keeping current on the required routine monitoring. The fee required with each sampling result goes toward entering and maintaining water quality data and other information concerning your Group B water system in the computer database.

Complete monthly water use readings for your water system (if you have a totalizing source meter). Note: These readings should be done routinely on the same day each month.

Notify the Public Health, Seattle & King County in the event that you have sample results that do not meet drinking water standards. Also, you must notify users of your water system in the event of a confirmed water quality problem.

Informing the Public Health, Seattle & King County and the people who drink the water from your system when you receive an unsatisfactory water sample result is important so that precautions can be made to minimize the chances of a health problem arising. In some cases, providing bottled water or boiling water before drinking may be an appropriate temporary solution.

Notify the health department of any changes to the water system.

This includes, at a minimum, informing the department, every year, of the name and address of the manager/purveyor, or if a new manager/purveyor takes over responsibility for the system and how and where he/she can be contacted. Also, you must notify when any physical change is made, such as when a user of the system connects to public water, or other major change to the system.

Work with the health department to fix system problems when they occur.

Even the best water systems have problems from time to time. The PUBLIC HEALTH, Seattle & King County can offer valuable guidance in helping you reach a solution.

Work with all the water system users to enforce a protective radius around your water source in accordance with the King County Board of Health Title 12.24.010.

Provide for routine maintenance of the physical components of the water system either directly yourself, through another party using the system, or by contract with a water system maintenance company.

Keep key records for your water system accessible for review by water system users and the Public Health, Seattle & King County for the time period indicated:

Keep Records of any corrective action and public notification along with other records of operation and analyses for three (3) years;

Keep all bacteriological analyses collected from houses and other locations served by the water system and any turbidity analyses for a minimum of five (5) years;

Keep monthly water use readings (if your system has a totalizing source meter) for a minimum of three (3) years;

Keep comprehensive system evaluations (CSE's) and related material for ten (10) years;

And, keep all chemical analyses (e.g. Nitrate tests) for as long as the system is in operation.

Expect periodic surveys by the Public Health, Seattle & King County.

The Public Health, Seattle & King County & King County may from time to time survey your water system. In the case of “Inadequate” systems, a survey may be performed approximately once every three years. “Provisionally Adequate” and “adequate” systems may be surveyed every five years. You will be contacted prior to any survey and you are encouraged to be present during surveys. After every survey a report will be sent to you detailing what was found. In some cases this may include recommendations to remedy deficiencies with the system. Please make copies of the report available to the other users of your water system.

If you have any questions, please call the Eastgate Health Center at **206-296-4923**. The clerical staff will assist you, and if needed, put you in contact with a field sanitarian to review the file with you.