



United States
Environmental
Protection Agency

Office of Enforcement and
Compliance Assurance
(2201A)

EPA 300-F-99-008
August 1999

THE CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT RULE

Annual Reporting Requirements
for Drinking Water Suppliers



United States
Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Regulatory Enforcement (2248A)
401 M Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20460

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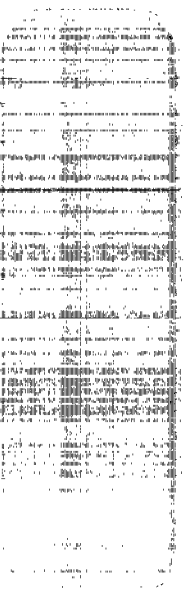
As a Community Water System, you are required to issue a Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) by October 19, 1999. This pamphlet provides helpful information for preparing a CCR.

AN IMPORTANT NOTE:

Your State's Consumer Confidence Report Rule may require more information, so check with your State Drinking Water Program.

For more information, contact:

*Published by the Office of Enforcement
and Compliance Assurance, U.S. EPA,
Washington, D.C., in cooperation with the
Office of Ground Water and Drinking
Water.*



For More Information on the Consumer Confidence Report Rule

EPA's Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water has several documents to assist community water systems comply with the Consumer Confidence Report Rule.

The following information can be found on the Internet at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/ccr1.html>:

- Fact Sheet—Consumer Confidence Report Final Rule
- 40 CFR Parts 141 and 142, National Primary Drinking Water Regulation: Consumer Confidence Reports; Final Rule
- 'Preparing Your Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report: Guidance for Water Suppliers'
- State Implementation Guidance for the CCR Rule
- Links to Dozens of Reports Created by Systems Across the Country.

For additional information or to obtain printed copies of the above documents, contact the:

Safe Drinking Water Hotline: 1-800-426-4791

THE CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT RULE:

Annual Reporting Requirements for Drinking Water Suppliers

In 1996, Congress amended the Safe Drinking Water Act, adding a provision requiring that all community water systems deliver to their customers a brief annual water quality report.

The new Consumer Confidence Report Rule, which was published in the Federal Register on August 19, 1998, requires all community water systems, by October 19, 1999, to report information on their source water, the levels of any detected contaminants, and compliance with drinking water rules, and include other specified educational information.

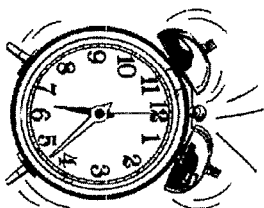
Every water system that has at least 15 service connections serving year-round residents or that regularly serves at least 25 year-round residents must prepare and distribute a Consumer Confidence Report (CCR). These systems include cities, towns, homeowner associations, and trailer parks. A water wholesaler who sells water to another water system must provide the retailer with monitoring data and other information that will enable the retailer to produce a CCR, unless the two systems make a different contractual agreement. The retail system is responsible for ensuring that its customers receive a report containing all required information.

In most systems, these reports must be delivered to each customer, either with the water bill or in a separate mailing, and systems serving more than 100,000 people also must make reports available on the Internet.

Deadline for First Consumer Confidence Report Fast Approaching!

As a community water supplier, your first

Consumer Confidence Report is due to consumers by **October 19, 1999**. The reports are based on calendar-year data, so your first report will include data collected between January-December 1998. In 2000 and the years following, your system must deliver its report to consumers by July 1. Wholesalers must deliver information to their buyers by April 1999 (unless there is a separate agreement), and annually thereafter. A new community water system must deliver its first report by July 1 of the year after its first full calendar year in operation, and annually thereafter. Sample CCR reports are available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/ccr/ccrguide.pdf>.



What Information is Required in the Report?

Each report must provide consumers with:

Water System Information

- Name/phone number of contact person
- Information on public participation opportunities
- Information for non-English speaking populations, as applicable

Sources of Water

- Type, name, and location of water sources
- Availability of source water assessment
- Information on significant sources of contamination
- Definitions: MCL, MCLG, and others as needed

Compliance with Drinking Water Regulations

- Identification and explanation of all violations, potential health effects, and steps taken to correct the violations
- Explanation of variance/exemption, if applicable

First Report Due: By October 19, 1999
Second Report Due: By July 1, 2000
Subsequent Reports Due: By July 1, Annually

Detected Contaminants

- Table summarizing monitoring data on detected regulated & unregulated contaminants
- For comparison, the detected level of a contaminant and the corresponding MCL, MCLG. The MCL must be expressed as a number equal to or greater than one and the MCLG and detected level must be expressed in the same units as the MCL.
- Known or likely source of each detected contaminant
- Health effects language and explanation for MCL violations
- Information on *Cryptosporidium*, radon, and other contaminants

Required Educational Information

- Explanation of contaminants and their presence in drinking water
- Warning for vulnerable populations about *Cryptosporidium*
- Informational statements on arsenic, nitrate, and lead, if necessary

Report Distribution and State Certification

Once completed, a copy of the Consumer Confidence Report is required to be distributed to:

- Consumers by mail or other means of delivery (systems that serve 100,000 or more people also must post their reports on the Internet)
- Director of your State Drinking Water Program
- Other State agency designated by the director of your State Drinking Water Program

In addition, a certification that reports have been distributed and the report information is correct is required to be mailed to the state drinking water program within three months of the report due date.