

State Water Resources Control Board - Division of Drinking Water
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Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Public Water System Guidance

Reliably providing safe potable water to the community is a critical function of a Public Water System (PWS). If your PWS is at risk of failing to safely operate and provide safe potable water, then you must inform and coordinate with your Division of Drinking Water (DDW) District Engineer. **PWSs should prepare for possible impacts of COVID-19 and take precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19**, but otherwise operate normally, including routine monitoring and sampling.

FOR CURRENT INFORMATION ON COVID-19:

Department of Public Health's (CDPH) COVID-19 webpage:

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/ncov2019.aspx>

U.S. EPA Coronavirus Website:

<https://www.epa.gov/coronavirus/coronavirus-and-drinking-water-and-wastewater>

CORONAVIRUS AND DRINKING WATER

Communicating to and assuring your customers that their tap water is safe to drink is critical.

- Currently, there is no evidence that the COVID-19 virus survives the disinfection process for drinking water and wastewater. Californians can continue to use and drink water from their tap as usual.
- As of March 3, 2020, according to the World Health Organization, the “presence of the COVID-19 virus has not been detected in drinking-water supplies and based on current evidence the risk to water supplies is low.”
- **Your customers should get their drinking water information from you.**

PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS AND COVID-19

DDW expects PWS to operate normally, perform all required monitoring and sampling, and continue to provide safe, potable drinking water. **If your PWS shuts down (e.g. winery, school) you must still collect routine bacteriological samples and maintain pressure in the distribution system.** DDW recognizes that COVID-19 may cause staff or resources to be unavailable, and if your PWS cannot operate safely, contact DDW and we will work with you to evaluate options. Above all, keep your staff and operators safe and healthy; they are the frontline in delivering safe potable water.