



Proper Total Coliform Sampling – Why & How

MWWA Course: MWWA 21-009

Did you know that improper coliform sample collection is believed to be the most common reason for false positive results? False positive results can lead to unnecessary repeat samples, additional regulatory reporting, and even public notification. These can create a strain on already limited staff and finances. It is important that all water suppliers do everything they can to avoid false positive results by following proper procedures.

This half-day class will provide attendees with an overview of the Total Coliform Rule. It will explain in detail the value of having standard operating procedures (SOPs), what to look for in a good sample site, proper sample collection techniques, and tips on completing the paperwork and sample transportation. It will also give an overview of what happens to the samples once they arrive at the laboratory.

This class is a great refresher for veteran operators and is a **MUST** for any new staff that will be involved in collecting total coliform samples.

Learning Objectives:

- Review the Revised Total Coliform Rule.
- Explain the components of a standard operating procedure.
- Discuss tips on identifying good sample sites and proper sample collection techniques.
- Understand what happens to the samples once they arrive at the laboratory.

This course is approved for **2.0 TCHs** (Training Contact Hours) for Massachusetts and Rhode Island Water Operators. It will be taught using the Zoom platform. Participants will need to have a reliable highspeed internet connection and computer device with both video and audio capability. Please review our Student Expectations for Attending Virtual Training at www.masswaterworks.org/education.

LOCATION: Remote Training via Zoom

DATE: Thursday, June 1, 2023

TIME: 8:30 – 11:30 AM

COST: \$50 Members; \$90 Nonmembers

INSTRUCTORS: **Dan Laprade**, Training Coordinator, Mass Water Works Association
Kerri Strobeck, Chemist, Mass. Water Resources Authority
Jim Fitzgerald, Laboratory Supervisor, Mass. Water Resources Authority
Marcelo Machado, Microbiologist II, Mass. Water Resources Authority

AGENDA	8:30 – 8:45 AM	Class Overview & Introductions
	8:45 – 9:30 AM	Review of the Revised Total Coliform Rule
	9:30 – 9:45 AM	Important Consideration Before Collecting the Sample
	9:45 – 10:00 AM	Break
	10:00 – 10:40 AM	Proper Sample Collection
	10:40 – 11:00 AM	Overview of Laboratory Procedures
	11:00 – 11:30 AM	Q & A, Conclusions & Course Evaluations

Registrations must be done on-line (www.masswaterworks.org). If you need registration assistance, please email adminmwwa@masswaterworks.org or call 978-263-1388.

ATTENDANCE & TCH POLICY: Participation of the attendees will be confirmed throughout the Zoom session. Participation and completion of an online evaluation form are necessary to be eligible for TCHs. TCHs will be issued only when full payment is received.