

**STATE OF NEW YORK - DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM**

TO: City/County Directors of Environmental Health
District Directors

FROM: Richard W. Svenson, Director
Division of Environmental Health Protection

DATE: January 21, 2005

SUBJECT: Revised Procedure - Monthly Operational Reports for Fluoridated Public Water Systems

Background

1. Data regarding Public Water Systems (PWS) that treat with fluoride are now included in the federal Water Fluoridation Reporting System (WFRS), a national database maintained by the Centers for Disease Control. Information on all PWS (regardless of fluoride treatment status), including PWS name, ID, address, contact person, and telephone numbers will be available to health professionals on both the WFRS and the Department's website, primarily so pediatricians and dentists can use the information regarding decisions for fluoride supplements. The Department's Bureau of Dental Health has worked with BWSP staff to facilitate the WFRS data link.
2. According to SDWIS database, 148 public water systems in New York State treat with fluoride while approximately 600 systems purchase fluoride treated water. A review of past data indicated that several systems were not maintaining optimal fluoride levels, so it is important that efforts be maintained to encourage and support the water systems to maintain an optimal level of fluoride in their system.

Revised Form and Local Health Department Role

1. The Water System Operation Report (DOH-360) has been revised to provide a means for water supply operators to record information on fluoride treatment. Water suppliers should continue to send a copy of DOH-360CFL to the local health department (LHD). It is expected that you and your staff will review this data to assure that water systems are providing optimal fluoridation within the optimal range of 0.8 to 1.2 mg/l. After a review by you and your staff, a copy of this report must be transmitted to BWSP's Information Systems Section. If there are operational or capital facility deficiencies, a copy of the correspondence with the operator regarding required improvements should accompany the copy of DOH-360CFL. This data will be used to update WFRS and Department website.

2. The revised report form (DOH-360CFL), and instructions are attached. This form will be available on the Department's website. Environmental Health Manual Items Procedure PWS 150, "Fluoridation of Public Drinking Water Supplies," is being updated and will be soon transmitted to you as well as be included in the Department's Health Information Network (HIN). The revised manual item will include the procedure outlined in the above item #1.
3. Attached is a list of systems that reported treatment levels outside of optimal levels during 2004. (Some of these systems may have made adjustments and are now optimal.) Efforts at optimization should begin with these systems.

If there are questions regarding the procedure and new form, please contact BWSP's Information Systems Section. If assistance and information is needed regarding efforts to optimize fluoridation, please contact Dave Phillips of the BWSP's Operations Section.

Endorsed _____
Ronald Tramontano
Director
Center for Environmental Health

Attachment

cc: City/County Health Commissioners and Public Health Directors
M. Burke
R. Bills/C. Jones-Rafferty
E. Green, D.D.S., Bureau of Dental Health
Regional Directors of Environmental Health
PWS Field Coordinators
Section Chiefs
T. Hart/W. Meyer
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