

# How to Use Drinking Water Watch

## ABOUT

The Rhode Island Department of Health, Center for Drinking Water Quality uses Drinking Water Watch to provide detailed information about Public Water Systems (PWS), such as monitoring schedules, sample results, and violations. It's also the method for water system administrators and operators to view their monitoring schedules for the current year.

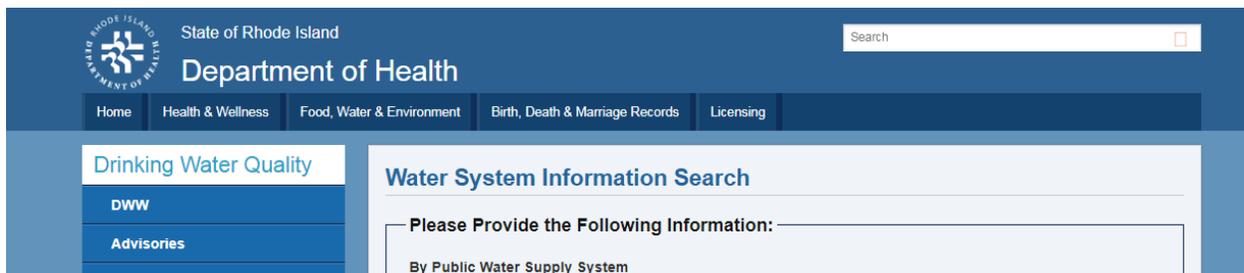
This guide will walk through some of the most common functions of the site.

## TOPICS

- 1 | FINDING A PWS's BASIC INFORMATION
- 2 | FINDING A PWS's MONITORING SCHEDULE
- 3 | FINDING A PWS's SAMPLE RESULTS
- 4 | SEARCHING ALL PWS FOR CERTAIN CRITERIA

## INSTRUCTIONS

Drinking Water Watch can be accessed online at: <http://health.ri.gov/waterinfo>



*The Drinking Water Watch Home Screen*

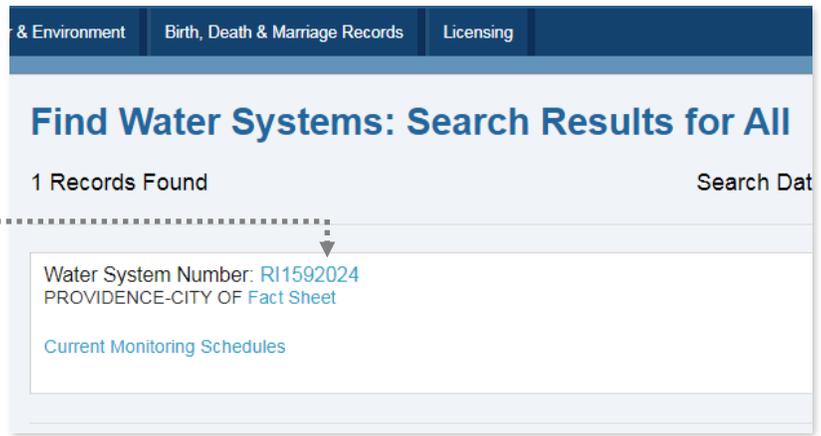
### 1 | FINDING A PWS's BASIC INFORMATION

In the Search bars, type in the first few letters of the Public Water System name or PWS ID number, then press 'Enter' or click the 'Find Water Systems' button at the bottom of the page.

**NOTE:** If you don't know either of these, Section 4 shows you how to find water systems by criteria.

A close-up view of the 'Water System Information Search' form. The form has a title 'Water System Information Search' and a heading 'Please Provide the Following Information:'. Below this, there is a dropdown menu labeled 'By Public Water Supply System'. The form contains several input fields: 'Water System Name:' with a text box, 'Principal County Served:' with a dropdown menu showing 'All', 'Water System Number:' with a text box, and 'Water System Type:' with a dropdown menu. Dotted arrows point from the text in the previous block to the 'Water System Name' and 'Water System Number' fields.

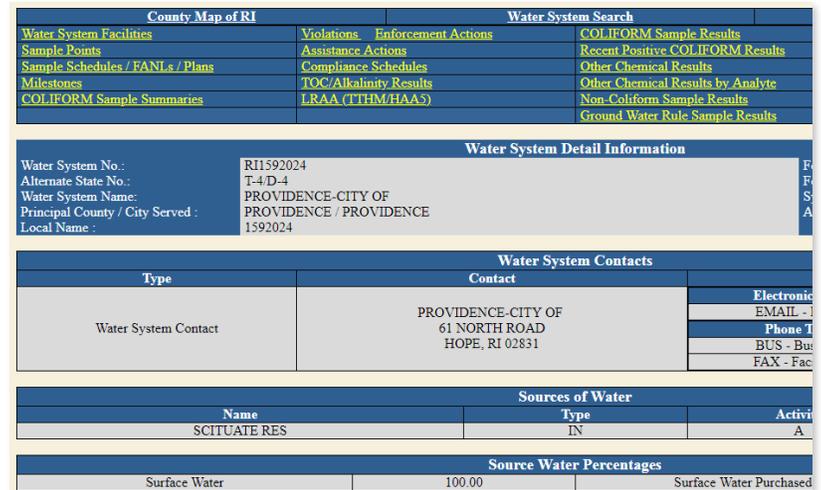
Find the PWS you're looking for in the list of results. To get to their PWS Home Screen, click on the Water System Number.



