

The 2009 CCR Process in a Nutshell

By Doug Buresh, ARRA Circuit Rider

The 2009 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) is different from past years, the biggest difference being that each system has to download and create their own. Also known as the Annual Water Quality Report, the CCR is due to Nebraska Health and Human Services by July 1st. It would be wise not to put off creating this report. Consider this article a reminder to all you operators to “git-er-done” to avoid a violation for late reports.

The first step is reviewing the instructions sent to you by NDHHS in early March. You will need to download your 2009 CCR from the Nebraska Drinking Water watch website listed with the instruction packet, and on the Drinking Water Watch business card attached to your Certification of Distribution. This card is for you to keep as a reference. The Drinking Water Watch site is a secure site, so the “https” has to be at the beginning of the web address.

Once on the Drinking Water Watch page you will not need to enter any information on the initial page, simply go to the series of gray bars at the bottom of the page and click on the one that says “Review Consumer Confidence Data.” The next page will be titled the Drinking Water Branch page. Enter either your water system “NE” number in the first field or go to the second field and choose the name of your water system from the drop down menu. Select the report format that is compatible with your computer, either PDF or RTF (further information on each of these formats is discussed in your CCR information packet) and click on the “Generate Report.” It is recommended that you save this file to your computer for future reference. You can now print your report. Follow the instructions on page 1 of your downloaded CCR report, as well as, the instructions in the packet to ensure a complete final report. Printing your report may also cause some confusion, especially when using the RTF version. Please follow the instructions on page 6 of your information packet under the “RTF Version” section.

All of the information within your CCR is generated by the EPA. It is important to check the listed results and sample/collection dates for accuracy. There have been instances where the results listed have not been the most current available, etc. Compare the results listed on your downloaded report to your actual sample records, and if the listed results don’t match your records, you will need to correct them. If the collection/sample date is blank, this means it was taken during 2009. Go ahead and fill in these dates while cross-checking your results. Also make sure any violations listed are from 2009. ONLY 2009 violations need to be addressed. There has been a glitch where violations from prior years have been included in some reports. These “old violations” should not be included in your final 2009 CCR.

As in the past, you will need to fill in the Operator name and contact phone number on page 3, which is technically the first page of your CCR. Distribution of the 2009 CCR is the same as past years; the method of distribution is dependent on the population of your system. Follow the directions on page 8 of the information packet from NDHHS for the breakdown of the distribution/population requirements.

There is also the availability of a “Word Template” for your CCR. This template is what NDHHS used to be able to produce the CCR, but with the new web-based version of SDWIS and the computer programming used by the EPA to merge the information, NDHHS can no longer mass produce these reports. If you are interested in the template, contact Becky Schuerman and it will be e-mailed to you. The template will allow you to plug in your system’s specific information, contaminant results, and any violations making for a much more compact document like those of prior years.

If you have any further questions as to creating and distributing your 2009 CCR, please don’t hesitate to call Becky Schuerman, NDHHS CCR/PN Rules Manager at 402-471-6571, or ask any of the NeRWA Circuit Riders if they’re stopping by your area. We are all here to help and are very willing to do so.