

The Idaho Drinking Water Newsletter

Department of Environmental Quality Idaho Drinking Water Program

www.deq.idaho.gov/water/prog_issues.cfm

August 2010, Number 57



Monitoring reminders for Lead/ Copper and Disinfection Byproducts for the period of June-September 30

Owners must report lead test results to homeowners in sampling program

DEQ reminds all public water systems conducting monitoring for annual or triennial lead and copper (Pb/Cu) samples and disinfection byproducts (DBPs) samples, that they must collect them during the warmer months (*see table below*).

Contaminant	Monitoring Sampling Periods
Lead/Copper	June 1 - September 30, 2010
DBPs	July 1 - September 30, 2010

■ **Lead/Copper (Pb/Cu) Monitoring.** Community and non-transient non-community public water systems must monitor lead and copper levels in drinking water. The number of samples taken for systems qualifying for reduced monitoring is based on the population served.

To check your Pb/Cu schedule, go to DEQ's Public Switchboard and click on the "Monitoring Schedule" button at www.deq.idaho.gov/Applications/SDWISReports/pws_index.cfm.

▶ **Remember, you must notify the homeowners** in your lead sampling program of the test results within 30 days from the time you receive the laboratory results. You are required to give notice regardless of the outcome of the test results.

▶ **You must also certify** to your local DEQ regional office, within 60 days of notifying homeowners, **that the notification was distributed.**

DEQ has posted a fill-in-the-blanks lead notification template and a certification template at www.deq.idaho.gov/water/assist_business/pws/notification.cfm.

■ **Disinfection Byproducts (DBPs).** DBP monitoring applies to community water systems and non-transient non-community water systems that add a chemical disinfectant (excluding ultraviolet [UV] disinfection) to their water, or that

purchase from a system that adds a chemical disinfectant. DBP samples are collected in the distribution system, but the number of samples collected is based on the number of treatment plants in the system.

DBPs include total trihalomethanes (TTHM) and haloacetic acids (HAA5), which are byproducts formed when chemical disinfectants react with organic compounds, such as total organic carbon.

To check your DBP schedule, go to DEQ's Public Switchboard and click on the "Monitoring Schedule" button at www.deq.idaho.gov/Applications/SDWISReports/pws_index.cfm.

Questions? If you are unsure about the number of samples to take even after checking the Public Switchboard, then contact your local DEQ regional office. ■

Monitoring reminder to public drinking water systems



REMEMBER
2010 is the last year
in the 3 and 9 year
monitoring periods



To ensure that your
drinking water monitoring
is completed on time, check your
"Monitoring Schedule" report on the
Public Water System Switchboard at
www.deq.idaho.gov/Applications/SDWISReports/pws_index.cfm.

■ DEQ initiates automated telephone-email reminders

DEQ has initiated an automated telephone and email messaging service to remind public drinking water system operators to monitor the drinking water in their system. The telephone-email messages are sent, when database records indicate that DEQ has not received laboratory results of required monitoring.

Initially, DEQ will be piloting the service beginning with the DEQ Boise Regional Office. The messaging service will help public drinking water system operators better protect the health of their customers by providing reminders to monitor for designated contaminants.

No reminders when you sample early

Operators that sample early and forward the lab results to their regional DEQ office will not receive an automated message.

Sampling early avoids a possible enforcement action for failure to monitor, and the necessity of issuing a public notification to your customers explaining that you did not monitor on time. By waiting until almost the end of a monitoring period, you may not receive the lab results until after the reporting deadline has expired.

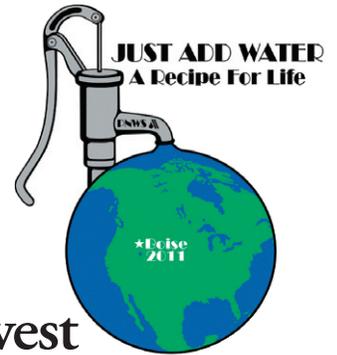
Class CEUs are being offered

IRWA Annual Northern Conference in Worley, Idaho, September 15-16

The Idaho Rural Water Association (IRWA) will hold its Annual Northern Conference in Worley, Idaho September 15-16 at the Coeur d'Alene Casino and Resort. Over the two-day conference, IRWA will offer 32 CEU (Continuing Education Units) classes covering some 20 different topics open to water and wastewater operators.

In addition to training classes, the conference offers an opportunity to view new technologies and equipment as exhibited by vendors.

To register for the conference and view the class schedules, go to <http://irwa.web.officelive.com/NConference.aspx>. If you have questions, you may contact the IRWA at 208-343-7001 or Toll-Free 1-800-962-3257. ■



Attention water professionals!

2011 AWWA Pacific Northwest Section Conference to be held in Boise May 4-6

Make plans now to have your water system department managers, engineers, supervisors, and operators attend the Pacific Northwest Section of the American Water Works Association (PNWS-AWWA) 2011 Annual Conference in Boise next May.

This event brings together water professionals and vendors from Idaho, Oregon, and Washington for three days of professional development, continuing education, and trade show. The 2011 conference will be held May 4-6 at the Boise Centre on the Grove in downtown Boise.

The conference will give water professionals the opportunity to earn CEUs (Continuing Education Units) with little or no traveling.

As you are making your budget decisions for next year, be sure to include this important conference in your plans. More information on the Boise 2011 PNWS-AWWA Conference is available at www.pnws-awwa.org. ■

Important dates/deadlines for PWS owners and operators now available

Go to DEQ's Public Water Switchboard

A calendar of important dates and deadlines for public water system owners and operators is now on-line on DEQ's web site. Go to the "Public Water Switchboard" at www.deq.idaho.gov/Applications/SDWISReports/pws_index.cfm and click on the "Important Dates" button.

