



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Water Supply News

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WIIN Act Strategic Plan Released: Lead notification

Excerpted from EPA Region 7, 7/27/2017

Editor's Note: This article is about a revision to the Safe Drinking Water Act by Congress in response to the Flint, MI lead (Pb) incident. A university that was not affiliated with the city public water supply collected and analyzed water samples from various residents' homes for lead. This revision addresses the instance when a public water supply system or the state drinking water program or EPA is provided such data, to ensure that the homeowner is made aware of the health effects of lead in drinking water. This revision is not related to the lead and copper rule requirements which all community and non-transient non-community public water supply systems must meet in Iowa and in the nation. Those requirements include standards for compliance data, use of certified analytical methods, sampling protocols, sampling plans, etc. We anticipate that this type of sampling effort will be a rare occurrence in Iowa.

"The Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act, enacted on December 16, 2016, added section 1414(c)(5), "Exceedance of Lead Level at Households," to section 1414(c) of the Safe Drinking Water Act. This Section requires EPA to develop a Strategic Plan that identifies how EPA, states, and owners and operators of public water systems will provide targeted outreach, education, technical assistance, and risk communication to populations affected by lead in drinking water, including dissemination of specific information. Section 1414(c)(5) directed EPA to develop the Strategic Plan.

Yesterday, EPA released the Strategic Plan for Targeted Outreach to Populations Affected by Lead which describes how EPA must contact state and public water systems when EPA receives data that shows elevated lead levels from entities other than states or public water systems. Specifically, EPA must contact the state and public water system when EPA receives non-water system or state derived drinking water data from a household where the results are above 0.015 mg/L. EPA must also work with a state's governor to develop a plan to disseminate the information if the public water system fails to do so.

The Strategic Plan also includes additional resources to better support the notification process, including templates for data submission and notices to affected households. To develop the plan, EPA worked collaboratively with stakeholders, including states and owners/operators of public water systems. For more information, visit the [WIIN website](#). The strategy is in the box on the right-hand side.”

Key Points:

- The Strategic Plan provides procedures on how EPA, primacy agencies (Iowa DNR), and owners/operators of public water systems will carry out the actions to notify the public regarding lead data provided to EPA from entities other than a state program or public water system.
- The Plan is not related to the Lead and Copper Rule, although it deals with non-regulatory lead data.
- The Plan describes how EPA must contact the state and public water system when EPA receives non-water system or state drinking water lead data from a household where the results are above 0.015 mg/L. EPA is also required to work with a state’s governor to develop a plan to disseminate the information if the public water system fails to do so.
- EPA collaborated with stakeholders, including states and owner/operators of public water systems to develop the strategy.
- The dissemination and type of information in the notifications is similar to the outreach states and public water systems already conduct as part of the Lead and Copper Rule.

WRF Webinar: Preparedness and Response Practices to Support Water System Resilience: Fundamentals, Good Practices, and Innovations

From Water Research Foundation, 7/25/2017

Presented by Christine Herndon, President/COO, Herndon Solutions Group and Tom Noble, Principal, Horsley Witten Group

This webcast is free and open to the public

“Have you ever wondered how other utilities prepare for emergencies? Do they know something that you don’t? While there is a lot of guidance about how to plan for emergencies, there hasn’t been a summary of what utilities are actually doing. This webcast will discuss the findings of [Innovative Preparedness and Response Practices to Support Water System Resilience](#) (#4601).

Participants will learn about practices in other sectors that could be used in the water sector, a variety of fundamentals and good practices in use at utilities, as well as some innovative practices to consider. The project findings were gathered through surveys and interviews of utilities, state primacy agencies, public health agencies, and emergency management agency

staff. This Webcast is designed to provide participants with a variety of ideas (some easy and some more challenging) to better support all hazards resiliency at their water utility.”

Thursday, August 17, 2017, 2 pm–3 pm CDT

[Register online](#)

EPA Releases Materials for Cyanobacterial Bloom Management in Recreational Waters

From US EPA Office of Water, July 12, 2017

"EPA has released a suite of materials states and communities can use to protect public health during harmful algal bloom (HAB) outbreaks caused by cyanobacteria. Some blooms are capable of producing toxins, called cyanotoxins, which can harm humans and animals, affect drinking water sources and impact local economies. Public health officials and outdoor water recreational managers can use EPA's online resources to develop a cyanotoxin monitoring program, communicate potential health risks to the public, and address HAB outbreaks."

[Website](#)

IDNR WS Staff Speaking Engagements

Iowa DNR staff in the water supply program areas are scheduled to speak at the following events. The date, sponsor and event, location, subject, and contact for more information are listed.

- July 31, 2017, NW Iowa Drought Conditions Meeting, Western Iowa Technical Community College, 200 Victory Drive, Cherokee, 12:30 pm to 2:45 pm. "Current Water Usage in the Region; Drought Planning and Water Use Prioritization." No fee or registration; WT CEUs provided.
- August 28-29, 2017, AWWA Fall Short Course, Ankeny. "IDNR Water Supply Update." [Website for brochure and registration.](#)
- September 12 - 13, 2017, IRWA Fall Conference, Okoboji. "IDNR Water Supply Update." [Website for brochure and registration.](#)
- September 12, 2017, EPA Region 7 Environmental Finance Center (Wichita State), St. Joseph, MO. "Regional Water Finance Forum." [More information.](#)
- September 28, 2017, SHL 50th Annual Laboratory Symposium, Ankeny. [Brochure and registration available.](#)
- October 10-12, 2017, AWWA Annual Meeting, Council Bluffs. "LUST Sites and Water Mains; IDNR Water Supply Update." [Website for brochure and registration.](#)
- October 10 - 11, 2017, IRWA Fall Conference, Dubuque. "IDNR Water Supply Update." [Website for brochure and registration.](#)