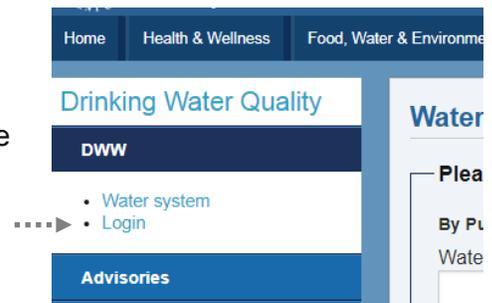
The PWS Home Screen displays a lot of information about the system, such as:

- ▶ Mailing address
- ▶ Contact information
- ▶ What type of water source is used (groundwater/wells, surface water)
- ▶ Any connections to other PWS

Other information, such as violations, sampling points, or system facilities can be found in some of the yellow links at the top of the page.

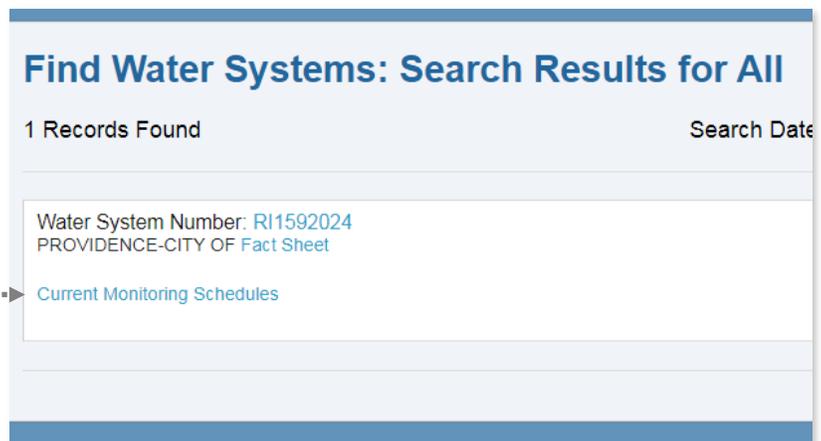


**NOTE:** There is some information that doesn't appear for the public, such as the Sanitary Survey information. If you are a PWS administrator and need to access this, you'll need a username and password issued by DWQ. On the Drinking Water Watch homepage, click on 'DWW' in the sidebar, then 'Login' to reach the PWS login screen.



## 2 | FINDING A PWS'S MONITORING SCHEDULE

Repeat the first steps of this guide to bring up the PWS you're looking for. This time, instead of the ID number, click on the 'Current Monitoring Schedules' link below the system name.



In the 'Monitoring Schedule' page, there will be tables outlining the PWS's sampling requirements (ex. which type of samples must be taken, how often, how many, etc.). The code explanations are listed on top of each table.

Here are a few schedule examples.

Sample Types  
RT - Routine SP - Special TG - Triggered RP - Repeat CO - Confirmation TR - Temporary

Disclaimer:  
This schedule represents required monitoring for the next 12 months. It may be updated after sample results are entered into the database.

Coliform Sample Schedules	
Name	Begin/End Date
DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM - DS001	01-01-1991 - Continuous

SAMPLER'S NOTES

RP Coliform Schedules From  To

Repeat Coliform Sample Schedules		
Begin Date	End Date	Requirements
09-19-2018	09-24-2018	3 RP/DL
07-12-2018	07-17-2018	3 RP/DL
03-07-2018	03-12-2018	3 RP/DL
02-28-2018	03-05-2018	3 RP/DL

DL- Daily MN- Monthly QT- Quarterly 6M-Six Months YR- Annual 3Y-Three Years 6Y-Six Years 9Y-Nine Years DBP-Disinfection By Product SOC-Semivolatile Organic Compounds IOC-Inorganic Compounds

Chemical Sample Schedules						
Facility	Begin Date End Date	Required Qtr.	Recommended Qtr.	Required Frequency	Required Period	Analyte G
DS001	01-01-2017 Continuous	2/1		12 RT/QT		CDBP - CDS FOR DBP

## COLIFORM

Coliform Sample Schedules			
Name	Begin/End Date	Seasonal Period	Requirements
DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM - DS001	01-01-1991 - Continuous	1/1 - 12/31	150 RT/MN

Coliform tables show **where** the samples must be from, for **how long**, in what **time period**, and **how often**.

In this example: the samples must come from the distribution system, this sampling schedule has no end date ('Continuous'), sampling is done all year long, and 150 routine samples must be taken per month.

