

Doney Park Water operates under ADEQ (*Arizona Department of Environmental Quality*) and EPA (*Environmental Protection Agency*) regulation.

Monitoring and analytical requirements for coliform sampling and testing in the Doney Park Water System is governed by 40 CFR 141 Subpart Q in the Code of Federal Regulations. DPW collects 10 Total coliform (water) samples each month at designated sample points throughout the system. There is a total of 20 sample points in the water system which are alternated every month for testing. All samples are taken to a local, state certified laboratory for analysis. The laboratory uses the multiple – tube fermentation technique to analyze the sample for either the presence or absence of total coliform. If a sample is found with the presence of total coliform, it is then tested for the presence or absence of e-coli. This test for total coliform and E.coli is a 24 hour test. Results are usually reported to DPW 24 hours after the test is started. Results received with either total coliform or E.coli positives trigger a repeat sample of the original sample point and an upstream and downstream sample (*within 5 service connections upstream and downstream from the original sample point that tested positive*). If the repeat samples results are all absent of total coliform and e-coli, no further action is required. Various combinations of positive routine and repeat samples trigger different tiers of notification.

Public notification of drinking water violations are governed by the Code of Federal Regulations 40CFR 141 Subpart Q. Tier 1 public notice is required for drinking water regulation violations and situations with significant potential to have serious adverse effects on human health. This is what most call a boil water alert. ADEQ (Arizona Department of Environmental Quality) can at their discretion require a water system with a Tier 1 public notice situation to only distribute the notice to the portion of the system that was effected if the portion of the system that was effected if the portion of the system is hydraulically isolated from other parts of the system.

Tier 2 public notice is required for situations with the potential to have serious adverse effects on human health.

What the difference between total coliform and e-coli?

Total Coliform bacteria are commonly found in the environment (for example: soil or plants) and are generally harmless.

Escherichia coli (e-coli) is a sub-group of the fecal coliform group. These kinds of bacteria are found in great quantities in the intestines of people and warm blooded animals. Some strains, however can cause illness.

Where to visit for further information:

Code of Federal Regulations: www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/ECFR?page=browse

Arizona Administrative Code: www.azsos.gov/rules/arizona-administrative-code

ADEQ: www.azdeq.gov/programs/water-quality-division

EPA: www.epa.gov/science-and-technology/water-science