• Completion of revised water bacteriological sample form;
• Responsibilities in transmittal of test result data.

Instructions for completing the revised water form and the mechanics of transmitting results were recently sent out to all concerned with collecting samples of PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES [EHS (W) WATER 4 - 81].

For the PRIVATE SUPPLIES, consisting of the individual and household supplies, our responsibilities in seeing that test results are properly transmitted require some departure from past practices. The same applies to the supplies in the “OTHER” category in which are included treated swimming pools, natural recreational waters such as swimming areas-beaches, source waters for subsequent treatment, etc.

Examples are attached of properly completed forms for samples taken from:
1. PRIVATE category - represented by an individual household WELL:
2. OTHER category - represented by a treated SWIMMING POOL.

Also attached is a tabular summary, “WATER BACTERIOLOGICAL DATA TRANSMISSION” showing the essentials of data flow of laboratory results for PUBLIC (community and non-community), PRIVATE & OTHER water supply categories and the responsibilities of the various state and county health agencies.

Please note that for PRIVATE SUPPLIES, the county health department is sent both the 2nd and 3rd copies of the form and it is their responsibility to send a copy to the individual. Also, the county office is to add any remarks that may be appropriate in light of the laboratory results, such as SAFE or UNSAFE for drinking. Since a sanitary survey of the private supply is an integral part of determining the actual suitability/protections of wells, cisterns, etc., there are no provision for private individuals to collect and submit their own samples.

When the “OTHER” category is involved, county health officers will be furnished copies “2” and “3” of the form when the sample is collected by the local sanitarian. When collected by the pool operator, forest ranger, etc., the collector is sent the 3rd (last) copy and, at the present time, the plan is to send the 2nd copy to the local health department. The disposition of the 2nd copy can be otherwise directed depending on needs.

Please let us know if you have any questions about the use of the new forms or any of the instructions.

References

History

Attachments