

Wellhead Protection Program

The Wellhead Protection (WHP) Program is a voluntary program and the first step a PWS can utilize to understand where their source water is coming from. The WHP Program models time of travel (TOT) paths for the next 20 to 50 years for each well in a PWS and creates a boundary around the TOT called a Wellhead Protection Area. PWSs can then voluntarily develop a WHP Plan to protect the land and groundwater surrounding the wells from contamination.

For more information visit <http://dee.ne.gov/NDEQProg.nsf/OnWeb/WHPA> or call 402-471-3376.

Source Water Protection Program

The Source Water Protection (SWP) Program administers a competitive grant program for PWSs serving 10,000 people or less to help fund WHP planning and source water protection projects. Education projects in conjunction with on-the-ground projects to protect source water are eligible for the SWP Grant.

For more information visit <http://dee.ne.gov/NDEQProg.nsf/%24%24OpenDominoDocument.xsp?documentId=4EB2E252F471C2C886257CB5005CE945&action=openDocument> or call 402-471-9249.

Capacity Development Program

The Capacity Development Program helps PWSs serving 10,000 people or less to ensure they have the required level of technical, managerial, and financial capacity to provide safe and adequate water to their consumers. The Capacity Development Program provides direct and indirect assistance through contracted Technical Assistance Providers and EPA funded Technical Assistance Providers for anything from PWS Board trainings to rate setting studies. Capacity development assessments are required for all PWS receiving a DWSRF Loan.

For more information visit <http://dee.ne.gov/NDEQProg.nsf/OnWeb/DWCD> or e-mail NDEE.DWCapDev@nebraska.gov or call 402-471-0088.

Nebraska Drinking Water State Revolving Fund

The Nebraska Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund (DWSRF) program provides low interest loans and loan forgiveness to owners of public drinking water systems. To pursue funding through the DWSRF program, a project must be identified during the needs survey process and placed on the annual Intended Use Plan (IUP) priority list. Additional priority is given to projects addressing regulated contaminants like nitrate. PWS on an AO for nitrate are compelled to address elevated nitrate levels, which may include DWSRF funds. NDEE typically initiates funding outreach when systems exceed 5 mg/L nitrate level.

For more information, visit <http://dee.ne.gov/NDEQProg.nsf/OnWeb/DWSRLF>, email ndee.srf@nebraska.gov, or call 402-471-4200.

Water Wastewater Advisory Committee (wwac)

The Water Wastewater Advisory Committee (WWAC) consists of the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy (NDEE) and the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development (USDA-RD) and utilizes a common preapplication format to reduce costs to applicants in developing water infrastructure projects, including those that address nitrate. Communities are encouraged to submit a joint pre-application for federal assistance through WWAC, but communities may also submit funding applications to the individual agencies. Since funding availability through WWAC is limited, communities are encouraged to be proactive in the planning process.

For more information, visit <http://dee.ne.gov/publica.nsf/pages/WAT029> or email ndee.wwac@nebraska.gov.

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PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM

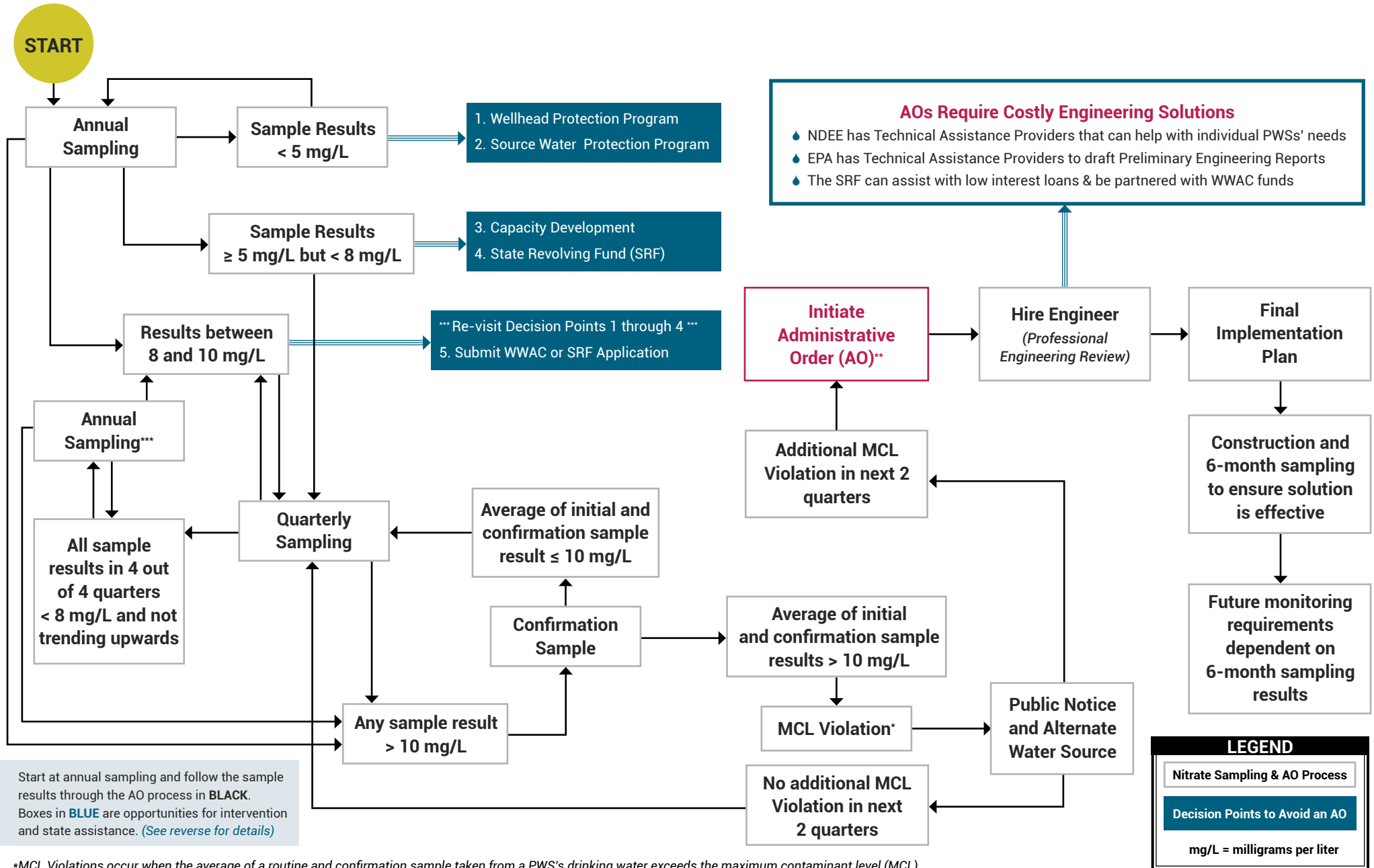
Nitrate Decision Tool

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Public Water System (PWS) Nitrate Sampling Requirements and Decision Points to Avoid an Administrative Order (AO) Flowchart



Start at annual sampling and follow the sample results through the AO process in BLACK. Boxes in BLUE are opportunities for intervention and state assistance. (See reverse for details)

*MCL Violations occur when the average of a routine and confirmation sample taken from a PWS's drinking water exceeds the maximum contaminant level (MCL).

**Administrative Orders (AO) are enforcement actions issued by NDEE that require a PWS to take corrective action to address MCL Violations within a three-year time frame.

***Annual Sampling: After a PWS is required to conduct quarterly monitoring, when they meet the requirements to return to annual sampling, the new trigger point for returning to quarterly monitoring is 8 mg/L instead of 5 mg/L.