



Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Regulation: Screening Survey for List 2 Contaminants by Selected Small Public Water Systems

Introduction

The 1996 Amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) require the EPA to publish revisions to the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Regulation (UCMR) establishing criteria for a program to monitor unregulated contaminants in drinking water and to publish a list of contaminants to be monitored. Under the UCMR, a randomly selected sample of 800 community water systems (CWSs) and non-transient, non-community water systems (NTNCWSs) that serve 10,000 or fewer persons (small systems) will monitor and report these unregulated contaminants. A subset of these water systems will be required to participate in a Screening Survey for the UCMR List 2 contaminants. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA or Agency) will pay all costs associated with sending water samples to the appropriate laboratory, analyzing water samples, and reporting results for the small systems.

The purpose of UCMR monitoring is to collect contaminant occurrence data to support the U.S. EPA Administrator's decisions regarding whether or not to regulate contaminants, such as those on the Drinking Water Contaminant Candidate List, to protect public health. The Agency promulgated revisions to the UCMR, published in the *Federal Register* on September 17, 1999 and supplemented on March 2, 2000. The UCMR List 2 Rule, which was finalized and published in the *Federal Register* on January 11, 2001, also supplements the UCMR and is the focus of this fact sheet.

EPA has organized the UCMR contaminants into three lists based on the availability of analytical methods to detect their presence in drinking water and on the type of monitoring to be conducted: Assessment Monitoring, List 1, consists of chemical contaminants for which standard analytical methods are available; Screening Survey, List 2, consists of contaminants for which new analytical methods will be used; and Pre-Screen Testing, List 3, consists of contaminants for which analytical methods are being researched. This fact sheet serves as a supplement to the initial UCMR fact sheet for small systems, entitled: "Monitoring for List 1 Contaminants by Selected Small Public Water Systems". Table 1 identifies the Screening Survey List 2 contaminants, which selected small systems are required to monitor, along with their environmental sources.

What Systems Must Monitor for List 2 Contaminants? (See §141.40(a)(1))

Screening Surveys for List 2 contaminants will be conducted by a randomly selected subset of the 800 small systems that conduct Assessment Monitoring for List 1 contaminants. For each of the two Screening Surveys, 180 small systems (selected from the 800 systems conducting Assessment Monitoring) will be required to conduct sampling. If your system was selected to participate in one of the Screening Surveys, you should have been notified by your State drinking water agency or EPA.

When and How Often Must Monitoring Occur? (See §141.40(a)(5))

To minimize small system burden, EPA and the States have scheduled sample collection for Screening Surveys and Assessment Monitoring to coincide. The first Screening Survey, for 13 chemical contaminants, will be conducted in 2001 for small systems. Systems that use surface water as their drinking water source will collect samples for four consecutive quarters, and systems that rely on ground water will collect samples two times, six months apart. Your State or EPA will notify you of your specific monitoring schedule.

A second Screening Survey for the List 2 microbiological contaminant, *Aeromonas*, will be performed in 2003 by a different set of 180 small systems. *Aeromonas* samples will be taken once each quarter, with additional samples taken each month during the warmest quarter of the year (i.e., six times during the year). Again, selected small systems will be notified of their specific schedule by the State or EPA.

Table 1: UCMR (1999) List 2 Contaminants that are Required for Monitoring and Their Uses or Sources		
Contaminant Name	CASRN	Use or Environmental Source
Screening Survey Chemical Contaminants (2001)		
1,2-diphenylhydrazine	122-66-7	Used in the production of benzidine and anti-inflammatory drugs
2-methylphenol	95-48-7	Released in automobile and diesel exhaust, coal tar and petroleum refining, and wood pulping
2,4-dichlorophenol	120-83-2	Chemical intermediate in herbicide production
2,4-dinitrophenol	51-28-5	Released from mines, metal, petroleum, and dye plants
2,4,6-trichlorophenol	88-06-2	By-product of fossil fuel burning, used as bactericide and wood/glue preservative
Diazinon	333-41-5	Insecticide used with rice, fruit, vineyards, and corn crops
Disulfoton	298-04-4	Insecticide used with cereal, cotton, tobacco, and potato crops
Diuron	330-54-1	Herbicide used on grasses in orchards and wheat crops
Fonofos	944-22-9	Soil insecticide used on worms and centipedes
Linuron	330-55-2	Herbicide used with corn, soybean, cotton, and wheat crops
Nitrobenzene	98-95-3	Used in the production of aniline, which is used to make dyes, herbicides, and drugs
Prometon	1610-18-0	Herbicide used on annual and perennial weeds and grasses
Terbufos	13071-79-9	Insecticide used with corn, sugar beet, and grain sorghum crops
Screening Survey Microbiological Contaminant (2003)		
<i>Aeromonas</i>	N/A	Present in all freshwater and brackish water

Where Must Samples be Collected? (See §141.40(a)(5))

Samples for the first Screening Survey (chemical contaminants to be collected in 2001) must be taken at the entry point(s) to the distribution system. Note that source water samples are not permitted.

