



INDUSTRIAL WASTE DIVISION OF
MONITORING AND RESEARCH
NEWSLETTER

Quarter 4, 2019

Metropolitan Water Reclamation
District of Greater Chicago

Monitoring and Research Department
100 East Erie Street, Chicago, IL 60611

Industrial Waste Division 2019 User Workshop

On December 12, 2019, the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) conducted its annual IWD user workshop. The workshop covered the following topics:

- New MWRD website
- Locations of the User Charge and Enforcement electronic forms
- Changes in the User Charge Ordinance (new rates and sampling notification requirement)
- 24-hour Composite Sampling Requirement for Compliance
- Entering Formulas into the User Charge Worksheet addendum of the RD-925
- New Lock Box Number for Payments
- Sampling Audit

The slides used in the presentation will be posted on our website at www.mwrd.org. Please contact an Account Specialist if you need more information.



New Address for Sending Payments

As of this year, the MWRD retained the services of BMO Harris Bank as its lockbox service provider. Please note that online payment is not yet available. **Please send payments to this address:**

MWRDGC
P.O. Box 95089
Chicago, IL 60694-5089

Please continue to send User Charge Annual Certified Statement (RD-925) and supporting documentation to:

MWRDGC
P.O. Box 10687
Chicago, IL 60610-0687

Please note that using the incorrect address may result in late payments and incur penalty charges.

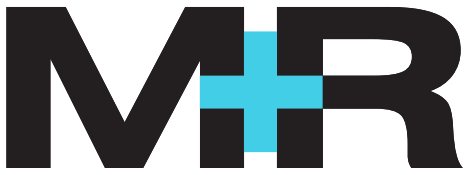
24-Hour Composite Sample Requirement for Compliance Sampling

Based on Appendix C, Section 3 of the Sewage and Waste Control Ordinance (SWCO) and as directed by USEPA during a Pretreatment Compliance Inspection conducted during December of last year, all industrial user composite sampling for compliance purposes must comply with the 24-hour requirement. Composite samples collected by industrial users that are less than or greater than 24 hours will be invalidated by the District.

Appendix C, Section 3 of the SWCO states, in part, the following:

Each significant industrial user shall take representative samples for a minimum of three days within a two-week period for the monitoring of a wastestream with a flow less than or equal to 200,000 gallons per day. Where the flow of a wastestream exceeds 200,000 gallons per day, the user shall take samples for six days within a two-week period. Sample collection shall conform to the requirements of 40 CFR 403.12(g). Grab samples must be used for pH, cyanide, total phenols, oil and grease, sulfide, and volatile organic compounds. For all other pollutants, 24-hour composite samples must be obtained through flow-proportional composite sampling techniques, unless time-proportional composite sampling or grab sampling is authorized by the District. Where time-proportional composite sampling or grab sampling is authorized by the District, the samples must be representative of the wastewater discharge. Sample analysis shall include all parameters listed in Appendix B, Sections 1 and 2(i) of this Ordinance and any parameters listed in the categorical pretreatment standards applicable to the significant industrial user.

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Microplastic Pollution: An Increasing Threat to Aquatic and Human Life

Plastic pollutants have been increasing as a result of the increased use of plastic products. Researchers have found that the breakdown of plastics to its microplastic form (less than 5 mm in diameter) constitutes a threat to water quality. Microplastic pollution is more apparent in urban waterways as a result of high population density and use of products. Data from Chicago-area rivers show that microplastics concentrations exceed those measured in oceans.

Such high concentrations have also been noted in effluent from other urban areas such as wastewater treatment plants flowing into the San Francisco Bay area which contain much higher microplastic concentrations compared to other urban sources. Microplastic pollutants can be found in many everyday products such as industrial resin pellets, personal care products and cleaners, and microplastic fiber from synthetic textiles and from the breakdown of larger plastic materials. Research shows that the majority of the population is unaware of the sources of these pollutants, their influence, and what citizens can do to reduce microplastic pollution. Though many wastewater treatment plants are equipped to remove the vast majority of plastic pollutants, the quantity that is discharged as effluent still poses a threat to the environment. Ingesting microplastic pollutants is known to adversely impact both aquatic and human life. Microplastics in rivers also constitute a unique habitat for harmful pathogens and a new means for transporting unique types of bacteria. An important step toward mitigating plastic pollution in the aquatic environment is to increase societal awareness and education on how the pollutants are introduced to waterways.

