



## **INTERIM GUIDANCE FOR COMMUNITY FLUORIDATION**

### **PURPOSE:**

On January 7, 2011 the federal Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released a joint statement announcing a new scientific assessment and actions on fluoride.

In this statement HHS' proposed recommendation of 0.7 mg/l liter of water replaces the current recommended range of 0.7 to 1.2 mg/l. This updated recommendation is based on recent EPA and HHS scientific assessments to balance the benefits of preventing tooth decay while limiting any unwanted health effects.

This guidance document is to assist those water systems that choose to adopt the new federal recommendation before the State of Maine Rules Relating Fluoridation of Public Water Systems can be formally revised. This document does not apply to systems that continue to add fluoride at the existing level of 1.2 mg/l.

### **SCOPE:**

This guidance applies to the all public water systems that adjust water fluoride levels for dental health benefit and have adopted the new recommended level of 0.7 mg/l.

**ORIGINATOR/OWNER: Roger Crouse**

### **POLICY & PROCEDURE:**

1. The Rules Relating to the Fluoridation of Public Water Systems will remain in effect except for the provisions described below. A link to the current rules can found in the "Associated Documents" section of this policy.
  - a. Water systems are expected to operate within an "Optimum Range" of 0.5 mg/l to 1.0 mg/l. (See Section 5 Fluoride Control Levels).
  - b. If either the daily analytical measurements or the daily theoretical calculations are below the Optimum Range (0.5 – 1.0 mg/l) for more than 10 days during the month, then the public water system shall collect a minimum of four monthly compliance samples the following month for analysis at a certified laboratory. The four samples shall be collected in four different weeks. (See Section 7.1.C)
  - c. If the monthly compliance sample is below the Optimum Range (0.5 – 1.0mg.l), the public water system shall collect a minimum of four monthly compliance samples the following

month for analysis at a laboratory certified to analyze fluoride. The four samples shall be collected in four different weeks. (See Section 7. 2. B.)

2. This guidance document will remain in effect until the Rules Relating to Fluoridation of Public Water Systems have been revised and adopted.

**ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS:**

1. State of Maine Rules Relating to the Fluoridation of Public Water Systems 10-144 Chapter 228  
[http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/eng/water/rules\\_policies/Fluoride/fluoride.htm](http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/eng/water/rules_policies/Fluoride/fluoride.htm)

**SUPERCEDED DOCUMENTS: N/A**

**RETENTION:**

1. This document is retained per the DWP Documentation Control Procedure.

**REVISION LOG**

Section	Page	Rev.	Date	Description Of Change	Approved by:
		Original	1/10/2011		Roger Crouse