



# Rural Water Training & Tech Assistance

## Training: Lead and Copper Rule

### Regulatory Requirements

Implementation of the Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) has recently come under nationwide scrutiny. At the federal level, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is working on long-term revisions to the LCR. In the meantime, state regulators are enhancing their oversight of the current LCR. In Kansas, the Department of Health of Environment mailed a 5-page letter to all community water systems and non-transient non-community water systems detailing the major provisions of the LCR and new requirements regarding monitoring and reporting practices. After receiving these letters, many public water systems contacted the Kansas Rural Water Association (KRWA) and requested assistance to achieve compliance with the LCR. KRWA recognized the need for statewide training on the topic of LCR. Nine training sessions were scheduled for the 2016-2017 program period at widespread locations in Kansas.

The following is a sample of a few of the more recent lead/copper training sessions that were presented by KRWA staff.

#### Hays – 11/1/2016

The training session began with a presentation by KRWA Technical Assistant, Monica Wurtz. She covered the history of the LCR, a review of lead and copper action levels, provided a demonstration of 90th percentile calculation, explained how to develop a lead and copper monitoring plan using the tier classification system and reviewed monitoring and reporting, including customer notification requirements. More LCR topics were presented by KRWA Consultant Pat McCool. Pat explained how systems should conduct a lead and copper materials evaluation using Kansas forms. He also explained corrosion control techniques that are available for systems dealing with corrosive water and/or lead or copper action level exceedances.



★ Training Locations

KRWA conducted nine training sessions on the implementation of the Lead and Copper Rule in 2016 and 2017. Attendance was 376 persons representing 230 water systems. Additional sessions are planned for 2018.



KRWA Consultant Pat McCool makes a point during the training session at Independence on January 25.

This example of technical assistance was provided by the Kansas Rural Water Association under a contract administered by the National Rural Water Association; funding was provided by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Later, Pat provided a presentation on disinfection byproducts (DBPs). He explained how DBPs are formed, monitoring requirements, common mistakes in operations and sampling, and issues with compliance, especially for systems that purchase treated water. Next, KRWA GIS Mapping Tech, Mark Thomas, discussed the process of GPS mapping. Mark provided a demonstration on how to use a smartphone to obtain GPS data using Google Apps. This was valuable information to many attendees. The training ended with a presentation by Monica Wurtz who reviewed the Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR). Monica explained the major provisions of the RTCR including monitoring and reporting requirements, what triggers and how to complete a Level 1 and Level 2 Assessment, E.coli MCL violation triggers, and start-up procedures for seasonal systems.

Location	Date	Attendance				
		# of Systems	Operators/ Administrative	Board/ Council	Public	Total
Smith Center	9/6/2016	21	26	2	3	31
Salina	9/13/2016	25	46	1	4	51
Kingman	10/5/2016	18	28		4	32
Hays	11/1/2016	17	23		4	27
Pittsburg	11/8/2016	20	35	1	5	41
Mayetta	12/6/2016	48	69		6	75
Independence	1/25/2017	30	45	1	2	48
Chanute	3/7/2017	28	35		2	37
Dodge City	4/19/2017	23	32		2	34

### Pittsburg – 11/8/2016

This training session was very similar to the session in Hays. KRWA Consultant Bert Zerr and Technical Assistant Monica Wurtz presented information on the LCR and the RTCR. Bert also covered basic operation and maintenance topics as well as chlorine disinfection practices. This session ended with a presentation by KRWA Technical Assistant, Greg Metz, on the topic of valve exercising and rehabilitation. Greg also talked about his experiences with leak detection and assisting systems with high water loss.

### Mayetta – 12/6/2016

At this KRWA training session, Monica Wurtz and Bert Zerr once again presented information on the LCR, the RTCR, and operation and maintenance topics. Mark Thomas also presented information on GPS mapping and use of various new technologies associated available for digital mapping.

### Independence – 1/25/2017

Once again, Monica Wurtz and Pat McCool provided presentations on the LCR, the RTCR, and disinfection byproducts.

### Chanute – 3/7/2017

At this session, Monica Wurtz and Pat McCool provided presentations on the LCR and disinfection byproducts. They were joined by Jason Solomon from the KDHE District Office in Chanute. Jason delivered a presentation on “What to expect when you’re inspected by KDHE.” Jason explained the inspection process to attendees and talked about common issues identified and violations cited during inspections.

### Dodge City – 4/19/2017

KRWA staff members Monica Wurtz and Bert Zerr provided presentations on the LCR, the RTCR, and operation and maintenance topics.

### More Lead and Copper Training

Recently, KDHE informed KRWA that nearly 200 water systems in Kansas failed to submit the required lead and copper materials evaluation in 2017. KRWA will be scheduling additional Lead and Copper training sessions in 2018.



KRWA Consultant Pat McCool is one of three KRWA staff members who spent thirty years working at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. They not only know the regulations but also have an understanding of the design requirements and operations of water and wastewater systems.



The December 6 KRWA-sponsored training at the Prairie Band Conference Center was attended by a total of 75 persons with 48 water systems represented. KRWA presenter Monica Wurtz visits with several of the attendees during the morning break.