Guide to Drinking Water Viewer

Rhode Island Department of Health Center for Drinking Water Quality

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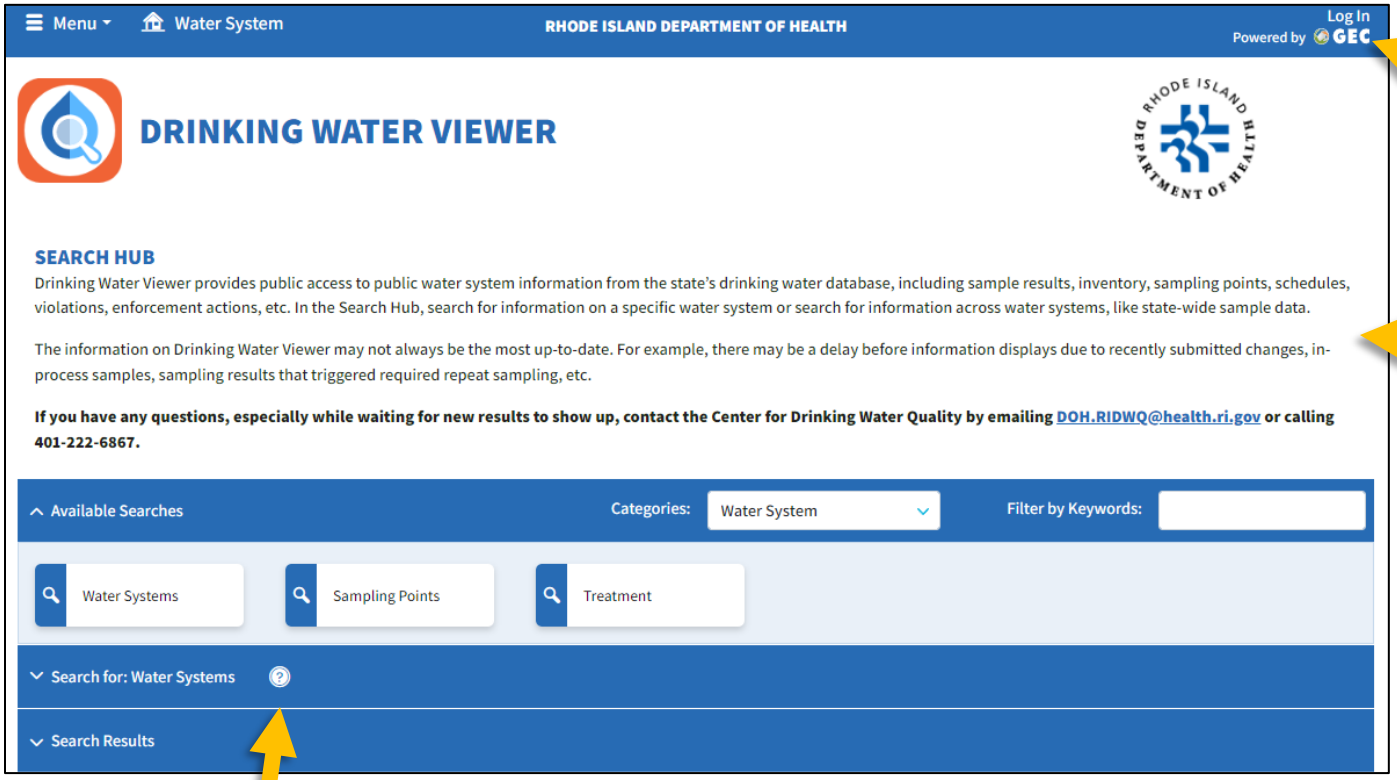
About

The Rhode Island Department of Health Center for Drinking Water Quality uses Drinking Water Viewer (previously Drinking Water Watch) to provide detailed information about public water systems (PWSs), such as analyte monitoring schedules, water sample results, and violations. Water system administrators and operators use Drinking Water Viewer to view monitoring schedules for the current year. This guide is intended to introduce new users to Drinking Water Viewer (DWV).

Drinking Water Viewer can be accessed online at health.ri.gov/waterinfo.

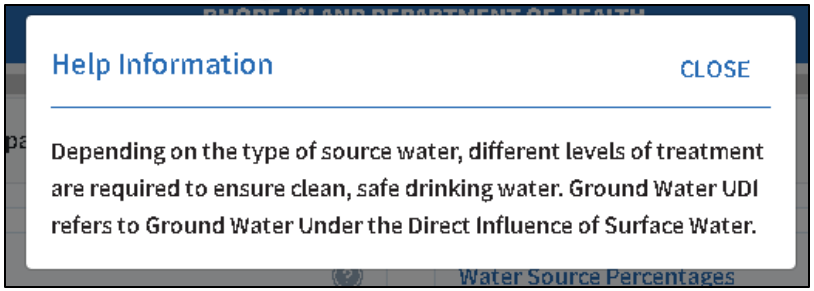
Note: Drinking Water Viewer works best with Google Chrome and Microsoft Edge. If you encounter errors even while using Google Chrome or Microsoft Edge, it may be time to delete your browser's temporary storage files. This is often referred to as *clearing the cache.* You can find instructions for how to do it here: https://clear-my-cache.com

Basic Navigation

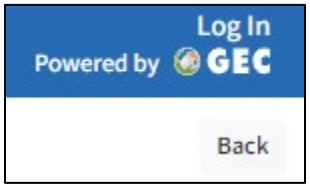


Public water system (PWS) administrators will need to log in to view some information.

Look for descriptions at the top of the page. These descriptions will provide direction or help users interpret the information displayed.



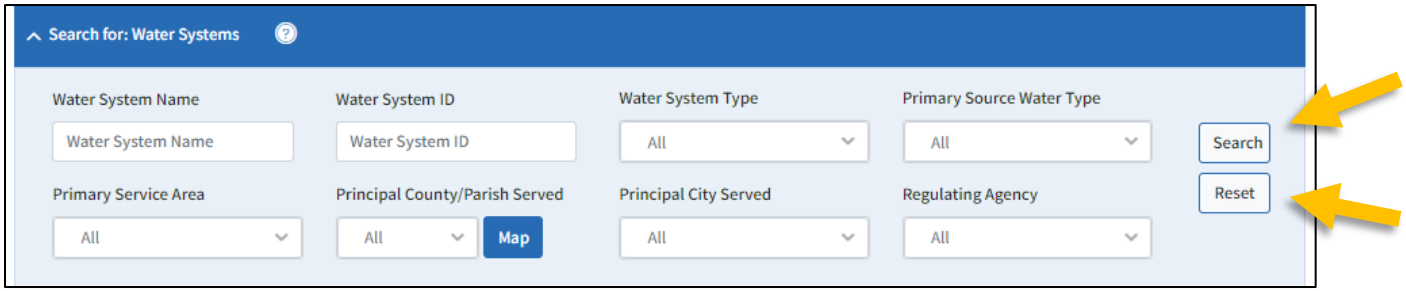
Need help? You can click the question mark icons. *Help Information* pop-up boxes with more information will appear.



