

PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM MONITORING WAIVERS INFORMATION SHEET

All waivers issued by Pa DEP for water system monitoring through 2010 expired December 31, 2010. All state-wide SOC waivers have been rescinded. The current compliance period is a nine year cycle with the periods as follows:

- 1st Period 2011 through 2013
- 2nd Period 2014 through 2016
- 3rd Period 2017 through 2019

Public water systems must conduct the required monitoring or use the updated instructions and waiver application to request waivers beginning with the 2011 through 2013 compliance period. At a minimum waiver requests must include the following:

- Previous monitoring results
- Inventory of land uses within Zone II (a ½ mile radius around the source for groundwater sources or a 10 mile semi-circular radius for surface water sources)
- Inventory of substances or products used for each land use
- Site map showing the location of the public water supply sources and the distance to each land use

Waiver requests and renewals must be made prior to the end of the applicable monitoring period. Until the waiver request or renewal is approved the public water supply is responsible for conducting all required monitoring. All waivers are effective for one three year compliance period and may be renewed in each subsequent compliance period.

Waivers may be issued for several classes of contaminants as follows:

Inorganic Chemicals (IOC's)

Nine year waivers may be granted for IOC's on a contaminant-by-contaminant basis. The following IOC's are eligible for a waiver:

Antimony	Cyanide
Arsenic	Fluoride
Barium	Mercury
Beryllium	Nickel
Cadmium	Selenium
Chromium	Thallium

In order to be eligible for a waiver the following criteria must be met:

1. Three consecutive rounds of sampling have been conducted that indicate contaminant levels are reliably and consistently below (<80%) of the maximum contaminant level (MCL)
2. For cyanide the public water supply system is not vulnerable to any industrial sources of cyanide
3. For the IOC's listed the public water supply sources are not vulnerable to any land use that disturb the bed rock or have the potential to affect the IOC concentrations within Zone II

If a nine year waiver is approved monitoring for that entry point may be reduced to one sample per nine year compliance cycle.

Volatile Synthetic Organic Chemicals (VOC's)

For the first time three year waivers may be granted for VOC's as a group for entry points associated with groundwater sources only. The three year waiver is a use waiver and is available for entry points with a previous detect where three subsequent consecutive years of monitoring have been conducted with no detection of VOC's.

Land use information must be provided to certify that substances containing VOC's have not been used, transported, stored or disposed of within Zone II.

If a three year use waiver is approved, monitoring for that entry point may be reduced to one sample per three year compliance period.

VOC monitoring waivers are not intended or needed for groundwater entry points that have never had a detection. Groundwater entry points that have never had a detection can qualify for and remain on reduced triennial monitoring so long as subsequent results are non-detected.

Synthetic Organic Contaminants (SOC's)

Use and susceptibility waivers may be granted for SOC's on a contaminant-by-contaminant basis. The following SOC's are eligible for waiver:

2,4-D	Dibromochloropropane	Hexachlorocyclopentadiene
2,4,5-TP	Dinoseb	Lindane
Alachlor	Diquat	Methoxychlor
Atrazine	Endothal	Oxamyl (Vydate)
Benzo(a)Pyrene	Endrin	Pentachlorophenol
Carbofuran	Ethylene Dibromide	Pichloram
Chlordane	Glyphosate	Simazine
Dalapon	Heptochlor	Toxaphene
Di(ethylhexyl)adipate	Heptochlor epoxide	
Di(ethylhexyl)phthalate	Hexachlorobenzene	

A use waiver may be granted if substances containing the SOC have not been used, transported, stored or disposed of within Zone II. Public water supplies that do not qualify for a use waiver may apply for a susceptibility waiver. A susceptibility waiver requires evaluation of site specific information such as well construction, contaminant characteristics, geology, soil type, groundwater flow, distances to known contamination sites, and nitrate levels. Public water supplies requesting a susceptibility waiver must submit previous monitoring results with no detection in order to obtain a susceptibility waiver.

Asbestos, Dioxin and PCB's

Asbestos

Nine year monitoring waivers may be granted to a public water supply system if the following conditions are met:

1. The distribution system does not contain asbestos cement pipe.
2. The water supply sources are not vulnerable to asbestos contamination including contamination from asbestos bearing rock formations.

If an asbestos waiver is approved no monitoring is required during the nine year compliance cycle.

Dioxin

Three year waivers for dioxin may be granted if the public water supply sources are not vulnerable to dioxin contamination located within 1,000 feet of a groundwater source.

If a dioxin waiver is approved no monitoring is required during the three year compliance period.

PCB's

Three year waivers for PCB's may be approved if the public water supply sources are not vulnerable to a source of PCB contamination located within 1,000 feet of a groundwater source.

If a PCB waiver is approved no monitoring is required during the three year compliance period.