

# Public Water Transient Non-Community Door County Systems



The Federal **Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA)** governs public water systems. State and county staff administer this program in Wisconsin for Transient Non-Community water systems.

## **Definitions:**

### **Transient Non-community (TN) Water System:**

A water system serving at least 25 people at least 60 days of the year, including churches, seasonal campgrounds, gas stations, restaurants, motels, public restrooms and taverns. TNs do not serve the same 25 people six months of the year or more. Staff members are included in the count of total people served.

### **Serves Water:**

A water system providing use of water for human consumption, such as drinking, bathing, cooking and dishwashing. Bathing includes all personal hygiene needs in a home, business or school setting. Public facilities that operate at a fixed location and do not provide drinking water but use water from a piped on-site water system to provide food service or public restrooms are public water systems.

## **Transient Non-Community Water System Owner Responsibilities**

### **1. Maintain a code-complying water system:**

A full sanitary survey inspection is required every five years to learn if a water system's components and operations comply with state administrative code rules. Systems on an annual coliform bacteria sample plan require a shorter site visit inspection in the years a sanitary survey is not done. Corrections are required when deficiencies are found. For more information on sanitary surveys and annual site visits, go to: <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/sites/default/files/topic/DrinkingWater/TN/SanSurveyAnnualVisit.pdf>.

### **2. Submit required water samples:**

The following tables list the minimum sampling requirements for a TN public water system during its operating season. Total coliform/E.coli, and nitrate are acute contaminants. Water with these contaminants at levels greater than the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) may cause illness in consumers within hours or days of exposure.

### **Coliform Bacteria Sampling**

For more information on coliform bacteria, go to: <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/sites/default/files/topic/DrinkingWater/TN/ColiformBacteria.pdf>  
For coliform sampling directions, go to: <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/sites/default/files/topic/DrinkingWater/TN/CollectColiformSample.pdf>

<b>Required Water Sampling Schedule*</b>	<b>Door County Systems</b> (Includes year-round systems and Seasonal Door County Systems on Reduced Monitoring)	<b>Maximum Contaminant Level (MLC)</b> Colony Forming Unit (CFU)
Quarterly	X	<i>E. coli</i> = 0 CFU = not present

New Seasonal Water Systems that depressurize will require monthly coliform sampling for the first season of operation. Seasonal System monthly sampling will be reviewed after one season of monthly sampling is completed to consider a reduced sampling schedule.

### **Nitrate and Nitrite Sampling**

For more information on nitrate and nitrite go to: <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/sites/default/files/topic/DrinkingWater/TN/Nitrate.pdf>  
For sampling directions go to: <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/sites/default/files/topic/DrinkingWater/TN/CollectNitrateSample.pdf>

<b>Required Water Sampling Schedule*</b>	<b>New System</b>	<b>Existing System</b>	<b>MCL</b>
Nitrate (Collect by Sept. 30)	X	X	10 milligrams per liter (mg/L)
Nitrite <sup>N</sup> (Collect by Sept. 30)	X		1 mg/L

<sup>N</sup>The nitrite sample is a one-time sample and will not be required beyond the initial sample unless nitrite levels are elevated.

\*Sampling requirements may be increased in response to exceedance of the maximum contaminant level, population served > 1000 people/day or when necessary to verify water quality.

## SAMPLING KITS

Normally, sampling information and a bottle are shipped to the designated system sampler from the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene (WSLH). The public lab slips sent with the kits list the time period to complete the sample collection. If a replacement kit is needed, contact your local DNR staff member.

## SAMPLING COSTS

Coliform analysis is free if the WI State Lab of Hygiene is used. Private labs may also be used for a fee. There are analysis fees for nitrate and nitrite samples.

## SAMPLE DELIVERY

Coliform bacteria SDWA samples must be received and set up for analysis within 30 hours of collecting the water sample. Nitrate and nitrite samples must be received on ice and within 48 hours of the time of sample collection. For additional sampling and shipping advice, go to: <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/sites/default/files/topic/DrinkingWater/TN/SampleHoldTime.pdf>

## SAMPLING RESULTS

A public water lab slip is required when submitting samples to ensure SDWA-certified labs use the correct lab procedure and report the sampling results electronically to the DNR. The DNR reviews the results and informs system owners of any violations and follow-up sampling needed. Track and maintain copies of sampling results for your records. Water sampling results may be applied to license requirements the county or other state agencies administer.



Public Drinking Water Data website – Sampling requirements, sampling results and sampling forms are available on the website. Go to <https://dnr.wi.gov/dwsviewer>. For additional directions, go to: <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/sites/default/files/topic/DrinkingWater/TN/DWSdirections.pdf>

Laboratory Selection – For a listing of SDWA certified laboratories, go to: <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/DrinkingWater/laboratories.html>

### **3. Certifications and Public Notifications:**

DNR staff will advise systems when public post notices (PNs) or certifications for completion of work are required. Paper documentation, or electronic (email or web data entry) are accepted for certifications. For more information on these requirements go to: <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/sites/default/files/topic/DrinkingWater/TN/TNPubNoticeCert.pdf>. Examples include the following situations:

- A Maximum Contaminant Level is exceeded.
- A required water sample is not collected in the required time-period.
- Notification of a seasonal start-up or a corrective action are not completed by the required time-period.

### **Department of Natural Resources Staff Contact Information:**

For your DNR contact, go to: <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/sites/default/files/topic/DrinkingWater/TN/DNRInspectedSystemContacts.pdf>

**Additional TN Resources Listed by Topic**, go to: <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/sites/default/files/topic/DrinkingWater/TN/AddlResources.pdf>

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources provides equal opportunity in its employment, programs, services, and functions under an Affirmative Action Plan. If you have any questions, please write to Equal Opportunity Office, Department of Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240. This publication is available in alternative format (large print, Braille, audiotape, etc.) upon request. Please call 608-266-1054 for more information.