

Disinfectant of the Month

Disinfection is an important step in ensuring that water is safe to drink. Water systems add disinfectants to destroy microorganisms that can cause disease in humans. Primary methods of disinfection are chlorination, chloramines, ozone and ultraviolet. Other disinfection methods include chlorine dioxide, potassium permanganate and nanofiltration.

Disinfectants fall into two categories: primary and secondary. Primary disinfectants achieve desired level of microorganism kill or inactivation while secondary disinfectant maintains and prevents the regrowth of microorganisms.

The EPA Surface Water Treatment Rule (SWTR) requires systems using public water supplies from either surface water or groundwater under the direct influence of surface water to disinfect.

The disinfectant of this month is Chlorine dioxide. Chlorine Dioxide is a powerful oxidizing agent, it is the Batman of disinfectants, it makes chlorine look like a mere sidekick. It has a kill rate same as chlorine but five times faster. Most would consider it as primary disinfectant for high pH and lime softened water. Did I say used as disinfectant? It is also used to control TTHM, control taste and odor, algae, phenols in surface water, and ortho-chlorophenol. It is attractive alternative to chlorine.

Like all good things it comes with a price. The creation of chlorate during chloride dioxide generation occurs during low chlorite concentrations a low pH. Chlorate is on of the contaminants on the CCL.

Chlorate and chlorite are two anions found in municipal water due to the use of chlorine dioxide as treatment. They are byproducts of chlorine dioxide. Chlorate and chlorite in drinking water may have potential health implications therefore it is important to monitor these anion levels if you are using Chlorine Dioxide.

Eastex Environmental Laboratory can test for chlorate and chlorite in water samples by ion chromatography. The test used for monitoring such levels is relatively cheap compared to all the hassle you might encounter.

Call us today and get more details!

Sludge Year Ends July 31, 2017

Collection of sludge analysis has to be done by July 31, 2017. All facilities have to report sludge activity to TCEQ by September 30, 2017 or otherwise specified in permit and sludge provisions.

If you have a new permit since August 2016 and no TCLP, you will need to do a TCLP before July 31, 2017. Please make sure you have up to date TCLP, PCB, Paint Filters and Land Application.

Reduced LCR June 1st—September 30th 2017

Where are you with your Lead and Copper?

Lead and Copper Reduced Cycle 2017 starts June 1st 2017.

Last day for sampling is September 30th 2017. All sites and alternative sites must be approved by TCEQ before sampling.

Check to see if you are required by visiting Texas Drinking Watch website.

Form 20467 to get sites approved.

Form TCEQ 20683 – to be submitted to the laboratory with the sample.

Why Use Eastex Lab?

Help ensure samples submitted are compliant with TCEQ requirements.

Help prevent violations due to improper samples.

At Eastex Environmental Laboratory, we compare data against MCL limits for earlier notification.

Give guidance with paperwork, reporting to the State, and understanding the process.

We send data to TCEQ electronically and then verify that TCEQ has received it.

We provide you with sample bottles.

We will pick up your samples from the Houston, Beaumont and Nacogdoches surrounding areas.

Get your results fast! View your results online from anywhere.

Public Drinking Water Conference

August 8 - 9, 2017

Double Tree Hotel

6505 IH-35 North, Austin Texas

Lots of important information

Join us at our booth # C-38

Is your information current?

Call or send Ruth an email at rkwillis@eastex.net stating who are the people on your team, their phone numbers and their email addresses.



To Look or Not To Look?? Here is a little basic information. A wastewater treatment plant is basically a bug factory. You are growing bacteria to clean the water. 90% of all the work that goes on in the secondary portion- i.e. the biological stage is the growth of a biomass to degrade organics and remove pollution is performed by single celled bacteria. The bacteria are the workhorses but difficult to identify even under a microscope. The higher life forms indicate the health and types of bacteria present.

Some of the things typically checked for visually and monitored by qualitative and quantitative observations: Floc size, floc color and clarity of water among floc, floc structure and filamentous presence, and micro-organism diversity.

So look before issues get out of control! Call Eastex Lab to perform microscopic analyses and we will look for you!

WQP? Texas, we got this!

Effective April 1, 2017, all WQPs will include the following:

- Total Alkalinity
- Calcium
- Chloride
- Conductivity
- Total Hardness
- Iron
- Manganese
- pH
- Sodium
- Sulfate
- Temperature
- Total Dissolved Solids

In addition, if you use inhibitors such as silica and or orthophosphate, they must be analyzed as well.

TCEQ is also requiring data to come from the laboratory in an electronic format.

The WQP **form 20679 has changed**. New form can be found on TCEQ's website. Eastex Lab can also email you the new 20679 form.

There has been a little confusion about Water Quality Parameters (WQP) and Entry Point Lead and Copper for WQP.

When you are doing WQP use form 20679. If you look at the form, it does not have lead and copper on it.

When you are doing Entry Point Lead and Copper, then you will need to fill out form 20683 just like when you would use this form for LCR 6M1 or 6M2. The only difference when doing Entry Point LCR, you don't have to wait six hours for first draw and samples are collected at Entry Points and not LCR sites. Distribution sites for WQP are usually where you sample for coliform.

Check your schedule at DWW to find out how many WQPs or Entry Point LCRs you need. You can also call Eastex Lab for help.

Field Supervisor

Chris Wirzberg 936-653-3249

Field Techs Contact

Brian Sewell 936-827-3377

Wendy Willson 936-828-7209

Rico Valley 936-828-7205

Chris Guinn 936-827-3378

Shawn Arnold 936-828-7208

Mark Bourgeois 936-828-7206

Lulia Galusha 936-828-7203

Brittany Brown 936-788-4193

Our Mission: Participate in the protection of the environment and public health by delivering reliable, quality analytical data and environmental compliance services in a friendly, personal, professional manner while growing our employees in experience and skill.

Take a break! Let us do your DMRs!

TEEX Classes at Eastex Lab

Jul 5—7, 2017 Water Utilities Calculations

Oct 17—19, 2017 Industrial Pre-treatment

Check out Eastexlabs.com

Deadlines are closer than they appear!

6M1 2017 LCR—last day to sample June 30, 2017. Lab needs time to run the test and send the report to TCEQ, so don't wait until the last minute. Visit Texas Drinking Water Watch to see your LCR and WQP schedules. After you get your report, you must inform your customers and TCEQ or you will a get violation.