# **EASTEX ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY**

## **August 2015 Newsletter**

Providing superior service and quality analysis for engineering firms, municipalities, school districts, government agencies, industrial facilities and individuals in Southeast Texas since 1986.

If you would like EEL to complete your

# DMR'S online,

please contact Brian at 1-800-525-0508

Log in to Client
Connect to check
your results from any
where, any time!

Client Connect allows you to access data and documents about your projects. You can view real time status and results, create and export data sets. You can also view information related to our methodologies. Call Susan or Ruth to set up your online account and schedule a demo on site or via remote desktop with screen sharing.

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The Lead and Copper Rule applies to <u>all</u> community and non-transient non-community water systems. Under the Lead and Copper Rule there are <u>NO</u> Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) specified. Instead, Lead and Copper have Action Levels (Als) and Action Level Exceedances (ALEs) that trigger specific actions on the part of systems.

Action Level for Lead > 0.015 mg/L (15 ppb)
Action Level for Copper > 1.3 mg/L (1300 ppb)



## **Initial Monitoring**

Standard Monitoring: Must sample for two (2) consecutive six (6) month periods (January – June and July – December) before "graduating" to Reduced Monitoring.

Population size determines number of monitoring sites.

Monitoring must be conducted in the distribution system at approved Lead and Copper monitoring sites.

Systems must pick as many Tier 1 sites as possible before using Tier 2 sites.

If there are insufficient Tier 2 sites, Tier 3 sites may be used.

If there are insufficient Tier 1,2,or 3 sites, the sampling pool may be completed using non-tier sites.

Eastex Lab can help you with your Lead and Copper Sampling. Call or email today!

Follow us on Twitter@eastexlabs

# **Mystery Bug Of The Month**



Can you guess what this is? Hint: They feed by extracellular digestion. They were originally thought to feed by suction



The source of this newsletter is a powerpoint presentation created by Eastex Environmental Laboratory. If you are interested in our powerpoint presentations please email eastexlab@eastex.net or call 936 653 3249.





Website: Eastexlabs.com Email: eastexlab@eastex.net Tel: 936 653 3249

# EASTEX ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY

### **Reporting Lead and Copper**

Lab reports electronically by 10<sup>th</sup> of month following the cycle to the TCEQ.

Lab reports hardcopy to PWS and TCEQ at the same time.

PWS has 30 days from hardcopy report to notify customer of results (Form 20680) and notify TCEQ within 90 days or report that customer has been notified.

# What to do if you exceed the action level

**Issue Public Notice** to those whose taps were sampled

### **Collect Water Quality Parameter (WQP)**

samples; pH (field test), temperature (field test), alkalinity, calcium and conductivity

Must be collected within same monitoring period as lead and copper samples. Fully flush lines before collecting.

If already have corrosion control in place, sample for above plus orthophosphate.

Two (2) samples must be collected at each entry point to distribution.

The number of required distribution system samples to be collected is based on population served.

#### With a second exceedance

Report Lead and Copper results to those whose taps are sampled (public notice)
Distribute public education within thirty
(30) days of the Action Level Exceedance
(ALE) [lead only]

Time to implement the Corrosion Control Treatment strategy

Follow up Water Quality Parameters (WQPs) are collected post-installation and optimal WQPs are designated 6 months after follow up monitoring

Answer to

**Bug Of The Month:** 

Suctorian

#### **Deadlines are Critical**

**Report** Lead Results within thirty (30) days to those whose taps are sampled

Certify consumer notification within three (3) months

**Collect** WQPs by the end of the Lead and Copper monitoring period

Recommend Corrosion Control Treatment within six (6) months of ALE

Installation of Corrosion Control Treatment within twenty-four (24) months of second ALE

#### **Important Deadlines**

#### Schedule/Sampling

6M2 Sample during Jul 1 thru Dec 31, 2015 Reduced Sample during Jun 1 thru Sep 30, 2015

#### **Important Forms**

#### Schedule/Forms

6M2 6M2 2015 PWS Instructions Reduced Reduced 2015 PWS Instructions

## **Sampling for Lead and Copper**

System staff or residents can collect samples
Criteria for sample invalidation
Form 20683 not submitted
Lab error (eg. wrong method used
Improper sample site used

Container damaged in transit or < 1 liter collected

Tampering with sample suspected
Sample taken before enough stand time
Once a sample is analyzed, it CANNOT be invalidated unless the sample was taken from an improper site; one not included in the Lead and Copper Plan on file with State

Lead in drinking water, although rarely the sole cause of lead poisoning can significantly increase a person's total lead exposure. EPA estimates that drinking water can make up 20 percent or more of a person's total exposure to lead. Lead is unusual among drinking water contaminants in that it seldom occurs naturally in water supplies like rivers and lakes. Lead enters drinking water primarily as a result of the corrosion, or wearing away of materials containing lead in the water distribution system or household plumbing.

# **Field Supervisor**

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#### **Field Techs Contact**

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# Eastex is making changes to better meet your needs!

## **ICP** - Mass Spectrometry

With this new equipment, we will be able to analyze for trace levels of metals at lower detection limits for Drinking water and Lead and Copper.

Our new ICP will allow greater sensitivity in drinking water and waste water permit analysis.

Call Eastex Lab for more information.

Visit TCEQ.gov for more information or call Eastex Lab for help.

Website: Eastexlabs.com Email: eastex-