Create an account. PWS administrators can create an account by following the "Log In" button in the upper righthand corner of any DWV page. Select "New User? Register" and follow the prompts.

Finding a Water System

Enter at least one search criteria into the available filters. Type at least 3 characters into any free-entry search boxes and/or select from the dropdown lists.



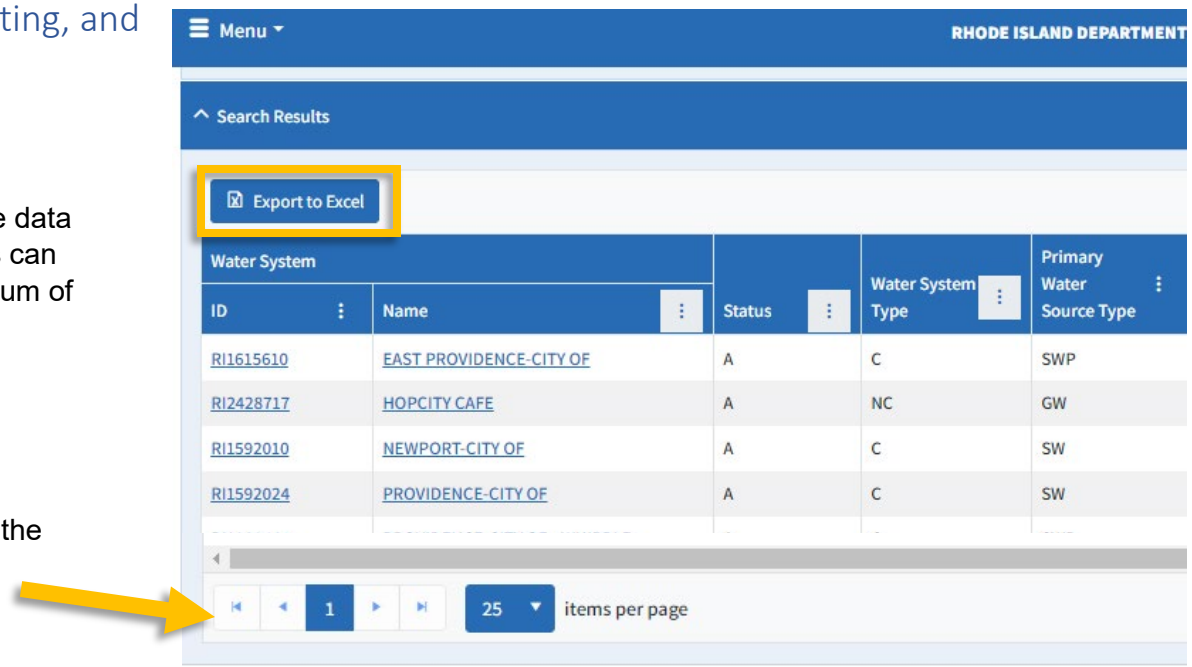
Click the “Search” button to run a search. Search results will be displayed below in a grid in the “Search Results” section.

Click the “Reset” button to clear out the search criteria and start a new search.

Search Results: Exporting, Filtering and Sorting, and Selecting a Water System

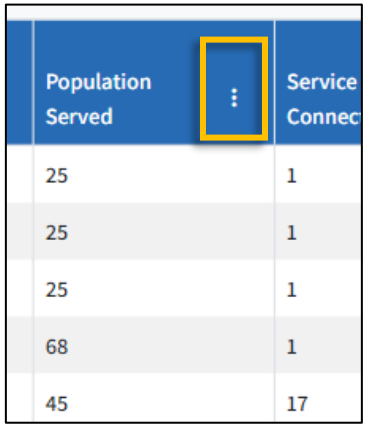
Export
Click on the “Export to Excel” button to export the data into a downloadable spreadsheet. Search results can be exported page by page to Excel with a maximum of 1000 rows displayed per page.

Note: You may need to use the page controls at the bottom of the grid to see all results.

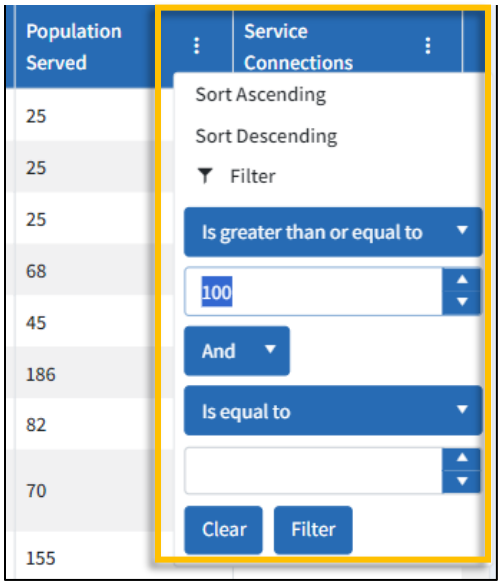


Filter or Sort

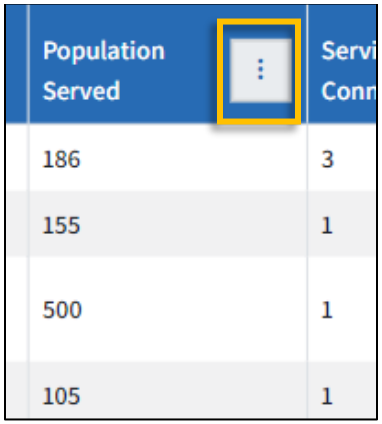
Filter or sort the table by clicking on the three dots in each column header.



Select how to sort or set your filters.

