



Fact Sheet – Point of Use Treatment Devices & Sampling in Public Water Systems

<http://www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/>
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(Ver. 1, September 2021)

Introduction

As part of the implementation of the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Water Supply and Geoscience (Division) established a policy regarding Point of Use (POU) treatment devices. POU is defined as treatment devices for individual taps; while point of entry (POE) is defined as treatment for an entire distribution system and/or building.

Requirements for POU Treatment in Public Water Systems

- POU treatment devices shall be owned, controlled, and maintained by the public water system or a person under contract with the public water system.
- The public water system must be equipped with mechanical warnings to ensure that customers are automatically notified of operation problems.
- POU treatment devices are only listed as compliance technologies by the Federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for inorganic, synthetic organic, and radionuclide contaminants.
- The Division does not accept POU treatment devices for use in achieving compliance with applicable safe drinking water standards.
- To determine when sampling for lead and copper from a site with POU treatment may be allowed and/or is necessary under the Lead and Copper Rule (LCR); the hierarchy of sample site selection criteria is provided below.

LCR Sampling in Community Water Systems

Community water systems that are only a single/few buildings should follow the guide for non-community water systems. (e.g., correctional facility, assisted living homes, apartment building)

- 1 • Taps with no POU devices that are within buildings that do not have POE treatment for the individual building that meets Tier Criteria.
- 2 • Taps with no POU devices that are within buildings that do have POE treatment for the individual building that meets Tier Criteria.
- 3 • Taps with POU devices that are within buildings that do have POE treatment for the individual building that meets Tier Criteria .

LCR Sampling in Non-Community Water Systems

Non-public daycares should also follow the site selection guidance for non-community water systems

- 1 • Interior sites for consumption (e.g., drinking water fountains, kitchen sinks, nurse's office, etc.) that meet Tier Criteria with no POU devices.
- 2 • Interior sites not for consumption (e.g., bathroom and hand sinks) that meet Tier Criteria with no POU devices.
• If all standard sites have been selected for the sampling pool at this point, and all standard sites are non-consumptive taps, replace 10% of the standard sites with sites meeting criteria under step 3 below.
- 3 • Interior sites for consumption (e.g., drinking water fountains, kitchen sinks, nurse's office, etc.) that meet Tier Criteria with POU devices.
• Interior sites that were previously sampled (including under BOE sampling) and had elevated lead/copper levels are to be **selected first**.
- 4 • Interior sites not for consumption (e.g. bathroom and hand sinks) that meet Tier Criteria with POU devices.



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LCR Sampling in Community Water Systems

Additional Notes

- Community Water Systems are required to collect samples from kitchen or bathroom cold water taps of residential buildings and taps typically used for human consumption of non-residential buildings. Per EPA Region 2, icemakers are not to be sampled unless no other option exists in the non-residential building.
- Systems with fewer than five drinking water taps meeting the sample site criteria must collect at least one sample from each tap and then must collect additional samples from those taps on different days in the monitoring period.

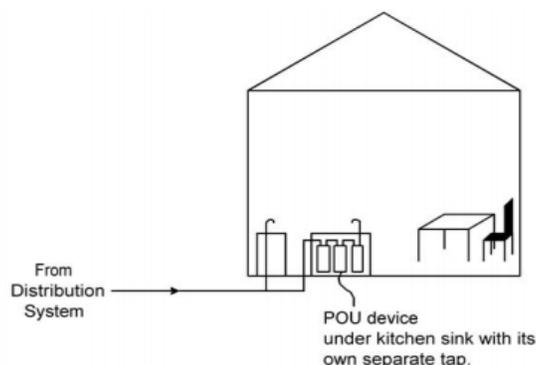
LCR Sampling in Non-Community Water Systems

Additional Notes

- Per EPA Region 2, icemakers are not to be sampled unless no other option exists.
- Systems with fewer than five drinking water taps that can be used for human consumption meeting the sample site criteria must collect at least one sample from each tap and then collect additional samples from those taps on different days in the monitoring period. Alternatively, the NJDEP may grant **written** approval to a system to collect less than the minimum five required samples provided that all taps that can be used for human consumption are samples. The 90th percentile will be based on the highest sample result.

Typical Point of Use Treatment Device Installation

Per EPA’s “Point-of-Use or Point-of-Entry Treatment Options for Small Drinking Water Systems”



Additional Information:

Under 40 CFR 141.66(h)(Table C), a POU, or “point of use” technology is a treatment device installed at a single tap used for the purpose of reducing contaminants in drinking water at that one tap. POU devices are typically installed at the kitchen tap.

- When POU devices are used for compliance, programs for long-term operation, maintenance, and monitoring must be provided by water utility to ensure proper performance.
- Reject water disposal options should be carefully considered before choosing this technology.
- Removal efficiencies can vary depending on water quality.
- This technology may be very limited in application to small systems. Since the process requires static mixing, detention basins, and filtration, it is most applicable to systems with sufficiently high sulfate levels that already have a suitable filtration treatment train in place.
- This technology is most applicable to small systems that already have filtration in place.

Additional Resources:

DEP Lead in Drinking Water - Public Water System Information: <http://www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/dwc-lead-public.html>

Templates and Certification Forms:

<http://www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/dws-sampreg.html>

EPA’s “Point-of-Use or Point-of-Entry Treatment Options for Small Drinking Water Systems”

https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2015-09/documents/guide_smallsystems_pou-poe_june6-2006.pdf

For further assistance, please contact the Division of Water Supply and Geoscience at:

watersupply@dep.nj.gov