



Announcement: Free Climate Change Risk Assessment Technical Assistance from EPA's Creating Resilient Water Utilities Initiative

Climate change poses significant challenges to drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater (water sector) utilities in fulfilling their public and environmental health missions. EPA's [Creating Resilient Water Utilities](#) (CRWU) initiative provides the water sector and its stakeholders with practical tools, training, and technical assistance needed to increase their resilience to climate change.

If you are interested in the opportunity to work with CRWU and its contractors to conduct a guided water utility climate change risk assessment, you can reach out to Aliza Furneaux on the CRWU team (Furneaux.aliza@epa.gov) to request technical assistance for your system. If you know of any individual utilities, or multiple utilities in a geographic region, that will benefit from this assistance, let us know to help connect them with CRWU.

Responses would be appreciated no later than August 15, 2023. Please share this message with anyone else that may be interested in, and benefit from, this process. Do not hesitate to contact CRWU (Furneaux.aliza@epa.gov) if you have any questions.

Resource: EPA Cybersecurity for the Water Sector

Check out this EPA website for information on implementing cybersecurity best practices in the water and wastewater sector to reduce the risk of cybersecurity threats: <https://www.epa.gov/waterresilience/epa-cybersecurity-water-sector#TRA>

This EPA website contains info on:

- Reporting Cybersecurity Incidents
- Resources to Conduct Cybersecurity Assessments
- Technical Assistance
- Cybersecurity Training for the Water Sector
- Additional Cybersecurity Resources and Tools

THIS MONTH

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Resource: EPA Cybersecurity for the Water Sector

Reminder: Lead and Copper Sampling

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Training Resource: 20th Annual EPA Drinking Water Workshop: Small System Challenges and Solutions

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Key EPA Contacts

- Funding Options
- Alerts – National Cybersecurity Awareness System
- Other US Government and Partner Cybersecurity Resources
- Cybersecurity Reports to Congress

Reminder: Lead and Copper Monitoring

Be sure to check your monitoring schedule to see if your water system is due to sample for lead and copper before September 30, 2023. Here is some useful information on how to avoid lead and copper sample invalidation:

For managers and operators:

- Samples must be collected at taps normally used for drinking. Acceptable sample locations for community water systems are kitchen or bathroom taps ONLY.
- It is recommended to use the homeowner sample instruction form and submit these to the lab. If a homeowner indicates they collected the sample anywhere, but a tap normally used for drinking (such as from a hose bib, sill cock, bathtub, etc.) you should not send this sample to the lab as it will be rejected by EPA.
- Sample at Tier 1 sites first. Samples can be taken from the regular or back-up sites. Move to the Tier 2 sites only if you run out of Tier 1 sites. Move to the Tier 3 sites only if none of the Tier 1 sites are available. Move to “other” sites last.
- Please tell your operators that if they cannot collect a sample at a site on the list to move to another site on the list and document the issue that they had (for instance nobody was home). They should not go next door unless that site is on the list.
- **IMPORTANT:** Once sampling is complete, send an email to R8DWU@epa.gov stating the sites you couldn't sample at and why in order to avoid sample invalidation.
- Please make sure the operators sample at the address listed on the plan. If the person associated with the address has moved, send an email to R8DWU@epa.gov to let EPA know the name of the new customer at the address on the plan.
- Please have your operators indicate the address and name on the lab slip so the result can be matched to a site on the plan.
- If a site needs to be removed from the plan due to access issues, house is abandoned, etc. please send an email to R8DWU@epa.gov right away.

Resource: WaterTA Informational Webinar

Every community deserves access to clean, safe and reliable drinking water and wastewater services. Yet too many communities across America – in rural, tribal, suburban, and urban areas – struggle to address water infrastructure needs and obtain funding.

EPA's Water Technical Assistance (WaterTA) efforts provide free hands-on support for communities to assess their water needs, identify potential solutions, and apply for federal funding to address their water challenges.

Join us on July 31st, 1:00-2:00pm ET, for an informational webinar about WaterTA and available resources to help ensure every community has essential water and wastewater services.

[Register](#)

For more information on WaterTA, please visit www.epa.gov/WaterTA.

Training Resource: 20th Annual EPA Drinking Water Workshop: Small System Challenges and Solutions

For 20 years, the workshop has brought together professionals from states and territories, Tribes, federal agencies, academia, NGOs, local agencies, and others to share the latest information on challenges facing small drinking water systems and solutions to address them. To optimize networking, increase engagement, and to promote a shared learning experience, the workshop will be held as an entirely in-person event this year.

- **When:** September 11-14, 2023
- **Location:** Northern Kentucky Convention Center (Greater Cincinnati, Ohio Area), 1 W Rivercenter Blvd, Covington, KY 41011
- [To register](#)

Primarily designed for tribal, state, and territory personnel responsible for drinking water regulations compliance and treatment technologies permitting, the workshop will provide current information, resources, and training needed to help in building systems capacity and sustainably and with providing equitable access to drinking water. System owners and operators, local and government personnel, academics, design engineers, technical assistance providers, and consultants may also benefit from attending.

Individuals who are unable to attend the event in person, will have the opportunity to benefit from some of the sessions in a virtual setting as part of the Small Drinking Water Systems Webinar Series.

[Click here for more information.](#)

Training Resource: EPA Headquarters Upcoming Webinars and Past Webinar Recordings

[EPA's Small Drinking Water Systems Webinar Series](#) (click to find upcoming webinars and past webinar recordings)

[Click here](#) to receive notifications for upcoming webinars.

Upcoming Webinars (registration not yet available):

Date	Topic
August 29, 2023	Cybersecurity
September 26	Fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring rule (UCMR 5)
October 31	PFAS
November 28	TBD

Upcoming Regulatory Deadlines

Date	Event	Location
Last day of every calendar month	Last day to collect monthly total coliform samples	Sites approved on your RTCR sample plan
10 th of every month	Last day for EPA to receive total coliform and DBP samples collected during the previous month	N/A

September 30 th	Last day to collect Lead and Copper samples for system who have a seasonal monitoring period of June – September (check your To-Do)	Sites approved on your LCR sampling plan
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Key EPA Contacts

Region 8 Tribal Team

Motaz Zarooq – Denver, CO Office – 303-312-6780 – zarooq.motaz@epa.gov

Joe Faubion – Helena, MT Office – 406-457-5005 – faubion.joseph@epa.gov

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Other R8 Drinking Water Employee Contact Information Can be Found [Here](#).

This newsletter can be viewed online by visiting: <https://www.epa.gov/region8-waterops/epa-region-8-tribal-drinking-water-monthly-newsletter>.

If you would like to be added or removed from this newsletter distribution list, please email griese.andrea@epa.gov.

