

Office of Drinking Water



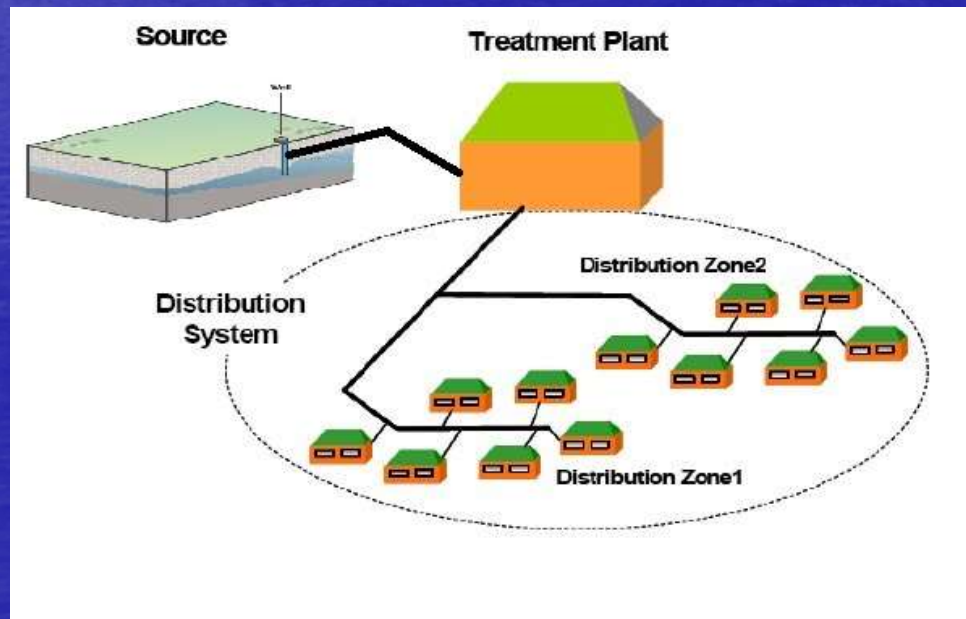
DELAWARE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
Division of Public Health
Office of Drinking Water

Overview

- What ODW Does
- How We Regulate
- Public Water System Classification
- Regulated Contaminants
- Lead and Copper
- Risks – Health-based vs. Aesthetics
- Where Information is Available
- How to Report Concerns

What ODW Does

- Enforce the Safe Drinking Water Act
- Ensure Safe Drinking Water



How We Regulate

- Monitoring
- Sanitary Surveys
- Data collection and maintenance
- MCL Exceedance
- Compliance determinations



Public Water System Classification

- Four Types of Public Water Systems in Delaware
 - Community (215)
 - Non-Community Non-Transient (90)
 - Transient Non-Community (185)
 - Miscellaneous Public
- Most common contaminants
 - Nitrate (Health-based)
 - Total Coliform bacteria (Health-based)
 - Iron (Aesthetic)
 - Hydrogen Sulfide (Aesthetic)

Regulated Contaminants

- Microorganisms
- Disinfectants and Disinfectant Byproducts
- Organic Chemicals
- Inorganic Chemicals
- Radionuclides

Acute Contaminants

- Nitrates
- Total Coliform bacteria with E. coli



Lead and Copper

- Applicability: CWS and NTNCWS
- Health effects of lead and copper
- Systems are responsible for sample collection
- Sampling schedules and plans
- Results- 90th percentile
 - Lead = 0.015 mg/L
 - Copper = 1.3 mg/L
- Lead vs. Copper

Health Risks vs. Aesthetics

Health Risks

- Chemicals
 - Nitrate
 - Pesticides
 - Volatile organic compounds
- Bacteria
 - Total Coliform
 - *E. coli*

Aesthetics

- Iron
 - Taste
 - Odor
 - Color
- Hydrogen sulfide
 - Taste
 - Odor

Additional Resources

Websites where additional information can be found:

- Governor's webpage -
www.waterquality.delaware.gov
- Office of Drinking Water Webpage -
<http://dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dph/hsp/odw.html>
- Drinking Water Watch -
<https://drinkingwater.dhss.delaware.gov>

Reporting Concerns

To report concerns about public drinking water quality contact the Office of Drinking Water at 302-741-8630.