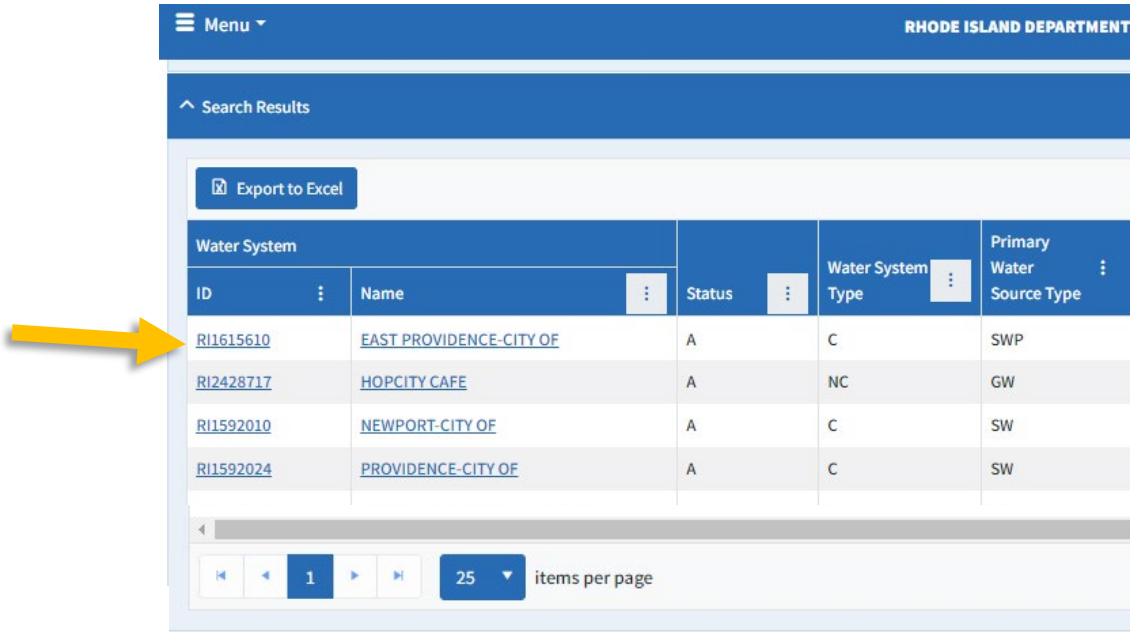


Three descending dots will appear inside a white box when filters are on.



Select a Water System

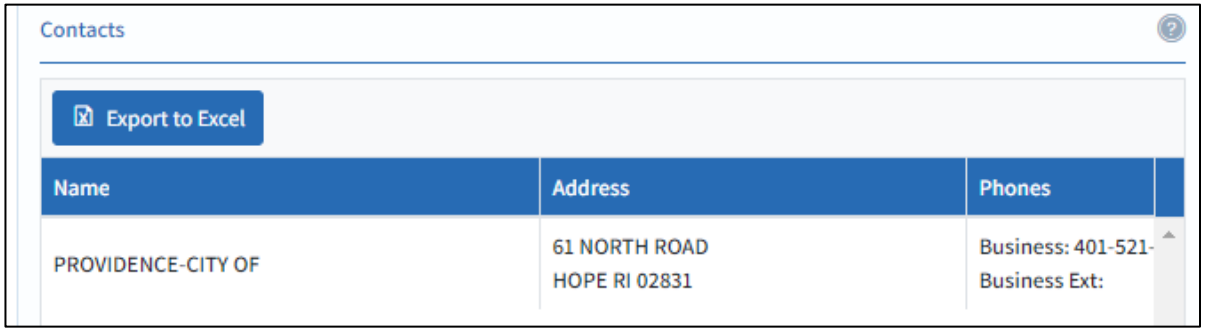
Click on the blue hyperlinks in the *Water System ID* or *Name* column to see detailed information about that public water system (PWS).



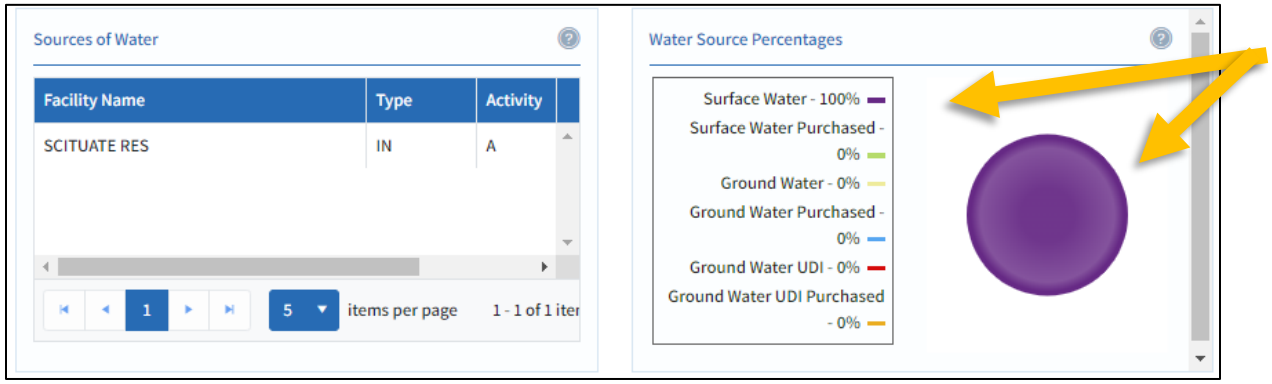
Finding a PWS's General Information

Once you select a water system, the Water System page will open. The Water System page displays information about the system.

