

CHAPTER Env-Dw 500 OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

Statutory Authority: RSA 485:41, VIII

PART Env-Dw 504 PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS

REVISION NOTE:

Document #10465, effective 12-2-13, readopted with amendments and renumbered former Part Env-Ws 361, entitled Maintenance Responsibilities, under a new subtitle as Part Env-Dw 504 entitled Public Water System Maintenance Requirements. The redesignation from subtitle Env-Ws to subtitle Env-Dw was done pursuant to a rules reorganization plan for Department rules approved by the Director of the Office of Legislative Services on 9-7-05.

Document #10465 replaces all prior filings for rules formerly in Env-Ws 361. The prior filings for rules in former Env-Ws 367 include the following documents:

- #4850, eff 6-25-90
- #5422, eff 6-22-92
- #5873, eff 7-26-94
- #6521, eff 6-4-97
- #8475, eff 11-30-05

Env-Dw 504.01 Owner Liability. The owner of a public water system may delegate any responsibility imposed by this part to another person, subject to any limitations specified herein. Such delegation shall not relieve the owner from liability for non-compliance with these requirements.

Source. (See Revision Note at part heading for Env-Dw 504) #10465, eff 12-2-13

Env-Dw 504.02 Definitions.

(a) “All premises served” means every residential, commercial, industrial, educational, governmental, religious, or other property that is connected to the water system.

(b) “Tie location records” means records showing the precise detailed dimensional measurements of all buried water supply lines, valves, and other components.

(c) “Curb stop” means the valve between the water distribution system and the service customer’s premises which controls the flow of water to the premises.

(d) “Record drawing” means a plan of the actual configuration of the distribution system showing the type, size, and location of piping, service lines, shut-offs, blow-offs, hydrants, valves and other utilities.

Source. (See Revision Note at part heading for Env-Dw 504) #10465, eff 12-2-13

Env-Dw 504.03 General System Maintenance.

(a) Each public water system shall have a maintenance schedule for each of the following:

- (1) Wells, reservoirs, and intakes;
- (2) Pump stations;
- (3) Electrical equipment and controls;
- (4) Water storage tanks;
- (5) Distribution system; and

- (6) Water treatment facilities.
- (b) The schedule shall be based on:
  - (1) The maintenance frequencies recommended by the manufacturer, for those components for which such recommendations exist; and
  - (2) For all other components, the frequencies commonly used in the water works industry such as are recommended by the American Water Works Association.

Source. (See Revision Note at part heading for Env-Dw 504) #10465, eff 12-2-13

Env-Dw 504.04 Source Evaluation.

(a) The water system owner shall review, periodically as needed, water use records, customer complaints, and other documents or information pertaining to the source capacity of the system's well(s) in relationship to historic production rates.

(b) If production rates are declining at a community water system, the system owner shall consult with the department to determine whether to:

- (1) Perform a pump test for each water source in accordance with Env-Dw 301;
- (2) Monitor each well source to establish:
  - a. Static water level;
  - b. Stabilized pumping level;
  - c. Pumping rate;
  - d. Production volumes; and
  - e. Pump run times; or
- (3) Take some other action(s) to determine the cause(s) of the decline and to address the cause(s).

Source. (See Revision Note at part heading for Env-Dw 504) #10465, eff 12-2-13

Env-Dw 504.05 Distribution System Flushing.

(a) The water system owner shall flush the distribution system at least once every 2 years, or more frequently if needed, so as to maintain the cleanliness of the distribution piping.

(b) Flushing shall be done at times of minimum system usage whenever possible.

(c) For systems serving less than 100 individuals, regardless of the number of customers, the owner shall give written notice at least one week in advance of the intended flushing date by first class mail, e-mail, or hand-delivery to all premises served by the system in the area that will be affected by the flushing.

(d) For systems serving 100 or more individuals, regardless of the number of customers, the owner shall give notice at least one week in advance of the intended flushing date to all premises served by the system in the area that will be affected by the flushing by:

- (1) Written notice delivered by first class mail or hand-delivery;
- (2) E-mail or other electronic means such as reverse 911 telephone service;

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(3) Publishing a copy of the notice in a newspaper of general circulation for the area served by the system; or

(4) Any combination of (1) through (3), above.

