

CURRENT DRINKING WATER ADVISORIES AT OHIO'S PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS
Instructions for Updating the Advisories Database
revised July 2005

The advisory website is intended to provide current, understandable information for the general public on all health-related drinking water advisories at public water systems. These include:

- Contamination
 - Primary MCL and MRDL violations (currently excluding monthly TCR MCLs)
 - Fluoride secondary MCL violations
 - Lead action level exceedances that require public education
 - Spills
- Treatment Failure
 - SWTR treatment technique violations requiring Tier 1 or 2 public notice (contact time, disinfectant residual, turbidity, failure to filter)
- Floods
- Droughts
- Security concerns
- Other applicable situations.

The advisory information is housed in a Microsoft Access database and can be updated by district and central office staff via the DDAGW intranet in a format similar to the division itinerary tracker. Information from the database will be exported to the internet site daily. To allow for different types of advisories, fields that are left blank will not be imported to the internet site, so that only pertinent information is provided to the public. For example, a flood or drought advisory may have blank fields for MCL and recent results. **Although only some fields are marked as required, effort should be made to complete all fields applicable to the situation.**

Any advisory required by Ohio EPA should be added to the database when the violation is issued or the situation occurs, and marked as discontinued when the system has returned to compliance or otherwise addressed the situation. Advisories not required by regulation should be added to the database when the advisory is issued and marked as discontinued when the advisory is lifted. Advisories should be updated whenever the information changes. When an advisory is marked as discontinued, it will be maintained on the internet view for 30 days from the discontinued date (with information on when and why it was discontinued) then removed from the internet view. It will be maintained in the database for tracking purposes.

The intranet site is located at <http://ddagwintranet.epa.state.oh.us>. Select "Web Applications", "Advisory Tracker", then "Edit Advisories" to access the database.

To add a new advisory to the database:

1. Select "add new"
2. Enter information as instructed in the table below (run the "advisory_info" report located in Inventory DRINK reports to retrieve inventory information)
3. Save

To update an existing advisory:

1. Select "edit" for the appropriate row
2. Update information
3. Save

To mark an advisory as discontinued:

1. Select “edit” for the appropriate row
2. Check the discontinued box and enter the date and reason the advisory was discontinued
3. Save

Examples for suggested use in specific situations are attached. Some general tips include:

- avoid use of abbreviations
- for microbiological advisories, avoid using the terms “safe” and “unsafe”; instead, use “positive” and “negative” or “present” and “absent”

Field	Field type	Instructions
District*	Drop-down menu	Choose the district in which system is located.
County*	Drop-down menu	Choose the county in which system is located.
Facility Name*	Text	Specify the name of system as indicated in DRINK.
PWSID*	Numeric	Specify the PWSID as indicated in DRINK.
Facility Address*	Text	Specify the street address, city and state for <u>physical location</u> of system (unless municipal or regional system, then refer to the area served).
Facility Contact	Text	Specify contact name identified on the public notice that was issued when it is returned to Ohio EPA
Facility Phone Number	Text	Specify phone number identified on the public notice that was issued when it is returned to Ohio EPA
Facility Type*	Drop-down menu	Choose the system type as indicated in DRINK.
Service Area*	Drop-down menu	Choose the service area as indicated in DRINK.
Population Category*	Drop-down menu	Choose the range of population served.
Reason for Advisory*	Drop-down menu	Choose the reason for advisory. <i>see examples for appropriate use in specific situations</i>
Warning*	Drop-down menu	Choose the appropriate synopsis of the advisory. <i>see examples for appropriate use in specific situations</i>
Advisory Begin Date*	Date	Specify the date the advisory was required. If not a required advisory (such as floods), specify the date issued.
Public Notice Template*	Drop-down menu	Choose the applicable public notice template.
Contaminant	Drop-down menu	Choose the contaminant as indicated in DRINK.
Contaminant Group	Automatic	Automatically filled in when contaminant is selected.
Standard	Automatic	Automatically filled in when contaminant is selected.
Fact Sheet	Automatic	Automatically filled in when contaminant is selected.

Major Sources	Automatic	Automatically filled in when contaminant is selected.
Health Effects	Automatic	Automatically filled in when contaminant is selected.
Details and Recent Results	Text	Specify average results for chemical contaminants that prompted the most recent MCL violation. For bacterial contaminants, specify if MCL was confirmed or based on failure to collect repeat samples. <i>see examples for appropriate use in specific situations</i>
History	Text	Specify begin and end dates of previous related advisories during the last 5 years. <i>i.e. Previous advisories from May 2003 to September 2003 and from December 2003 to March 2004.</i>
Status*	Text	Specify what the facility and/or Ohio EPA is doing to address the situation, being as specific as possible. May include any combination of abandoning source, drilling new well, developing alternate source, installing treatment, etc. Also indicate if system is in enforcement. 'Investigating' should be used as the last option. 'Ongoing' should not be used.
Ohio EPA Contact*	Drop-down menu	Choose the name of agency contact.
Ohio EPA Phone*	Automatic	Automatically filled in when contact is selected.
Ohio EPA E-mail*	Automatic	Automatically filled in when contact is selected.
Internal Comments	Text	This field may be used for tracking purposes or any other applicable internal comments and will not be imported into the internet site or otherwise viewed by general public. <i>i.e. Visited system on 1/15/05. Referred to enforcement on 2/20/05.</i>
Discontinued	Checkbox	Check the box when advisory situation is discontinued.
Discontinued Date	Date	Specify date advisory is discontinued.
Discontinued Reason	Text	Specify reason advisory is discontinued and any other pertinent information. If reason is "deactivated", include information on why and what that may mean to the public. <i>i.e. Approved treatment installed on 3/1/05. System is on monthly monitoring.</i> - OR - <i>Facility is no longer regulated by Ohio EPA due to average population less than 25 people per day. Facility is still producing water. Contact public water system or local health department for more information.</i>
Last Modified	Automatic	Automatically filled in when row is saved.

