

Title 179 - NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Chapter 1 - RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING FLUORIDATION OF WATER SUPPLIES

TITLE 179

PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS

CHAPTER 1

FLUORIDATION OF PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES

~~001 CERTIFICATION. Before any municipality, district, political subdivision, corporation, company, person, or any other public or private entity shall add a fluoride compound to a water supply intended or maintained for human consumption for the purpose of the reduction of the incidence of dental decay or any other purpose, the officials or individuals in responsible charge shall have obtained in writing a certificate from the State Department of Health indicating their proficiency to do so pursuant to these rules and regulations.~~

001. SCOPE AND AUTHORITY. This chapter applies to all public water systems required to add fluoride to their water supplies, and public and private entities that are not required, but do so voluntarily. The authority is found in Nebraska Revised Statute (Neb. Rev. Stat.) §§ 71-3305 to 71-3306.

002. DEFINITIONS.

002.01 FLUORIDATION. Fluoridation is the process of adjusting the amount of fluoride found in water to achieve optimal prevention of tooth decay.

002.02 OWNER. Owner has the same meaning as in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 71-5301 of the Nebraska Safe Drinking Water Act.

002.03 PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM. Public Water System has the same meaning as in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 71-5301(10)(a).

~~002 APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION. The application for certificate shall be submitted in writing and shall:~~

~~002.01 Describe the chemical feeding equipment to be used.~~

~~002.02 Describe the controls and equipment that will be used to check the final dosage.~~

~~002.03 Describe the facilities for protection of operator handling of fluoride compounds.~~

~~002.04 Describe the installation details.~~

~~002.05 Give the name of the person or persons who will be responsible for carrying out the program.~~

~~002.06 Identify the fluoride compound or compounds to be used.~~

~~002.07 State the minimum and maximum limits of fluoride ion, parts per million, to be maintained in the water supply.~~

~~The application in the case of a municipality shall be signed by the Mayor, the Chairman of the governing body of the municipality, or an officer of a district, corporation, or company, and the superintendent of the water works. All other applications shall be signed by the person to be in responsible charge of the fluoridation system.~~

003. OPERATION. Operational requirements are as follows.

003.01 FLUORIDATING PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS. The owner of a fluoridating public water system must ensure that the system is operated in a manner to provide a fluoride ion content in the water available to users at a target level of 0.7 milligrams per liter, and within the operational range of plus or minus 0.2 milligrams per liter to 0.7 milligrams per liter. ~~The operation of the fluoridation program shall be such that the fluoride ion content of the water available to users, as prescribed by the State Department of Health, shall be in the range of 0.8 to 1.5 parts per million, the recommended optimal level being 1.0 to 1.3 parts per million. No fluoride compound need be added to the water supply if the fluoride ion content of the water available to users is already by nature at least 0.7 parts per million.~~

003.02 NATURALLY FLUORIDATED PUBLIC WATER SYTEMS. The addition of a fluoride compound to the water supply is not required if the fluoride ion content of the water available to users is by nature within, or greater than, the operational range provided in this chapter. ~~Records of all operations shall be kept, and a copy of each month's records sent to the State Department of Health at the close of each month. These records shall include:~~

003.02(A) PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS WITH MULTIPLE ENTRY POINTS. Public water systems with multiple entry points to the system must demonstrate the criteria provided in this subsection for each individual entry point.

~~003.02A Identification of the fluoride compound used, its purity and fluoride content.~~

~~003.02B Amount of water treated.~~

~~003.02C Amount of fluoride compound used.~~

~~003.03D Fluoride content of water from distribution system.~~

~~003.02E Any irregularities of operations.~~

~~Record sheets are available on request from the State Department of Health.~~

~~003.03 Samples representing water supplied to the water users shall be submitted to the Division of Laboratories of the State Department of Health or to another laboratory approved by the State Department of Health at least once each month for fluoride analysis. In the event the laboratory making analysis is other than the State Department of Health Laboratory, copies of the results of all such analyses shall be furnished the Department at the close of each month.~~

004. MONITORING. The owner of a fluoridating public water system must submit one sample each month for fluoride, representing water supplied to users, to the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Public Health and Environmental Laboratory, or a laboratory certified by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Public Health and Environmental Laboratory, for analysis.

~~004 REVOCATION OF CERTIFICATE.~~ The certificate may be revoked or suspended if evidence indicates the fluoridation program is not complying with the procedures outlined in sections 001 to 003.

005. RECORD KEEPING. Records of all operations shall be kept for each point at which fluoride is added to the system, and a copy of each month's records sent to the Department's designee at the close of each month. These records shall include:

- (A) Name of the water operator responsible for fluoridation of the system;
- (B) The location(s) of fluoride application;
- (C) Identification of the fluoride compound used and its purity and fluoride content;
- (D) The treatment date, amount of water treated, and the amount of the fluoride compound used for treatment;
- (F) Analytical results of fluoride content of treated water; and
- (G) Any irregularities in operations.

006. COMPUTATION OF FLUORIDE ION CONTENT. Computation of fluoride ion content as required by this chapter is based on the average fluoride content of water available to users, each month. The average fluoride content is based on each system's records, as provided to the Department as required by this chapter.

006.01 ANALYTICAL FLUORIDE RESULTS. Average monthly fluoride content, for systems that obtain analytical results of the fluoride content of water supplied to users on a weekly, or more frequent basis, will be based on the analytical fluoride results.

006.02 CALCULATED FLUORIDE CONCENTRATION. Average monthly fluoride content, for systems that do not provide adequate analytical results, will be based on calculated fluoride concentrations using the natural level of fluoride in the source water, and the information recorded as required by this chapter.