

# West Virginia University

## Drinking Water Sanitation Program

- I. Statement, Purpose, and Scope
  - A. Policy Statement: WVU is dedicated to providing safe and healthful facilities for all employees, students, faculty, and visitors, and in complying with Federal and State regulations concerning drinking water safety.
  - B. Program Purpose: To establish procedures for providing a safe drinking water supply at all WVU facilities and properties as per section III A.
  - C. Scope: This program applies to all University employees and staff responsible for constructing, providing, or maintaining drinking water supplies on WVU properties
- II. Responsible Parties
  - A. Environmental Health and Safety (EHS)
    - 1. Assign a Drinking Water Sanitation Program Administrator
    - 2. Maintain a thorough knowledge of drinking water quality and safety, plumbing Code, Public Drinking Water Supply Regulations, and Cross Connection Prevention Regulations.
    - 3. Investigate drinking water supply complaints and initiate corrective action as needed.
    - 4. Review renovation and construction plans for Code compliance and make recommendations as need to assure a safe water supply in compliance with Code.
    - 5. Identify risks to WVU's water supplies and initiate action for correction of potential risks to WVU's drinking water supplies.
    - 6. Periodically assess drinking water supplies based upon potential risks.
    - 7. Maintain records of drinking water quality testing, drinking water system complaint investigations, and other correspondence received or created by EHS related to drinking water systems.
  - B. Facilities Management
    - 1. Renovate, alter, and maintain drinking water systems in compliance with Code.
    - 2. Plumbing shop shall keep records of testing of backflow preventors in compliance with Morgantown Article 930, Cross-Connection Control And Backflow Prevention Rules And Regulations
    - 3. Design and Construction shall have drinking water systems in new facilities and renovated designed and installed in compliance with Code.
  - C. Others
    - 1. Install, renovate, and maintain water supply systems in compliance with Code.
    - 2. WVU contractors and others shall not connect sources of potential contamination to WVU potable water supply systems without first providing adequate backflow prevention devices.
    - 3. High hazard sources of contamination shall not be connected to WVU's potable water system. Only air gaps shall be used.

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### III. Procedures

- A. Drinking water systems and components shall be installed, renovated, maintained and operated in compliance with the following Codes as applicable:
  - 1. Current edition of the International Plumbing Code adopted by the State Fire Marshal's office.
    - a. Title 64 Legislative Rule Bureau For Public Health Series 15 Cross-Connection Control And Backflow Prevention.
    - b. Title 64 Legislative Rule Bureau For Public Health Series 25 Certification Of Backflow Prevention Assembly Testers
    - c. Morgantown Article 930, Cross-Connection Control And Backflow Prevention Rules And Regulations.
    - d. Title 64 Legislative Rule Department Of Health And Human Resources Bureau For Public Health Series 19 Water Well Regulations.
    - e. Title 64 Legislative Rule Bureau For Public Health Series 3 Public Water Systems.
- B. Complaints or concerns regarding drinking water supplies at WVU shall be investigated by EHS.
  - 1. Assessments of water supplies requiring laboratory analysis shall use US EPA Drinking Water Contaminants Maximum Contaminant Levels as the standard for WVU drinking water supplies unless another requirement or standard supersedes the US EPA standards for drinking water.
  - 2. Drinking water samples shall be collected and analyzed in compliance with WV State and US EPA guidance and requirements for drinking water supplies.
  - 3. The complainant shall be kept anonymous if requested. The complainant, Facilities Management Plumbing Department, and Building Supervisor(s) shall be apprised of findings. Findings and recommendations for corrective action shall be forwarded to the department responsible for making corrective action and the facility impacted by the corrective action as applicable.
  - 4. If it is determined that eminent danger or threat to the health of water consumers exists the water supply shall be prohibited for consumption and an alternative safe water supply be provided to facility occupants.
- C. WVU EHS Water Outage procedures (posted on the EHS web site <http://ehs.wvu.edu/procedures>) shall be followed whenever water outages occur at WVU facilities and buildings.
- D. Water outages, maintenance, water service disruptions, or other events that appear to result in significant drinking water system contamination shall be assessed by EHS for safety of the water supply.
  - 1. If the safety of the water is suspect EHS will conduct an assessment and undertake necessary sampling and testing of the water supply. If after this assessment the safety of the water supply remains uncertain the facility occupants served by this water supply shall be notified that the facility water

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supply is not to be consumed and the EHS water outage procedures shall be followed until the water is determined to be safe.

2. If a facilities water supply is visibly discolored or contaminated the facility water supply shall be flushed to clear the plumbing of visible contamination. Once cleared of visible contamination EHS shall conduct the procedure noted in D.1. above.
- E. The WVU Evansdale Water Storage Tower shall be maintained in compliance with American Water Works Association's Manual of Water Supply Practices for Steel Water-Storage Tanks.
1. EHS will periodically review the condition of this system and will provide technical assistance to Facilities Management when tank renovations or significant repairs are required.
  2. Bacteriological water samples will be collected quarterly by EHS or its environmental contractor to assure the safety and integrity of the water storage tower system.
- F. No cross-connections shall be maintained or created without providing adequate backflow prevention between the source of contamination and the potable water supply.
1. Local cross-connection ordinances shall be adhered to at WVU facilities state wide. In the absence of a local ordinance, the WVU unit or facility shall comply with Title 64 Legislative Rule Bureau For Public Health Series 15 Cross-Connection Control And Backflow Prevention.
  2. All new facilities and buildings shall have Reduced Pressure Zone Backflow Preventors installed between the building's internal potable water plumbing and the water meter or water main tap.
  3. EHS will review renovation or new construction plans for compliance with cross-connections regulations and standards.
  4. Facilities Management shall have annual backflow preventor testing and maintenance conducted on all backflow preventors located and installed to prevent contamination of public water supplies.
- G. EHS will assist WVU personnel and departments in assuring safe drinking water supplies are provided in emergency situations.
1. During emergencies EHS will work with WVU DPS, FM, Water Utilities, and Public Health Authorities in identifying alternate water supplies and in assuring that it is safe to consume.
  2. EHS will provide testing and consultation on the condition of potable water supplies to assure their safety.
- IV. Training
1. WVU personnel responsible for conducting annual testing of backflow prevention devices shall be certified by the WV Office of Environmental Health Services in compliance with Title 64 Legislative Rule Bureau For



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Public Health Series 25 Certification Of Backflow Prevention Assembly  
Testers.

- V. Program Review  
EHS will coordinate a review of the program annually or as necessary.