

## **Assessments and Corrective Actions under the Revised Total coliform rule (RTCR)**

The RTCR requires public water systems that have an indication of total Coliform bacteria contaminations to assess the problem and take corrective action. There are two levels of assessments based on the severity or frequency of the problem: Level 1 and Level 2

### **Triggering an Assessment**

Level 1 Assessments are triggered by-

- 2 or more TC+ routine/repeat samples in the same month or for systems collecting 40 or more samples each month; greater than 5% of routine/repeats samples are positive.
- Failure to take required repeat samples after any single TC+ result

Level 2 Assessments are triggered by:

- E.coli MCL violation
- A second triggered Level 1 Assessment within a rolling 12 month period

### **Conducting an Assessment**

Level 1 Assessments can be performed by:

- The Public Water Systems owner or responsible party designated by the system owner or administrative contact

Level 2 Assessments will be performed by:

- Montana DEQ staff only

### **Corrective Actions**

When sanitary defects are identified during a Level 1 or Level 2 Assessments, they should be corrected as soon as possible to protect public health. The PWS must complete correct actions by one of the following timeframes

- No later than the time the assessment form is submitted to State, which must be within 30 days of triggering the assessment, or:
- Within a state-approved timeframe which was proposed in the assessment form