

Georgia Department of Natural Resources

2 Martin Luther King Jr., Drive, Suite 1152 East Floyd Tower, Atlanta, Georgia 30334
Chris Clark, Commissioner
Carol A. Couch, Ph.D., Director
Environmental Protection Division
(404) 656-4713

June 8, 2009

RE: Public Water System (PWS) Total Coliform Monitoring
County, GA

Dear :

As you know, preventing waterborne disease is one of the primary objectives of any drinking water system. Due largely to advances in water treatment technology, well qualified water treatment plant operators and routine analytical testing, waterborne disease outbreaks are relatively uncommon in the United States. The Environmental Protection Division (EPD) has provided, coliform analytical testing services to public water systems serving less than 12,901 people since 1977 at no cost to drinking water systems (total coliform testing is not part of the Drinking Water Chemical Monitoring Contract for Service Program). Due to increased costs associated with providing this service we are unable to continue to provide this service at no charge.

In order to be able to continue to offer this service, a new voluntary Drinking Water Total Coliform Monitoring Contract for Service program is being implemented for public water systems serving less than 12,901 people. This new program covers analytical services associated with the Total Coliform Rule (TCR) based on the number of routine samples a public water system is required to collect each month / quarter. EPD has already presented information on this program to the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia (ACCG), the Georgia Association of Water Professionals (GAWP), the Georgia Municipal Association (GMA) and the Georgia Rural Water Association (GRWA) and we plan to hold four additional meetings to talk with public water system owners and operators about this new program. The meeting logistics are listed below.

Meeting Locations		
City	Address	Date and Time
Tifton, GA	531 Main St., Suite D, Tifton GA, 31794	6/16/2009 1:00 - 3:00
Macon, GA	2618 Shuring Dr., Macon, GA 31211	6/17/2009 1:00 - 3:00
Brunswick, GA	400 Commerce Center Dr., Brunswick, Georgia 31523	6/16/2009 1:00 - 3:00
Athens, GA	Oconee County Gov't Annex Bldg., 1291 Greensboro Highway, Watkinsville, GA 30677	6/17/2009 1:00 - 3:00

Attached for your use is a proposed Drinking Water Total Coliform Monitoring Contract for Service. If you choose to participate in this program, please sign and return the one-year contract to the address indicated on the form. The contract period is from July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010. In the future, contracts will be for a three-year period. You do not need to

participate in EPD's Chemical Monitoring Program in order to participate in the new coliform monitoring program described above. If you do not wish to be part of this program, a list of EPD certified microbiological laboratories can be found on the Division's web page at the following website http://gaepd.org/Files_PDF/regcomm/wpb/dwlablist.pdf .

Benefits of EPD Voluntary Drinking Water Total Coliform Monitoring Contract for Service Program

- The EPD Laboratory has been certified by US EPA to provide microbiological monitoring for more than 20 years. The EPD Laboratory is also certified for Cryptosporidium and Giardia analysis.
- Participants receive notification within 24 hours if there is a problem with a sample.
- Additional samples with prior approval for system maintenance and repairs are included at no additional cost.
- Covers all TCR sample analyses related to the Total Coliform Rule (TCR), including routine samples, repeat samples, additional routine samples and replacement samples.
- Also, included are special samples, source approval samples and triggered source water samples under the new ground water rule.
- After the purchase of a sample shipping case, EPD provides all sample bottles required for routine monitoring and emergency sample kits for repeat monitoring, additional routine monitoring and after December 1, 2009 sample bottles for triggered source water monitoring. Bottles for special and source approval are provided on request.

We believe that the Drinking Water Total Coliform Monitoring Contract provides high quality, efficient and cost-effective testing that will help you continue to keep Georgia's drinking water supply among the safest in the nation. If you have any questions, please contact Brad Addison at 404-656-5660.

Sincerely;



Carol A. Couch
Director