The collaborative effort of different segments of society will hopefully reduce plastic pollution and preserve water resources for current and future generations. Reducing macro and micro plastic pollution in Chicago-area waterways through more efficient waste handling and improved consumer choice may help prevent diseases, protect aquatic life, and promote scenic beauty.

User Charge Rates for the 2020 Reporting Year

On November 7, 2019, the MWRD's Board of Commissioners approved the User Charge rates for the 2020 reporting year, which are applicable to the Large Commercial-Industrial Users and Tax-Exempt Users. The 2019 and 2020 rates are shown on the table below:

Please use the 2020 rates when filing your User Charge Annual Certified Statement (RD-925) for the 2020 reporting year, which is due on February 20, 2021.

The RD-925 for the 2019 reporting year must use the 2019 rates.

Reporting Year	2019	2020
Volume (per million gallons)	\$269.04	\$273.88
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (per thousand pounds)	\$216.64	\$209.94
Suspended Solids (per thousand pounds)	\$130.38	\$124.16
Operation, Maintenance, and Replacement Factor	0.328	0.319

40 CFR	Industrial Category	First	Second
403	Non-Categorical	6/1	12/1
410	Textile Mills	3/2	9/2
413	Electroplating	4/27	10/27
414	Organic Chemicals, Plastics, Synthetic Fibers	5/5	11/5
415	Inorganic Chemicals Manufacturing	2/12	8/12
417	Soap and Detergent Manufacturing	6/10	12/10
419	Petroleum Refining	6/1	12/1
420	Iron and Steel Manufacturing	1/10	7/10
421	Nonferrous Metals Manufacturing	3/9	9/9
423	Steam Electric Power Generating	1/1	7/1
425	Leather Tanning and Finishing	5/25	11/25
430	Pulp, Paper, and Paperboard	1/1	7/1
433	Metal Finishing	2/15	8/15
437	Centralized Waste Treatment	6/22	12/22
439	Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	4/27	10/27
442	Transportation Equipment Cleaning	2/14	8/14
455	Pesticide Chemicals	4/4	10/4
463	Plastic Molding and Forming	1/30	7/30
464	Metal Molding and Casting	4/30	10/30
465	Coil Coating	6/1	12/1
466	Porcelain Enameling	5/25	11/25
467	Aluminum Forming	4/24	10/24
468	Copper Forming	2/15	8/15
469	Electrical and Electronic Components	1/14	7/14
471	Nonferrous Metals Forming	2/23	8/23

Sampling Notification Requirement of Any Sampling Programs

Besides the 2020 User Charge rates, on November 7, 2019, the MWRD's Board of Commissioners approved the following amendment to Section 4i of the User Charge Ordinance:

A User shall notify the District, in writing, no less than 14 calendar days prior to any commencement of its self-monitoring program, whether required by this Ordinance or any other District Ordinances, to allow the District to observe the User's sampling techniques, sample preservation, flow measurements, and other sampling protocols. The written notification shall be made on forms provided by the District, submitted to the District's Pretreatment and Cost Recovery Section by one of the following methods: U.S. mail addressed to the Pretreatment and Cost Recovery Section, P.O. Box 10689, Chicago, IL 60610; facsimile transmission sent to 312-894-2150; or as a PDF sent via electronic mail to mwr-d-ucts@mwr-d.org.

Please use the District's Notification of User's Monitoring/Sampling Dates form, which is available on the District's website, prior to conducting any sampling programs.

Board of Commissioners

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Metropolitan Water Reclamation
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