MI Water Sector COVID-19 Response Webinar Chat 3.25.2020

09:07:35 From Allison Wood: Poll Question: "What are your contingency plans should you encounter a staffing issue" Type other answers here....


09:09:27 From ttyson: We have a contract with outside vendor.

09:09:54 From Brian Thurston: EGLE staff are working remotely throughout the State and we will adjust as needed to provide support to the Community Water Supplies across the State.

09:17:48 From Allison Wood: If you selected "Other" in the poll question, type that answer here....

09:19:32 From Butch Adkins: i am the only employee

09:20:21 From Brian Thurston: Tim, EGLE has information on our Community Water Supply webpage to provide guidance on monitoring and we are updating frequently.

09:21:32 From Amy Vail: https://www.michigan.gov/egle/0,9429,7-135-3313_3675_3691-522296--,00.html is the link to COVID-19 specific info

09:22:28 From Kent: Operators suggested minimum crew (skeleton crew) for operations and maintenance only to come in and work on only essential needs then go home. Management claimed operators were trying to take advantage of the situation and were not taking it serious enough. All other operators on call at home.

09:26:29 From Amy Vail to All panelists: Sherrie-How are you guys addressing bacti samples from outside customers?

09:33:43 From Kent: our flows are down about 1/3 on the water side

09:33:47 From Brian Thurston: Sherrie, Thank you for planning for additional sampling since the County Health Department is shutting down the Gaylord lab this week. The State Laboratory in Lansing will remain open.

09:34:02 From lavern coblentz: chlorine and ferric sulfate delivery in the last 10 days, we should be good now for a few months in case of shortages

09:34:30 From Butch Adkins: without a schol in our village i have seen flow increase because of the people at home

09:36:06 From Kate Mowbray: Are any other wastewater systems seeing an increase in wipes plugging pumps?

09:37:45 From Butch Adkins: not yet, keeping fingers crossed.posting signs in public areas stating to only flush toilet paper

09:40:38 From Justin Roy: Sewer cleaning is emergency only. Due to the unknowns. SARS was found to be in sewage aerosols, so we are no performing regular sewer cleaning at this time.

09:41:31 From Patrick Gallagher to All panelists: Is anyone taking lead and copper samples? If so are you having issues getting residents to take them?
09:43:04 From Art Krueger: Art Krueger - City of TC. We put a message out as a PSA on City website about no wipes in pipes. Also added a note on utility bills and a newspaper article was published. I plan to contact local news to get another spot regarding this as a reminder to public.

09:44:14 From Brian Thurston: EGLE Human Resources has protocols in place to return staff to work after an illness this has been updated for COVID-19.

09:45:32 From Brian Thurston: Guidance on alternate sites.

09:45:37 From Amy Vail: There is guidance on the website that I posted the RTCR link.

09:47:19 From Brian Thurston: EGLE recommends suspending taking Pb/Cu samples during this 'stay home' order.

09:48:33 From Brian Thurston: Pb/Cu = Lead and Copper

09:48:45 From pfellrath: Fear all staff would need to be quarantined if one person contracts virus, even if rotating shifts are in-place.

09:52:45 From Kate Mowbray: Our employees would self identify and stay home.

09:53:28 From Kent to All panelists: How can you separate enough when you are sitting in the same chair at the same computer each shift for operation, using the same bathroom and same kitchen? (from panel: have operators “disinfect in/disinfect out”)

09:55:08 From Brian Thurston: All staff working remotely - all illness must be reported to supervisor and Human Resources. Any staff ill are forbidden from entering any offices and self quarantine at home. All EGLE staff are required to work remotely or go on leave.

09:58:26 From Brian Thurston: Thank you for protecting your residents...stay safe!