Owners and operators can use this two-page calendar as a reminder of important tasks, reports, and loan and grant application deadlines, etc. throughout the year. As a quick reference, you might even want to print off a copy and tack it to your bulletin board. ■

Useful reference information to have available

Chlorine chart helps prevent dangerous mixing



THE CHLORINE INSTITUTE, INC.

The Chlorine Institute (CI) has published an updated version of its free Sodium Hypochlorite Incompatibility Chart, which provides guidance for avoiding accidental mixing of sodium hypochlorite with other chemicals that could lead to dangerous conditions.

The one-page updated chart is part of CI's initiative to provide free technical resources to help improve chlor-alkali safety and security and is located at www.chlorineinstitute.org/files/FileDownloads/SodiumHypoIncompatibilityChart%2DEnglish%2020090324%20CSIT%20FINAL.pdf. Twenty-six other publications may be downloaded from CI's bookstore, including many of interest to drinking water operators.

Founded in 1924, the Chlorine Institute Inc. is a not-for-profit technical trade association of companies whose mission is to promote safety and the protection of human health and the environment in the manufacture, distribution, and use of chlorine, sodium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide, sodium hypochlorite, plus the distribution and use of hydrogen chloride. ■

Is your water system information current?

Keeping your system's mailing and email addresses, telephone numbers, number of connections, licensed operators, and substitute operators current is essential. Your information is important if DEQ needs to contact you in an emergency, help resolve water system problems, or mail or email information to your system.

It is the responsibility of the public water system owner to keep all system information up-to-date, even though that task may be assigned to another staff person.

To update your system information, contact your regional DEQ office at www.deq.idaho.gov/about/office_locations.cfm, or district health department at www.healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/Health/HealthDistricts/tabid/97/Default.aspx. In the near future, you will be able to go online and, by logging on with a personal password provided by DEQ, change your water system information. The password will allow only you to access your water system contact information. The next issue of the newsletter will discuss this new service. ■

Source Water Protection workshops offered during September

Drinking water CEUs are pending

DEQ is offering a series of Source Water Protection workshops, entitled Source Water Protection through Comprehensive Planning, across the state during September.

These workshops will provide public drinking water system operators, and local officials, with knowledge they can use to protect their drinking water supply by incorporating source water protection elements into local comprehensive plans.

Workshop topics will include ground water and source water protection basics, source water protection resources, and comprehensive planning and source water protection.

The cost of the workshops, which includes lunch and snacks, is \$20 with pre-registration online, or \$25 with registration at the door. *Seating is limited, so please register early.* Drinking Water CEUs (Continuing Education Units) are pending. The dates and locations of the workshops are listed below:

- Nampa – September 16
- Lewiston – September 20
- Idaho Falls – September 28
- Soda Springs – September 29
- Burley – September 30

For more information or to register for the workshops, please visit www.deq.idaho.gov/swp2010workshop. For questions, please contact Jessica Atkison at (208) 373-0121 or Jessica.Atkison@deq.idaho.gov. ■



It is critical for water supply protection that the public be aware of a wellhead protection area.

Training Schedule

Class/Sponsor	Location/Date
Cross Connection Basic (BE) - W/WW	Grangeville, 08/04/10
VSWS Licensure Review (BE) - W	Post Falls 08/07/10
Generator Seminar (IRWA) - W/WW	Burley, 08/09-10/10
Asset Management Made Easier with CUPPS (IRWA) - W/WW	Bonnors Ferry, 08/10/10
Water Tank Maintenance (BE) - W	Paul, 08/10/10
Disinfection (BE) - W/WW	Paul, 08/11/10
Asset Management Made Easier with CUPPS (IRWA) - W/WW	Lewiston, 08/12/10
Wastewater III & IV Licensure Review (BE) - WW	Pocatello, 08/18-19/10
Crew Leader (BE) - W/WW	Idaho Falls, 08/31/10
Buried Treasure (BE) - W	Twin Falls, 09/01/10
Small Systems O&M (BE) - W	Boise, 09/02/10
Collections I & II Licensure Review (BE) - WW	Lewiston, 09/07-08/10
Water Treatment Optimization (BE) - W	Coeur d'Alene, 09/09/10

Class/Sponsor	Location/Date
IRWA Annual Northern Conference - W/WW	Worley, 09/15-16/10
Lagoon Operation & Maintenance (BE) - WW	Idaho Falls, 09/22/10
Lab QA/QC (BE) - WW	Idaho Falls, 09/23/10
Intro to Sampling/Distribution System Monitoring (BE) - W	Twin Falls, 09/28/10
Intro to Sampling/Distribution System Monitoring (BE) - W	Nampa, 09/30/10
VSWS Licensure Review (BE) - W	Jerome, 10/05/10
Cross Connections Basic (BE) - W/WW	Paul, 10/06/10
Wastewater I & II Licensure Review (BE) - WW	Boise, 10/12-13/10
Water Treatment (BE) - W	Coeur d'Alene, 10/20/10
Lagoons Operation & Maintenance (BE) - WW	Coeur d'Alene, 10/21/10

(BE) = Brown Environmental, Inc. 1-800-543-4358
or for the Boise area, 1-208-465-5725.
Web site: www.idahooperatortraining.com/

(IRWA) = Idaho Rural Water Association 1-800-962-3257
or 1-208-343-7001, Fax: 1-208-343-1866. E-mail: irwa@idahoruralwater.com.
Web site: www.idahoruralwater.com/training.aspx

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DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
1410 North Hillton
Boise, Idaho 83706-1290