Mailing Address and Contact Information

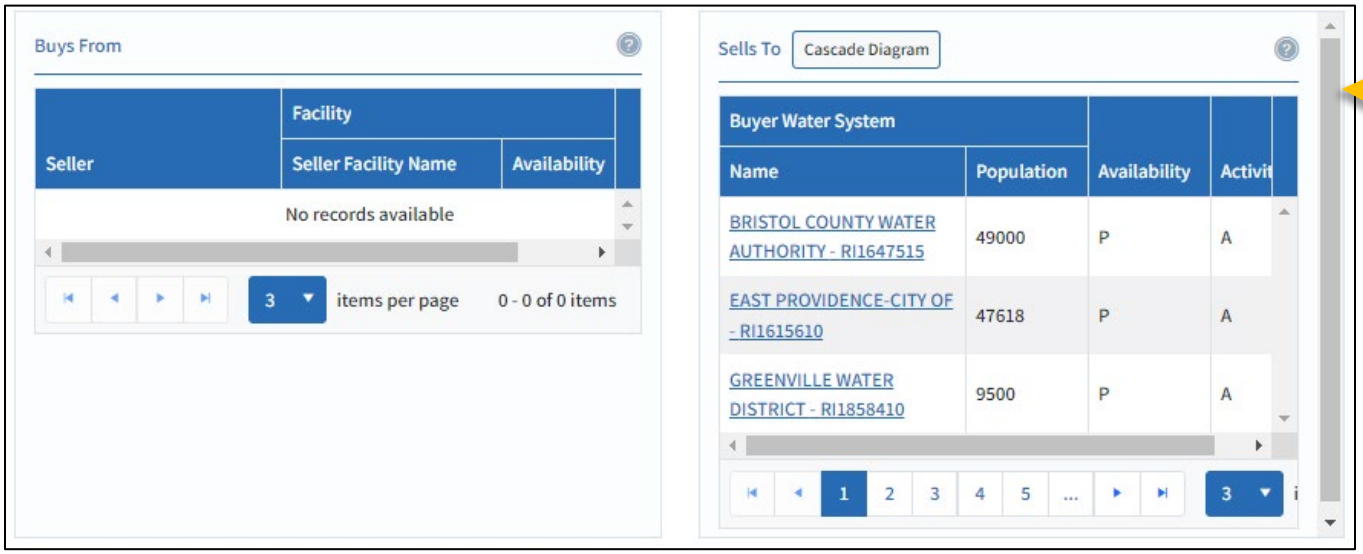


Water Sources and Percentages



See what type of water source is used and how much (percentage) of the PWS's total water it is.

Information About Connections



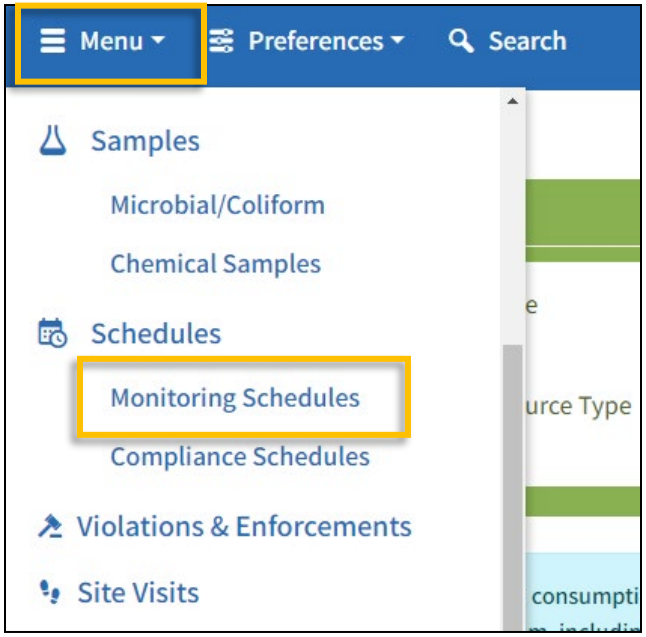
See connections to other PWSs in the sections *Buys From* and *Sells To.*

Find More Information

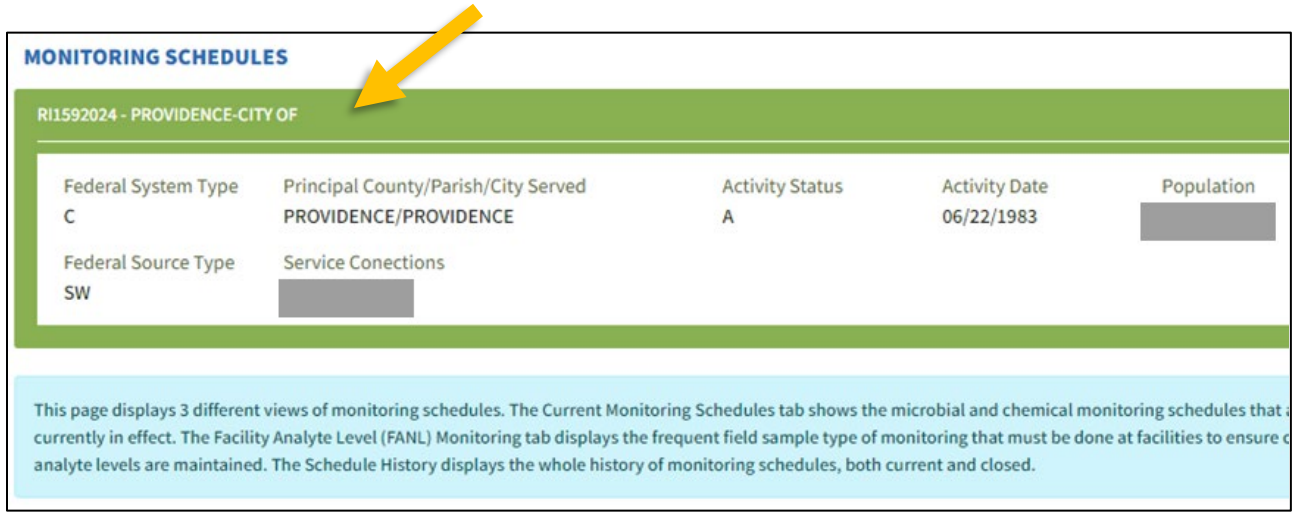
Links to pages displaying monitoring schedules, sampling points, system facilities, water sample data, violations and more can be found under *Menu* at top left of the page and will be explored in the following sections.

Finding a PWS's Monitoring Schedules

Navigate to the Water System page (use the Finding and Selecting a Water System sections above if needed). Click the *Menu* button in the upper left corner of the window. Scroll down to *Schedules*. Select *Monitoring Schedules*.



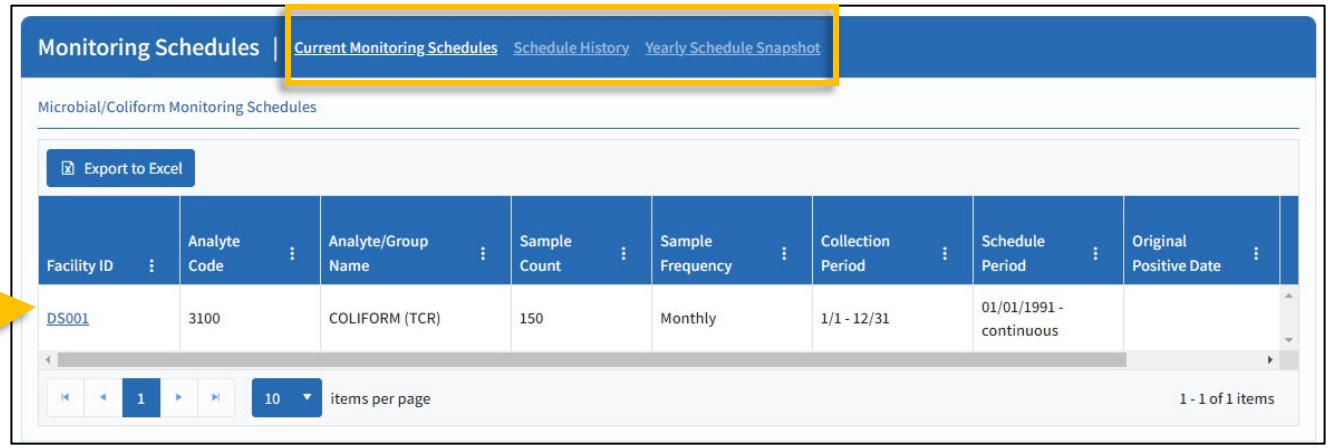
Tip: After selecting *Monitoring Schedules* from the menu, look in the green box at the top of the page to confirm the PWS.