## OTHER

Chemical Sample Schedules							
Facility	Begin Date End Date	Required Qtr.	Recommended Qtr.	Required Frequency	Required Period	Analyte Group	Comments
DS001	01-01-2007 Continuous			100 RT/6M		CL90 - CDS FOR LEAD COPPER	

Tables for other sample types have a few more fields:

- ▶ **Facility** - Where the samples must be taken from
- ▶ **Begin/End date** - How long the schedule is in effect
- ▶ **Required and Recommended quarter** - The sampling timeframe for anything quarterly
- ▶ **Required frequency** - How many samples must be taken in what span of time
- ▶ **Required period** - The sampling timeframe for anything *not* quarterly (yearly, biannually, etc.)
- ▶ **Analyte group** - Which contaminant the samples are testing for

In this example: the schedule is for Lead and Copper samples, they must come from the distribution system, this sampling schedule has no end date, and 100 routine samples must be taken every six months.

DS001	01-01-2017 Continuous	2/1 2/28		12 RT/QT		CDBP - CDS FOR DBP	Sample Month 2 (February, May, August, November) Week 3
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Sometimes there may be **comments** with more instructions for that schedule.

In this example, twelve quarterly samples must be taken for DBPs (disinfection byproducts). The comments narrow this down to taking them specifically in the third week of the second month of each quarter.

**NOTE:** The monitoring schedules posted on Drinking Water Watch are not always the most up-to-date and are *overruled by Drinking Water Quality staff for that program*. If DWQ staff gave specific instructions to change the sampling, follow their directions. When in doubt, contact DWQ.

### 3 | FINDING A PWS's SAMPLE RESULTS

Repeat the first steps of this guide to go to the PWS Home Screen of the system you're looking for.

At the top of the page, there will be a list of yellow links. Click on the link that matches the information you're looking for.

For example, Total Coliform samples can be found in the link labeled 'COLIFORM Sample Results' in the third column.

Water System Search			
<a href="#">Violations</a>	<a href="#">Enforcement Actions</a>	<a href="#">COLIFORM Sample Results</a>	<a href="#">Lead &amp; Chlorine</a>
<a href="#">Assistance Actions</a>		<a href="#">Recent Positive COLIFORM Results</a>	<a href="#">Chlorine</a>
<a href="#">Compliance Schedules</a>		<a href="#">Other Chemical Results</a>	<a href="#">Turbidity</a>
<a href="#">TOC/Alkalinity Results</a>		<a href="#">Other Chemical Results by Analyte</a>	
<a href="#">LRAA (TTHM/HAA5)</a>		<a href="#">Non-Coliform Sample Results</a>	
		<a href="#">Ground Water Rule Sample Results</a>	<a href="#">Long Term</a>

Water System Detail Information	
92024 D-4 PROVIDENCE-CITY OF PROVIDENCE / PROVIDENCE 92024	Federal Type: Federal Source: System Status : Activity Date :

Water System Contacts	
Contact	Comm
PROVIDENCE-CITY OF 61 NORTH ROAD HOPE, RI 02831	<a href="#">Electronic Type</a> <a href="#">EMAIL - Email</a> <a href="#">Phone Type</a> BUS - Business

### 4 | SEARCHING ALL PWS FOR CERTAIN CRITERIA

Drinking Water Watch can be used to perform two types of searches: PWS information and sample data. The first part of this guide showed how to find a *specific* PWS. Here are two more examples of search types.

#### PWS

Use the first five lines on the page to narrow down the type of PWS you're looking for. Leave any fields you don't need blank. The results will match *all* the criteria used.

For example, the search on the right would show all PWS that are Community water systems **and** in Newport county **and** use surface water.

Principal County Served: NEWPORT	3 Records Found
Water System Number: 	
Water System Type: Community	
Primary Source Water Type: SurfaceWater	

Water System Number: <a href="#">RI1858419</a> JAMESTOWN WATER DEPARTMENT <a href="#">Fact Sheet</a>
<a href="#">Current Monitoring Schedules</a>
Water System Number: <a href="#">RI1592010</a> NEWPORT-CITY OF <a href="#">Fact Sheet</a>
<a href="#">Current Monitoring Schedules</a>

#### SAMPLE DATA

Use the fields under 'By Water Sample' to look for sample data by criteria such as: type of sample, analyte, date range, etc. Click 'Find Samples' when done.

For example, the search on the right would show all **routine** coliform samples that were **positive**.

**NOTE:** The PWS criteria fields also work with sample data searches, ex. 'Coliform in Kent County *only*'

Sample Class: Coliform Samples [Detection Only]	Find Coliform Samples: Search Re
State Classification Code: All	
Analyte Code: All	
Sample Type: Routine	

24 Records Found			
Water System No.	Water System Name	Type	Lab Sample No.
RI1000025	CREST MFG CO	RT	9B06016-01
RI1647511	QUONOCONTAUG EAST BEACH WATER ASSOCIATI	RT	1901-01683-001
RI2980039	ALBACO,L.L.C. (A.K.A. SHORELINE PLAZA)	RT	1900941-01_SM5

#### NOTES

The information on Drinking Water Watch may not always be the most up-to-date, for example: recent changes submitted, in-process samples, sampling results that triggered repeats, etc.

**Contact the Center for Drinking Water Quality at (401) 222-6867 for information.**