Samples for *Aeromonas* (to be collected in 2003) are to be taken at the three locations in the distribution system that represent: a midpoint location in the distribution system with typical disinfectant residual levels, a point located furthest from the entry point to the distribution system, and a location in the distribution system with the lowest disinfectant residual. EPA will provide further guidance on *Aeromonas* sampling before systems begin collecting samples for it in 2003.

Many States have agreed to collect the UCMR samples for small systems. If your State has not agreed to do this, the owner or operator of your system must collect the samples with EPA-supplied equipment, and send them to an EPA-specified laboratory. Your State or EPA will let you know who will collect the samples. EPA will pay for shipping, testing, and reporting the analytical results of the samples.

How Are the Samples to be Analyzed? (See §141.40(a)(5) and Appendix A)

Samples are to be analyzed by an EPA designated laboratory, which will be required by contract to adhere to the UCMR's quality control (QC) specifications. EPA has laboratories in place to analyze samples taken at small systems.

How Will the Monitoring Data be Reported to EPA? (See §141.35(e))

Small systems will not have to report Screening Survey results directly to EPA. Instead, EPA will arrange to receive results from the designated contract laboratories; copies will be sent to the system and State. The system will have 30 days to review and comment on the data. EPA will wait for an additional 60 days before placing the data in the National Drinking Water Contaminant Occurrence Database to allow for quality control review by the system and the State. Each small system, however, is still responsible for ensuring that its Screening Survey results are sent to the State.

Are There Requirements for Notifying the Public? (See §141.153(d) and §141.207)

Yes. Under the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) Rule (40 CFR 141.153(d)), published on August 19, 1998 (63 FR 44511), CWSs must report the monitoring results whenever unregulated contaminants are detected. CCRs are to be sent to all billing customers each year by July 1. (The CCR Rule does not apply to non-community water systems.) For NTNCWSs, UCMR results will be made available to the public through the requirements of the revised Public Notification (PN) Rule (65 FR 25982), under 40 CFR 141.207. As required by the PN Rule, NTNCWSs must notify persons served by the system of the availability of UCMR results within 12 months after the results are known. Because the revised PN Rule goes into effect at different times in different States, owners and operators should check with their State drinking water agency to determine which public notice requirements apply. Details on these reporting requirements can be found in the documents: *Preparing Your Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report* (EPA 816-R-99-002) and *Public Notification Handbook* (EPA 816-R-00-010). Both are available on the Web at www.epa.gov/safewater.

Where Can I Get More Information?

More information on the UCMR is available from the following sources:

- *Federal Register* notices of September 17, 1999 (64 FR 50556), March 2, 2000 (65 FR 11372), and January 11, 2001 (66 FR 2273).
- The EPA Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water Web Site (www.epa.gov/safewater/ucmr.html).
- *Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Regulation Analytical Methods and Quality Control Manual* (EPA 815-R-00-006).
- *Supplement A to the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Regulation Analytical Methods and Quality Control Manual* (EPA 815-R-00-002).
- *Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Regulation Guidance for Operators of Public Water Systems Serving 10,000 or Fewer People* (EPA 815-R-01-002).
- The Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800 426-4791).

EPA is developing additional guidance materials, so check the Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water Web Site often for the latest information about them.

Table 2, at right, lists UCMR contacts in the EPA regional offices and the Agency's Technical Support Center in Cincinnati, OH.

EPA	Contact	Telephone
Region 1	Chris Ryan	617 918-1567
Region 2	Robert Poon	212 637-3821
Region 3	Michelle Hoover	215 814-5258
Region 4	Janine Morris	404 562-9480
Region 5	Janet Kuefler	312 886-0123
Region 6	Andrew J. Waite	214 665-7332
Region 7	Stan Calow	913 551-7410
Region 8	Rod Glebe	303 312-6627
Region 9	Jill Korte	415 744-1853
Region 10	Gene Taylor	206 553-1389
Technical Support Center	Dan Hautman	513 569-7948