Choose between three monitoring schedule options: current monitoring schedules, schedule history, or a yearly schedule snapshot.

PWS's sampling requirements (e.g., which type of samples must be taken, how often, how many, etc.) are displayed in tables.

Tip: Look for the *Help Information* boxes at the top of each page for codes and abbreviations.



Here are a few examples of schedules that will appear under the Current Monitoring Schedules tab.

Chemical/Other Monitoring Schedules

The Chemical/Other table shows **where** the sample must be from (Facility ID), **what** the analyte is (Analyte/Group Name), **how often** sampling occurs (Sample Frequency), and in what **time periods** the sample must be taken (Collection Period, Current Monitoring Period, Next Monitoring Period).

Click “See Details…” to open a new tab with additional information about any analyte schedule, such as past monitoring periods indicated by “Monitoring Completed” in the Current Monitoring Period column.

Chemical/Other Monitoring Schedules

Export to Excel

Facility ID	Analyte Code	Analyte/Group Name	Sample Type	Sample Count	Sample Frequency	Collection Period	Current Monitoring Period	Next Monitoring Period	Schedule Details
DS001	1094	ASBESTOS	RT	1	Every 9 Years		Monitoring Completed	01/01/2029 - 12/31/2029	See Details...
DS001	CDBP	CDS FOR DBP	RT	12	Quarterly	2/1 - 2/28	Monitoring Completed	08/01/2024 - 08/31/2024	See Details...
DS001	CL90	CDS FOR LEAD COPPER	RT	300	Every 6 Months		Monitoring Partially Completed	07/01/2024 - 12/31/2024	See Details...
DS001	CWQP	CDS WQP TESTING ONGN	RT	50	Every 6 Months		01/01/2024 - 06/30/2024	07/01/2024 - 12/31/2024	See Details...

This example is for the Analyte/Group called “SOC” (Synthetic Organic Contaminants). The Schedule Detail table shows the list of all analytes in the group as well as the collection period, number of samples required, and most recent sample date.

Schedule Information

Analyte/Group	Sampling Frequency	Facility	Collection Period
CSOC - CDS FOR SOC	2 RT - EVERY 3 YEARS	IN001 - SCITUATE RES	1/1 - 3/31

Schedule Detail

Export to Excel

Analyte Code	Analyte Name	Sampling Frequency	Collection Period	Schedule Begin Date	Samples Required	Samples Received	Last Sample Date
2005	ENDRIN	Every 3 Years	1/1 - 3/31	01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020	2	2	07/28/2020
2010	BHC-GAMMA	Every 3 Years	1/1 - 3/31	01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020	2	2	07/28/2020

Coliform

Coliform tables show **where** the samples must be collected (Facility ID), in what **time period** (Collection Period), for **how long** (Schedule Period), and **how often** (Sample Frequency).

In this example, the samples must come from the distribution system (Facility ID: DS001); this sampling schedule has no end date (Schedule Period: “continuous”); sampling is done all year long (Sample Frequency); and 150 routine samples must be taken per month (Sample Count).

Microbial/Coliform Monitoring Schedules

Export to Excel

Facility ID	Analyte Code	Analyte/Group Name	Sample Count	Sample Frequency	Collection Period	Schedule Period	Collection Date	Sample ID
DS001	3100	COLIFORM (TCR)	150	Monthly	1/1 - 12/31	01/01/1991 - continuous		

1 | 10 items per page 1 - 1 of 1 items

The *Schedule History* tab displays the entire history of monitoring schedules, both current and closed. The *Yearly Schedule Snapshot* tab displays a visual representation of monitoring throughout the year. It can be exported as PDF.

Monitoring Schedules | Current Monitoring Schedules Schedule History Yearly Schedule Snapshot

Export to PDF

Monitoring Schedules for 2024 Calendar Year 2024 Group By: Facility Analyte

	1st Quarter			2nd Quarter			3rd Quarter			4th Quarter		
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM - DS001												
COLIFORM (TCR) (3100)	50 / MN											
CDS FOR DBP (CDBP)		4 / QT			4 / QT			4 / QT			4 / QT	
CDS FOR LEAD COPPER (CL90)						30 / YR						

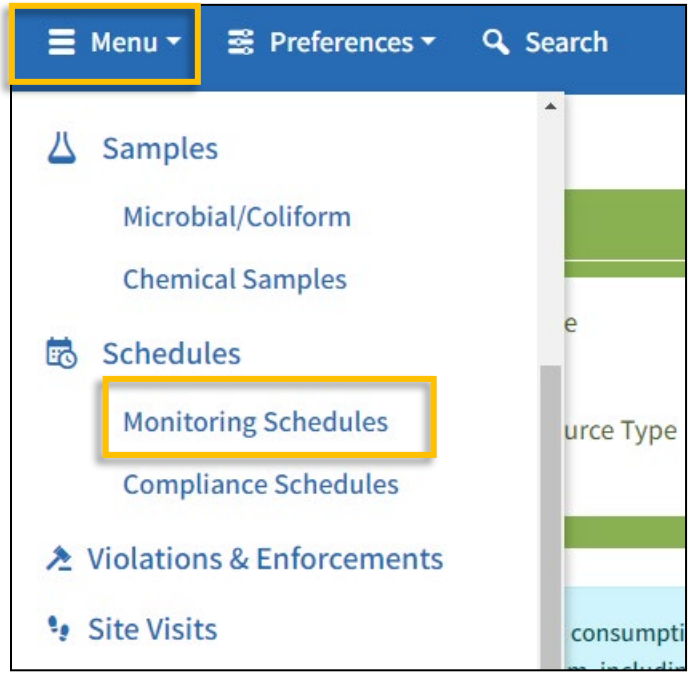
Note: The monitoring schedules posted on Drinking Water Viewer show required monitoring for the previous 90 days and the next 12 months. These schedules often update immediately after sample results are entered into the database. Any specific instructions for immediate or additional sampling given by RIDOH staff should be followed in addition to the sampling schedules in Drinking Water Viewer. When in doubt or if you have