(e) The flushing shall be continued until the water runs clear, at a flushing flow rate of not less than 2.5 feet per second.

Source. (See Revision Note at part heading for Env-Dw 504) #10465, eff 12-2-13

Env-Dw 504.06 Distribution Valve Operation.

(a) The water system owner shall fully turn each distribution system gate valve either:

(1) At least once every 12 months; or

(2) At the frequency identified in water system's operations and maintenance manual or rules, provided that not less than 20% of the valves are operated annually and all valves are operated at least once every 5 years.

(b) This activity shall be scheduled to minimize the potential impact on customers.

Source. (See Revision Note at part heading for Env-Dw 504) #10465, eff 12-2-13

Env-Dw 504.07 Service Line and Water Meter Maintenance Policy. Unless the water system has adopted formal rules to the contrary:

(a) The water system shall be responsible for the service line from the water main to the curb stop;

(b) The service customer shall be responsible for the service line from the curb stop to the customer's premises; and

(c) The water system owner shall be responsible for any required meters.

Source. (See Revision Note at part heading for Env-Dw 504) #10465, eff 12-2-13

Env-Dw 504.08 Distribution Records.

(a) Each community water system, privately owned redistributions system, and water system with exterior distribution piping shall maintain and update, on an annual basis, the water system's record drawings and tie location records based on the best information available to the owner.

(b) Information that has not been positively confirmed shall be noted as estimated on all records.

(c) A copy of the water system's record drawing and tie location records shall be available to the department for review.

Source. (See Revision Note at part heading for Env-Dw 504) #10465, eff 12-2-13

Env-Dw 504.09 Storage Tank Inspection and Maintenance.

(a) At least once every 5 years, the water system owner shall have each water storage tank used by the system to be inspected to the maximum extent practical and evaluated for structural strength, corrosion, and other factors related to water quality and tank integrity.

(b) Tanks with a capacity of 20,000 gallons or less shall not be required to be inspected internally unless there is a basis for questioning the tank's integrity or believing that the tank may be adversely affecting water quality.

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(c) Metal storage tank surfaces shall be painted or otherwise protected as determined by the system owner, using materials approved in accordance with Env-Ws 305 or successor rules in subtitle Env-Dw.

(d) The owner shall maintain emergency access to the tank’s filler pipe.

Source. (See Revision Note at part heading for Env-Dw 504) #10465, eff 12-2-13

**APPENDIX A: STATE STATUTES IMPLEMENTED**

<b>Rule Section(s)</b>	<b>State Statute(s) Implemented</b>
Env-Dw 504	RSA 485:1; RSA 485:11; RSA 485:43

**APPENDIX B: STATUTORY DEFINITIONS**

**RSA 332-E:1**

II. “Certificate” means a certificate of competency issued by the department stating that the operator has met the particular requirements set by the department for certification at his level of operation.

III. “Department” means the department of environmental services.

IV. "Operator" means the individual who has full responsibility for the operation of a water treatment plant or water distribution system and any individual who normally has charge of an operating shift, or who performs important operating functions including analytical control.

V. “Water distribution system” means that portion of the public water system which includes sources, pipes, storage facilities, pressure booster facilities, and all measuring and control devices used to convey potable water to the system users.

VI. “Water treatment plant” means the portion of the public water supply system which in some way alters the physical, chemical, or bacteriological quality of the water being treated.

**RSA 485:1-a**

XIV-a. “Privately owned redistribution system” means a system for the provision of piped water for human consumption which does not meet the definition of public water system under paragraph XV, and meets all the following criteria: (1) obtains all of its water from, but is not owned or operated by, a public water system; (2) serves a population of at least 25 people, 10 household units, or 15 service connections, whichever is fewest, for at least 60 days per year; and (3) has exterior pumping facilities, not including facilities used to reduce pressure, or exterior storage facilities which are not part of building plumbing.