

EGLE update for MALEHA June 2022 report, submitted 6/13/2022

EGLE lab and VOC samples change: Recently, EGLE has noted a higher-than-normal trend in analytical samples failing the pH requirements for VOCs testing. The EGLE lab is reporting these samples are not meeting the pH requirement and this includes resamples and samples collected following guidance given by EGLE staff. The lab has informed us of a change in the bottle prep process because of supply chain issues and an inability to get necessary parts, therefore, the lab is purchasing a prepared product. The lab recommends that 8 drops be used for preserving the samples. This impacts the Contamination Investigation, Long Term Monitoring Program and NCWS sampling.

Well Construction Shop Talk Trainings: This is an opportunity for field sanitarians to gain knowledge and ask questions in a relaxed environment about the equipment and supplies used during the construction of water wells. Topics covered in our discussions will include casing, screens, packers, grout, pumps, and so much more! Locations are throughout the State August 2, 3, and 4, 2022 with a UP location TBD. See flyer for details.

Well Construction Training Videos: Videos are now available on YouTube. The EGLE Well Construction Team will be hosting short live training events this summer featuring these videos and providing an opportunity for Q&A. Watch your email for Teams invites coming soon. The eight videos feature drilling methods, disinfection, deviation, FAQs, special construction criteria, flowing wells, well construction review, and final inspections for water wells. The link to the videos is here.

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLXCrWyRfRQVUICaSkW9isr51zNseRSoVt>

Public Pool Inspection Training: The recording of the May training can be found here: [Public Swimming Pool Inspection Refresher Training for LHD Staff - May 17, 2022 - YouTube](#)

Classification of Public Water Supplies Policy: EGLE is putting the final touches on a memo highlighting the policy changes. The updated policy is found here: [DWEHD-399-013 - Classification of Public Water Supplies \(michigan.gov\)](#)

Legislative Update: SB 911 Underground Storage Tanks no update; Swim Up Bars passed Senate 6/8/2022-EGLE will need to be prepared to start rule making; HB 6101 Septic Tank Inspection, EGLE is reviewing and providing internal analysis.

Failing Septic System financial program: James Clift, of EGLE executive office is taking the lead on this. Onsite Wastewater Program has had initial conversation with James, which includes advocating for LHD role in this program. He will be drafting an RFP to find an organization to manage the financial side and working on stakeholder outreach.

IT Modernization Updates and Planning for the Noncommunity Program:

While all DWEHD's programs are currently undertaking a process of ongoing IT Modernization, aspects of this transition for the NC Program must happen very rapidly due to external factors beyond EGLE's control. By the end of the calendar year, WaterTrack will be decommissioned, and the NC program will switch to interim use of

SDWIS, readily available federal software used in most states' public water supply programs. EGLE's top management is prioritizing the transition of the NC Program out of WaterTrack and into SDWIS. Working with two contractors, EGLE's DWEHD is actively pursuing solutions to transition the Noncommunity Program to by October 2022. Authorization is in the works for increased hours on the contract with Global Environmental Consulting (GEC), a leading developer of SDWIS-related software applications for public drinking water regulators. GEC is working with DWEHD and DTMB on switching databases and providing training for LHDs.

WaterTrack

Due to cyber security concerns, WaterTrack must be decommissioned at the end of calendar year 2022. This is a hard deadline the Noncommunity Program is obligated to meet. EGLE did not pursue a rewrite of WaterTrack for various reasons including cost and the expected arrival of a new federal drinking water database in the future. WaterTrack data are being migrated into SDWIS for an extended interim period until the new federal application is ready.

SDWIS (aka SDWIS-State)

Currently used by most states, SDWIS is a federal, web-enabled database application that will house the Type II NCWS water supply inventory, sample data, monitoring schedules, and violation information, much like WaterTrack. The plan is to begin the new fiscal year (October 2022) using SDWIS and stop using WaterTrack. Trainings, both virtual and in-person, are being planned to help LHD partners learn SDWIS and SWIFT, an inspection-centered application. Currently, the plan is to hold a series of five virtual sessions covering different parts of the SDWIS software ahead of a very recently scheduled **in-person training September 21-22, 2022 in Lansing**. Another series of five virtual trainings will follow that focus on the use of SDWIS for individual rules of the SDWA. More information from the EGLE NC Program team will be distributed very soon.

SWIFT

One of DWEHD's contractors, Global Environmental Consulting (GEC), has decades of experience hosting and supporting SDWIS. They also develop software tools that interface with SDWIS. DWEHD plans to acquire and deploy SWIFT, an electronic sanitary survey application that can be used on mobile devices. Training for SWIFT will be provided in close association to that for SDWIS this Fall.

MIEHDWIS (aka Eddy for NCWS)

While the transition to SDWIS will increase functionality in some areas, there are some features in WaterTrack that do not have an exact analog in SDWIS. EGLE is working to fill some gaps resulting from the lack of canned reports in SDWIS (WaterTrack has many). EGLE NC is currently exploring bringing some of these reports permanently into MIEHDWIS, but much of that development will happen in 2023. EGLE NC will ensure that LHDs still have the necessary reports throughout 2022 and 2023. The Community

Water Supply and NC Programs are currently discussing visions for much more integration of SDWIS and MIEHDWIS.

State DW Lab

EGLE's Drinking Water Lab is also undergoing IT modernization. The legacy database system will be replaced in early calendar year 2023 by a new, modern system. A new pathway for electronic flow of sample results from the new system to SDWIS must be established. Although the timing of transitions to new databases is not yet entirely clear, there may be some months late this year and early next year when the LHD Type II programs will be using SDWIS and the EGLE lab will not yet be transitioned to their new database system. In that case, EGLE Lab sample results may need to be hand-entered into SDWIS, just as with private lab results. DWEHD is looking into other possible solutions that would prevent or minimize hand-entry of State lab results. If hand-entry is necessary, DWEHD will be ready with staff and resources to lend support. Although 2022 marks the end of a 6-year monitoring cycle for VOC and SOC analytes, which means there will likely be more samples than other years, if water supplies can be encouraged to collect their samples early, the existing nightly download of results into WaterTrack can be used and results will be batch loaded into SDWIS in time for LHD staff to use SDWIS.

NCWS Program Communication and Collaboration

This transition involves many moving parts, players, and yet-to-be-made decisions. LHDs can expect more frequent communication from EGLE in the coming months. EGLE NC staff are currently working to learn SDWIS and develop tools to assist LHDs in using the program. The transition will be challenging and will require EGLE and LHDs to work together on sharing information and addressing difficult issues that will undoubtedly arise. LHDs are invited to ask questions and share concerns with their assigned EGLE NC representative, WT Administrator Emma Byrne, Acting Supervisor Connor Wickham, or Dan Dettweiler.