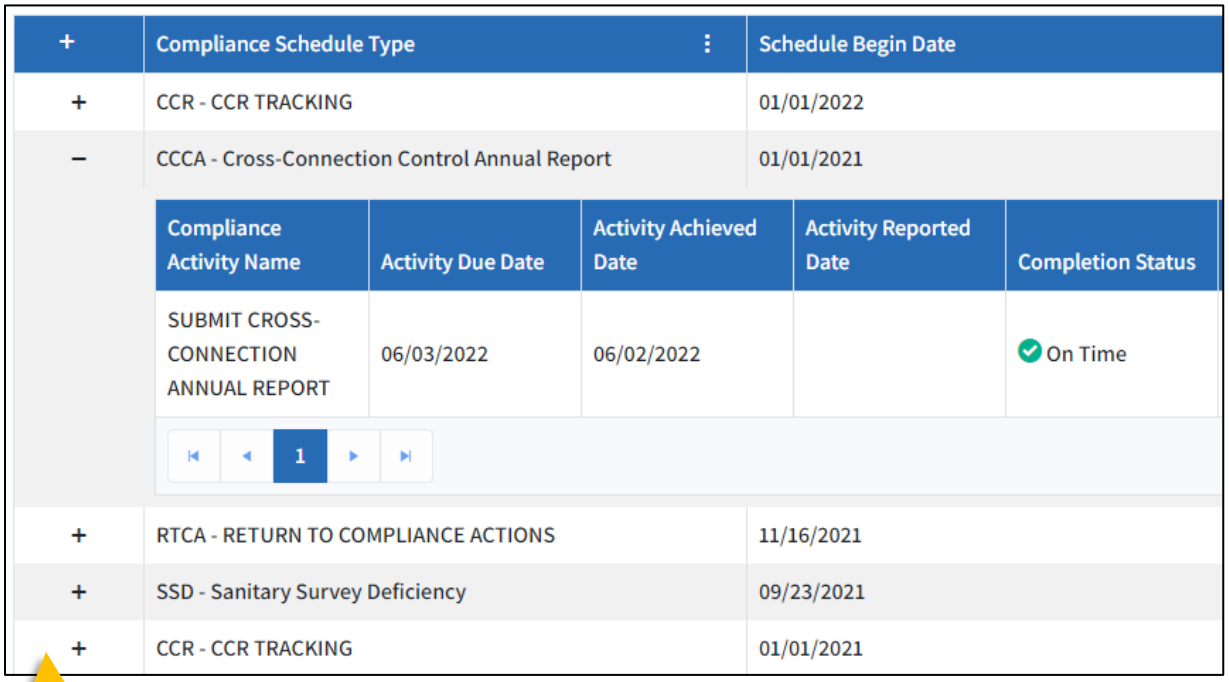
questions about the monitoring schedules, contact the Center for Drinking Water Quality by emailing DOH.RIDWQ@health.ri.gov or calling 401-222-6867.

Finding a PWS's Compliance Activities Schedules

Navigate to the Water System page (use the Finding and Selecting a Water System sections above if needed). Click the *Menu* button in the upper left corner of the window. Scroll down to *Schedules*. Select *Compliance Schedules*.

The Compliance Schedules page displays scheduled activities that must be completed to remain in compliance with drinking water regulations. Examples of scheduled activities include performing assessments, correcting sanitary deficiencies, and public notification.





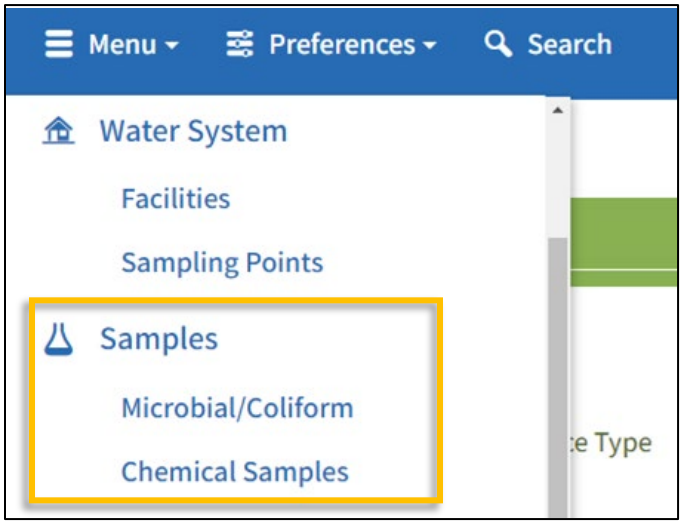
Open a Schedule: Click the "+" to the left of the *Compliance Schedule Type* column.

Click the "–" to collapse the information.

Finding a PWS's Sample Results

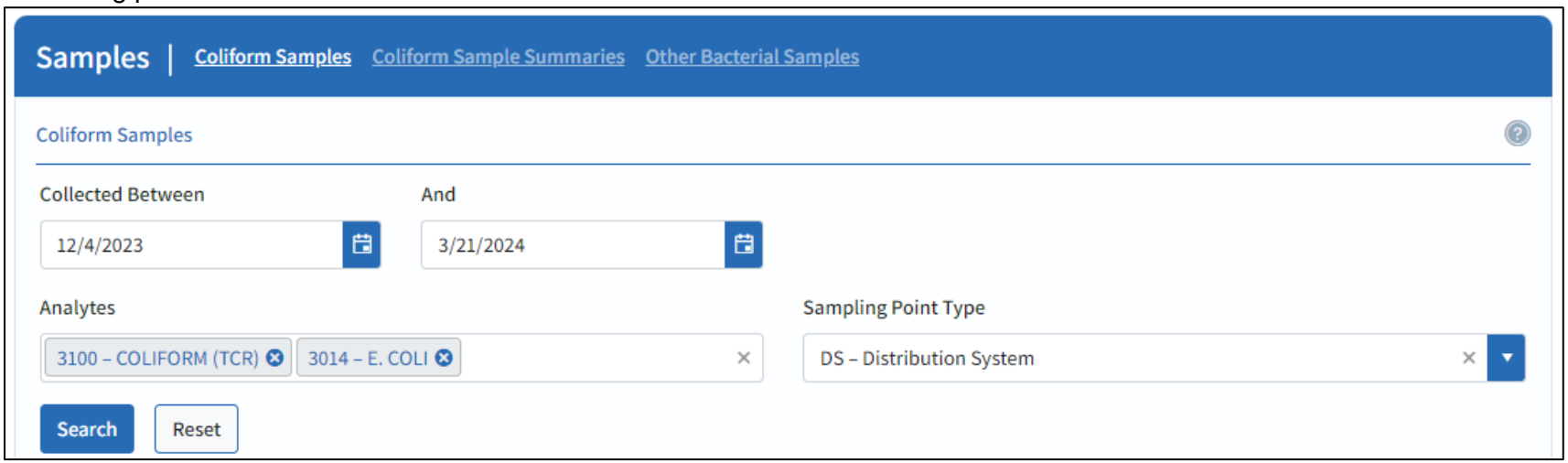
Go to the Water System page (use the Finding and Selecting a Water System sections of this document if needed). Click the *Menu* button in the upper left corner of the window. Look for the section named Samples.