* required field

View record [Key: 310]**EXAMPLE: TCR FAILURE TO COLLECT REPEATS**[Back to list](#)

District	SWDO
County	Montgomery
Facility Name	Temple Baptist Church
PWSID	5740412
Facility Address	Box 63, Jct. Janet & Walnut, Carlisle
Facility Contact	
Facility Phone	
Facility Type	Transient Noncommunity
Service Area	Church
Population Category	Less than 250
Reason for Advisory	Contamination
Warning	BOIL THE WATER BEFORE USING OR USE BOTTLED WATER
Advisory Begin Date	8/31/2001
Public Notice Template	Tier1_TCR_norepeats.pdf
Contaminant	Total Coliform Bacteria
Contaminant Group	Microbiological
Standard	MCL = confirmed presence of total coliform bacteria or failure to collect required repeat samples
Fact Sheet	http://www.epa.gov/OGWDW/hfacts.html
Major Sources	Naturally present in the environment
Health Effects	Coliforms are bacteria which are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.
Details and Recent Results	System failed to collect repeat samples as required.
History	
Status	System notified on [date] to collect repeat samples.
Ohio EPA Contact	Bob Moore
Ohio EPA Phone	(937) 285-6357
Ohio EPA E-mail	bob.moore@epa.state.oh.us
Internal Comments	
Discontinued	No
Discontinued Date	
Discontinued Reason	
Last Modified	

View record [Key: 301]**EXAMPLE: CONFIRMED E. COLI**[Back to list](#)

District	NEDO
County	Wayne
Facility Name	Rural King of Ohio West
PWSID	8562812
Facility Address	30100 Chagrin Blvd.
Facility Contact	Arlee Management Co.
Facility Phone	
Facility Type	Transient Noncommunity
Service Area	Other
Population Category	Less than 250
Reason for Advisory	Contamination
Warning	DO NOT USE THE WATER
Advisory Begin Date	4/18/2005
Public Notice Template	Tier1_fecal_ecoli_nc_boil.pdf
Contaminant	Fecal coliform or E. coli
Contaminant Group	Microbiological
Standard	MCL = confirmed presence of fecal coliform or E. coli
Fact Sheet	http://www.odh.ohio.gov/odhprograms/hlth_as/facts/coliform.pdf
Major Sources	Human and animal fecal waste
Health Effects	Fecal coliforms and E. coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these wastes can cause diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a special health risk for infants, young children, and people with severely compromised immune systems.
Details and Recent Results	Confirmed E.coli contamination
History	
Status	Tied into neighboring PWS on [date]. Submittal of detail plans is expected on [date].
Ohio EPA Contact	Beth Madis
Ohio EPA Phone	(330) 963-1200
Ohio EPA E-mail	beth.madis@epa.state.oh.us
Internal Comments	
Discontinued	No
Discontinued Date	

View record [Key: 376]**EXAMPLE: GWUDI FAILURE TO FILTER**[Back to list](#)

District	CDO
County	Knox
Facility Name	Hot Rod's Sunoco
PWSID	4240312
Facility Address	700 Harcourt Road
Facility Contact	Rod Zeune
Facility Phone	740 397 6674
Facility Type	Transient Noncommunity
Service Area	Service Station/Truck Stop
Population Category	251 to 1,000
Reason for Advisory	Inadequate Treatment
Warning	You do not need to use an alternative (e.g. bottled) water supply. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.
Advisory Begin Date	10/1/2000
Public Notice Template	Tier2_SWTR_failuretofilter.pdf
Contaminant	
Contaminant Group	
Standard	
Fact Sheet	
Major Sources	
Health Effects	
Details and Recent Results	System is required to have surface water treatment as a result of its designation as under the influence of surface water.
History	Has not installed treatment or hauled water.
Status	Case referred on [date] to Ohio Attorney General for escalated enforcement action.
Ohio EPA Contact	Mark Boden
Ohio EPA Phone	(614) 728-3778
Ohio EPA E-mail	mark.boden@epa.state.oh.us
Internal Comments	
Discontinued	No
Discontinued Date	
Discontinued Reason	
Last Modified	

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View record [Key: 363]**EXAMPLE: LEAD ACTION LEVEL EXCEEDANCE**[Back to list](#)

District	NWDO
County	Crawford
Facility Name	City of Galion Water Treatment Plant
PWSID	1700211
Facility Address	625 West Railroad Street, Galion
Facility Contact	
Facility Phone	
Facility Type	Community
Service Area	Incorporated City or Village
Population Category	10,001 to 50,000
Reason for Advisory	Contamination
Warning	You do not need to use an alternative (e.g. bottled) water supply. Lead poses the greatest risk to young children and pregnant women. The public education outlines steps to reduce lead exposure.
Advisory Begin Date	
Public Notice Template	public_ed_lead_comm.pdf
Contaminant	Lead
Contaminant Group	Inorganic Chemicals (IOCs)
Standard	Action Level = 15 µg/l
Fact Sheet	http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lcrmr/lead.html
Major Sources	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Health Effects	Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.
Details and Recent Results	19 ug/L
History	Action Level exceeded in June, 2003. Exceeding the Action Level is not a violation; however, Public Education is required.
Status	Public Education delivered June, 2004; Corrosion control treatment installed 8-28-2004. Galion is collecting samples during Jan-Jun and Jul-Dec 2005.
Ohio EPA Contact	Ralph Baker
Ohio EPA Phone	(419) 352-8461
Ohio EPA E-mail	ralph.baker@epa.state.oh.us
Internal Comments	
Discontinued	No
Discontinued	