



State of Louisiana
Louisiana Department of Health
Office of Public Health

July 18, 2016

Dear Public Water System Administrator:

As you may be aware, Act 605 of the 2016 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature was enacted authorizing an increase in the Safe Drinking Water fee beginning on January 1, 2017. The current fee will be increased from \$3.20 per connection per year for community water systems to \$12.00 per connection per year minus five percent per connection to be retained by the water system. There were no changes made to the annual flat rate of \$100 for non-community water systems.

In addition to the increase in the fee for community water systems, the Act included changes to the billing and remittance of the fee to the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH). Beginning January 1, 2017, the fee shall be collected from each consumer by the community water system in quarterly installments and remitted to the LDH in quarterly payments minus five percent per connection to be retained by the water system. Therefore, during the period of July 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016, the current fee of \$3.20 per connection per year will be assessed for a six month period. Then, beginning January 1, 2017, LDH will begin sending quarterly invoices to water systems with the new fee in place.

With the increase of the SDW fee, additional services will be provided to water systems at no additional costs. Beginning January 1, 2017, the Safe Drinking Water Program will reinstate the bacteriological sample collection program for all public water systems statewide. Additionally, the Safe Drinking Water Program will begin to collect and analyze the total trihalomethane (TTHMs) and haloacetic acids (HAA5) samples for water systems statewide.

As LDH moves closer towards implementing the sample collection, additional information will be sent out. Should you have any questions, please free to contact the Safe Drinking Water Program at 225-342-7499.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amanda Laughlin".

Amanda Laughlin, P.E.
Chief Engineer