Select the type of water sample that you want to review from the two options.



Microbial/Coliform Samples

On the Coliform Samples page, you will need to select an analyte and sampling point type from the lists and narrow to the desired monitoring period dates. If the monitoring period that you chose returns too many results, a **warning message** will pop up that prompts you to reduce the monitoring period.

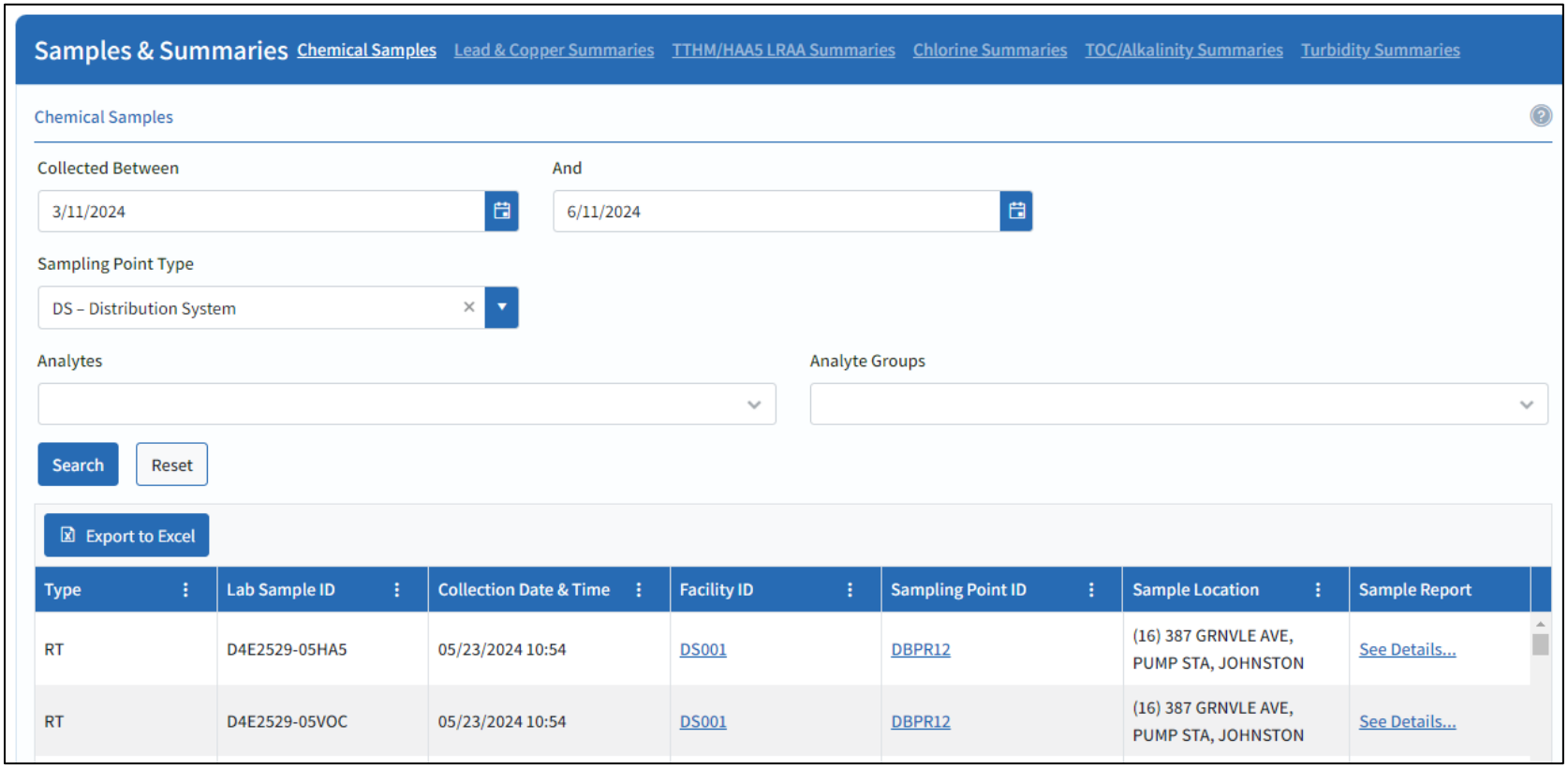


Coliform Sample Summaries and Other Bacterial Samples

Some PWS will have data in the tables under the Coliform Sample Summaries and Other Bacterial Samples tabs. These tabs will show historical data that was collected before the implementation of the EPA Compliance Monitoring Data Portal for electronic data submission.

Chemical Samples

On the Chemical Samples page, select a sampling point type from the list or select an analyte or analyte group. Narrow to the desired monitoring period dates.



If the monitoring period that you chose returns too many results, a **warning message** will pop up that prompts you to reduce the monitoring period.

The Lead & Copper Summaries tables show the beginning and end date of the monitoring period first, followed by the columns below.

