

Ministry of Health Activities and Direction

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A Framework on How to Prepare and Develop Water Safety Plans for Drinking-water Supplies

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Summary

Making sure people have clean water to drink is an important step towards public health.

In the past, public health management of supplies relied largely on monitoring the quality of the water produced by individual water suppliers to check that it complied with the Drinking-water Standards for New Zealand (DWSNZ).

While monitoring is always important, water safety plans (formerly known as public health risk management plans) for drinking-water supplies provide the additional benefit of reducing the likelihood of contaminants entering supplies in the first place. By the time monitoring shows that contaminants are present, something has already gone wrong and a hazard is already present in the water.

Water safety plans encourage the use of risk-management principles during treatment and distribution so that monitoring is not the only water quality management technique used and further reducing the risk of contamination.

To help you create and operate a water safety plan for your drinking-water supply a set of model [Water Safety Plan Guides](#) has been prepared by the Ministry of Health. Table 1 sets out the information contained in the guides that will help you prepare a water safety plan.



Downloads

- > [A Framework on How to Prepare and Develop Water Safety Plans for Drinking-water Supplies \(docx, 479 KB\)](#)
- > [A Framework on How to Prepare and Develop Water Safety Plans for Drinking-water Supplies \(pdf, 634 KB\)](#)

Related areas

- > [Drinking-water](#)
- > [Water Safety Plan Guides for Drinking Water Supplies](#)

Document help

- > [Help with downloads](#)
- > [Copyright](#)

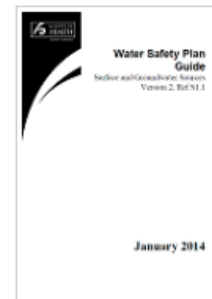
Water Safety Plan Guides for Drinking Water Supplies

Published online: 31 January 2014

Summary

The following are a series of water safety plan guides covering the system elements (eg, filtration, disinfection, water storage, distribution etc) that are most frequently found in drinking-water supplies, for reference in preparing a water safety plan.

Note: These documents were originally published as the Public Health Risk Management Plan Guides for Drinking Water Supplies. In December 2013, legislation changed the term 'public health risk management plan' to 'water safety plan'. The titles and any reference within the text to 'public health risk management plan' have been changed to reflect the new legislation. No other changes have been made to these documents.



Source

| | |
|-----------|---|
| S1 | Raw water |
| S1.1 | Surface and Groundwater Sources (Word, 61 KB) |
| S1.2 | Roof Water Sources (Word, 47 KB) |
| S2 | Development of new supplies |
| S2 | Development of New Supplies (Word, 47 KB) |

Treatment processes

Downloads

- > [Surface and Groundwater Sources \(docx, 61 KB\)](#)
- > [Roof Water Source \(docx, 47 KB\)](#)
- > [Development of New Supplies \(docx, 47 KB\)](#)
- > [Surface Water Abstraction – Rivers, Streams and Infiltration Galleries \(docx, 48 KB\)](#)
- > [Surface Water Abstraction – Lakes and Reservoirs \(docx, 48 KB\)](#)
- > [Ground Water Abstraction – Bores and Wells \(docx, 47 KB\)](#)
- > [Ground Water Abstraction – Springs \(docx, 46 KB\)](#)
- > [Treatment Processes – Water Transmission \(docx, 46 KB\)](#)
- > [Treatment Processes – Pre-Treatment Storage \(docx, 46 KB\)](#)
- > [Algicide Application \(docx, 43 KB\)](#)

Small Drinking-water Supplies

Preparing a water safety plan

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Summary

This document has been developed to help you to prepare a water safety plan (formerly known as a Public Health Risk Management Plan, PHRMP) for your small drinking-water supply.

The document provides a qualitative narrative and a series of worksheets to assist in this exercise. You are also encouraged to refer to the [Water Safety Plan Guides](#) containing the specific system elements most frequently found in drinking-water supplies.

Note: Previously published in 2005 as Small Drinking-water Supplies: Preparing a public health risk management plan. This publication's title and any reference within the text to 'public health risk management plan' were changed in January 2014 to reflect the December 2013 legislation change of the term 'public health risk management plan' to 'water safety plan'. No other changes have been made to this document.

Small Drinking-water Supplies: Water Safety Kit

In this pack are instructions and forms to help you to prepare a water safety plan for your drinking-water supply.

It has been designed to be put in a folder to help you keep information about your drinking-water supply together. Inside the pack is:



Downloads

- > [Small Drinking-water Supplies \(docx, 50 KB\)](#)
- > [Small Drinking-water Supplies \(pdf, 162 KB\)](#)
- > [Water Safety Kit \(docx, 199 KB\)](#)
- > [Water Safety Kit \(pdf, 534 KB\)](#)
- > [Small Drinking-water Supplies – Template \(doc, 79 KB\)](#)
- > [Small Drinking-water Supplies – Template \(pdf, 97 KB\)](#)

Related areas

- > [Drinking-water](#)

Document help

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- **Commitment:** Who is responsible for, and knowledgeable about managing and operating the drinking water supply to ensure safe and secure water continues to be provided ?
- **Assessment of the drinking water supply system (risk assessment):** What could happen to threaten the supply of safe and secure drinking water? How likely are these events and how severe might they be?
- **Existing preventive measures (risk management):** What good practice is already happening to stop things going wrong, and needs to continue?
- **Operational procedures:** What needs to be done to make sure things are maintained and fixed?
- **Monitoring and inspection programme:** What needs to be regularly checked to make sure things are OK?
- **Improvement programme:** What more should be done to prevent things going wrong or reduce their severity if they do go wrong?
- **Management of incidents and emergencies:** What will be done if things go very badly wrong?
- **Review and continual improvement:** How well is the WSP working?

Water Safety Plan Framework Improvements

- Commitment to drinking water quality management
 - Assessment of the drinking water supply system
 - Preventive measures for drinking water quality management
 - Operational procedures Operational monitoring and inspection
Critical control points
 - Verification monitoring programme Corrective actions
 - Improvement programme
 - Management of incidents and emergencies
 - Documentation and reporting
 - Research and development
 - Oversight, review and continual improvement
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Sampling and Monitoring Caucus

- Joint statement and recommendations for the Inquiry
 - Lack of minimum competency requirements for sampler
 - Limitation within the DWSNZ in terms of reliance on *E. coli*
 - Reporting of results by labs
 - Sample separation
 - System/processes for determining referee equivalence needs improving
 - Sharing of water quality data between agencies
 - Criticality of the whole sampling/analysis/reporting continuum
 - MoU between IANZ and MoH
 - Inclusion of sampler competencies
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Activities continued

- Options tools advice and support available to undertake compliance and enforcement
 - Escalation/Compliance/Enforcement
 - Annual Report on Drinking-water Quality
 - Register of Drinking water Suppliers
 - Operator Certification
 - Drinking Water Assessors
 - Expert Drinking water Group/ DWSNZ
 - Health Act 1956
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