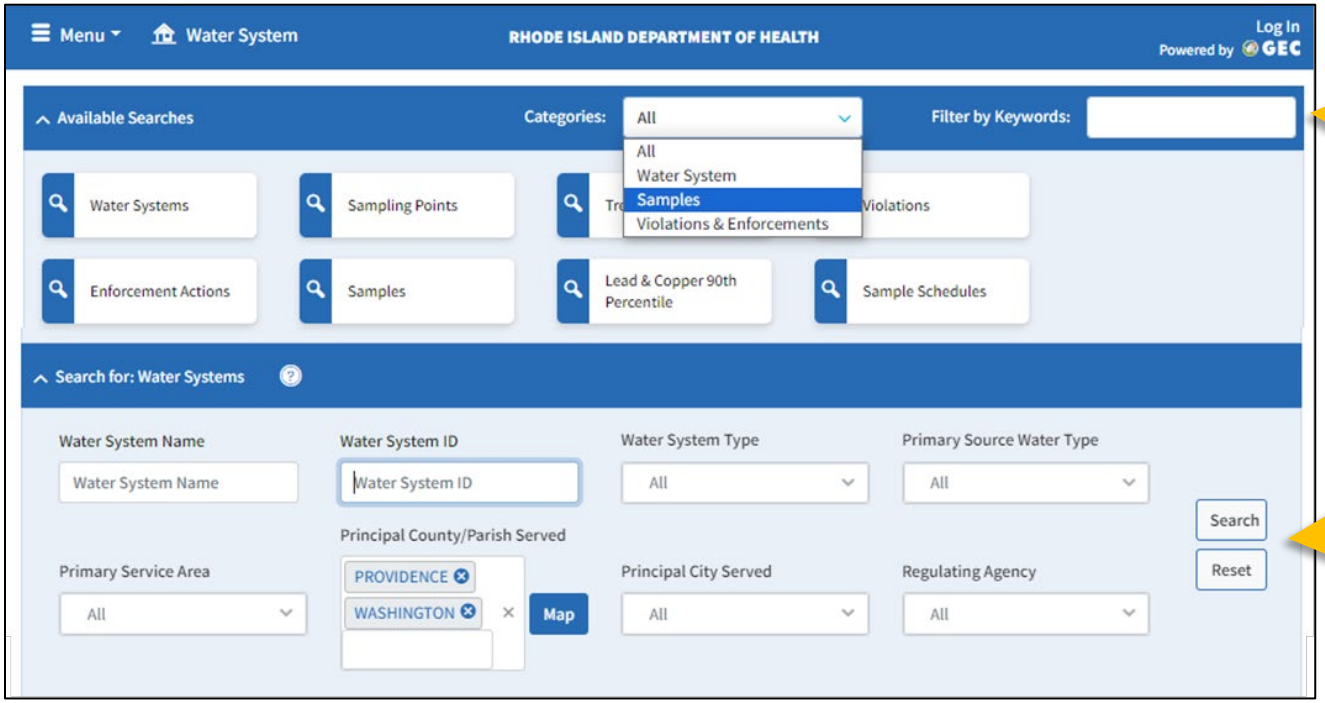
Export to Excel

	Site	Lead Summary			Copper Summary				
End Date	Facility ID	# of Samples	# of Samples Above Action Level	90th Percentile	# of Samples	# of Samples Above Action Level	90th Percentile	Last Sample Date	Lab Id
06/30/2024	DS001	55	0	0.0032 MG/L	52	0	0.0214 MG/L	02/27/2024	346
12/31/2023	DS001	307	4	0.0022 MG/L	301	0	0.0182 MG/L	12/28/2023	346

Other Search Options – Samples, Treatment, Violations, etc.

There are several available searches that will gather information from water systems across the state. When looking for data from a specific PWS, such as analyte results, the simplest approach is to use the search option to navigate to the Water System page and explore from there (see Finding a Water System above).

To use these searches, select a category from the dropdown menu in the *Available Searches* bar. You can select: Water System, Samples, or Violations & Enforcement.

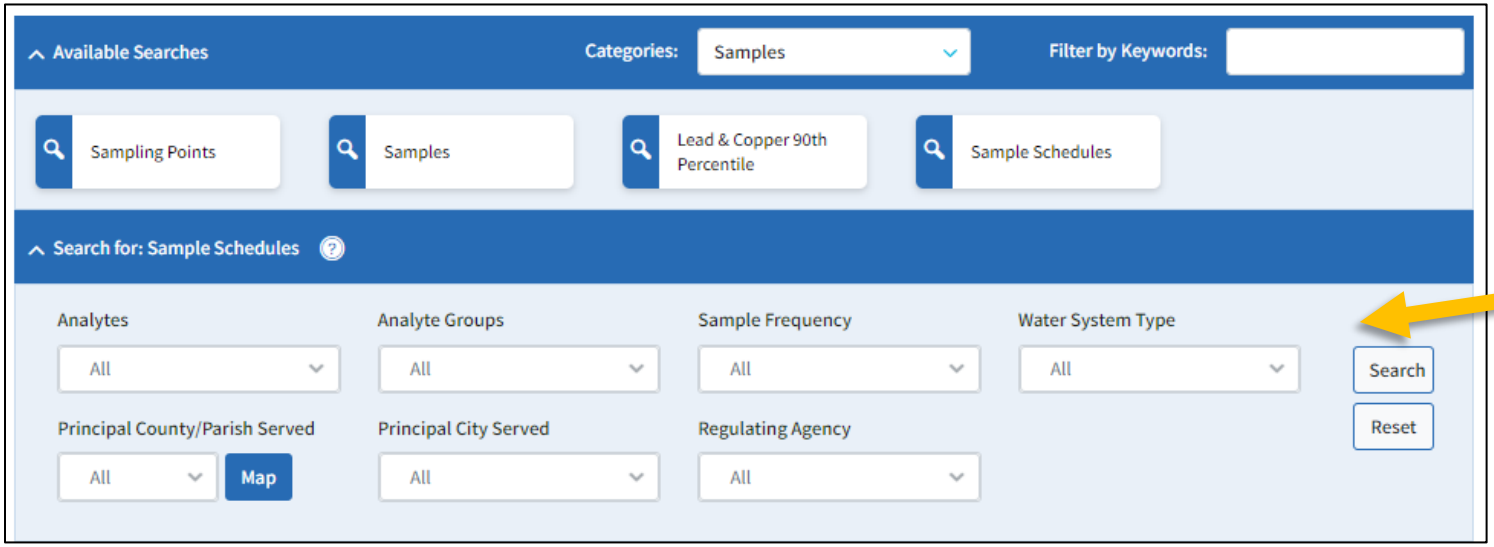


Filter by typing in a keyword.

Select “Search” when all criteria have been entered.

Select “Reset” to start over.

Explore different uses for category searches.



For example, if the category “Samples” and subcategory “Sample Schedules” is selected, the available dropdowns will change to only show criteria for retrieval of sample schedule data.

The information on Drinking Water Viewer may not always be the most up-to-date. For example, there may be a delay before information displays due to: recently submitted changes, in-process samples, sampling results that triggered required repeat sampling, etc. **If you have any questions, especially while waiting for new results to show up, contact the Center for Drinking Water Quality by emailing DOH.RIDWQ@health.ri.gov or calling 401-222-6867.**