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EPA REGION 10

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# Preparing for A Sanitary Survey

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Environmental

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**RCAC is the EFC for Region 10 EPA**

# Rural Community Assistance Partnership, Inc.

## Western

**Rural Community  
Assistance Corporation**

916/447-2854

[www.rcac.org](http://www.rcac.org)

## Midwest

**Midwest Assistance Program**

952/758-4334

[www.map-inc.org](http://www.map-inc.org)

## Southern

**Community Resource Group**

479/443-2700

[www.crg.org](http://www.crg.org)

## Northeast

**RCAP Solutions**

800/488-1969

[www.rcapsolutions.org](http://www.rcapsolutions.org)

## Great Lakes

**WSOS Community  
Action Commission**

800/775-9767

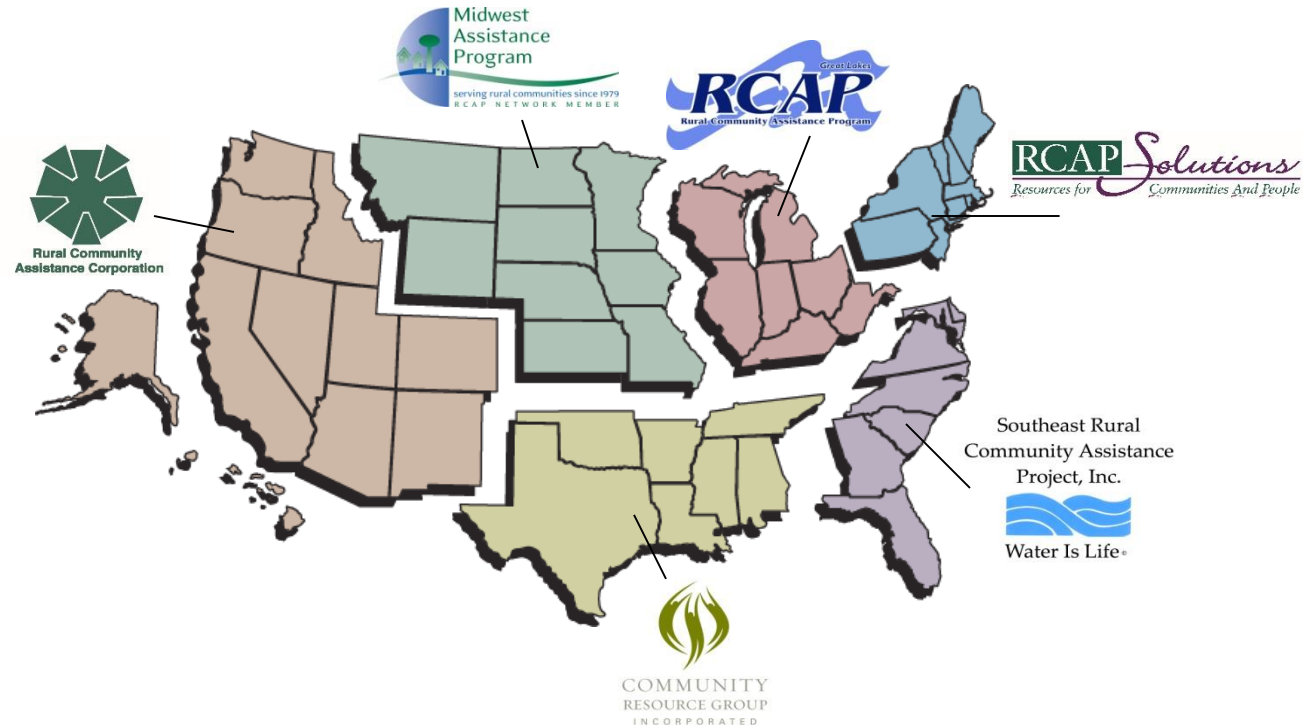
[www.glrca.org](http://www.glrca.org)

## Southeast

**Southeast Rural Community  
Assistance Project**

866/928-3731

[www.southeastrcap.org](http://www.southeastrcap.org)



800/321-7227

[www.rcap.org](http://www.rcap.org)

# Your presenter...

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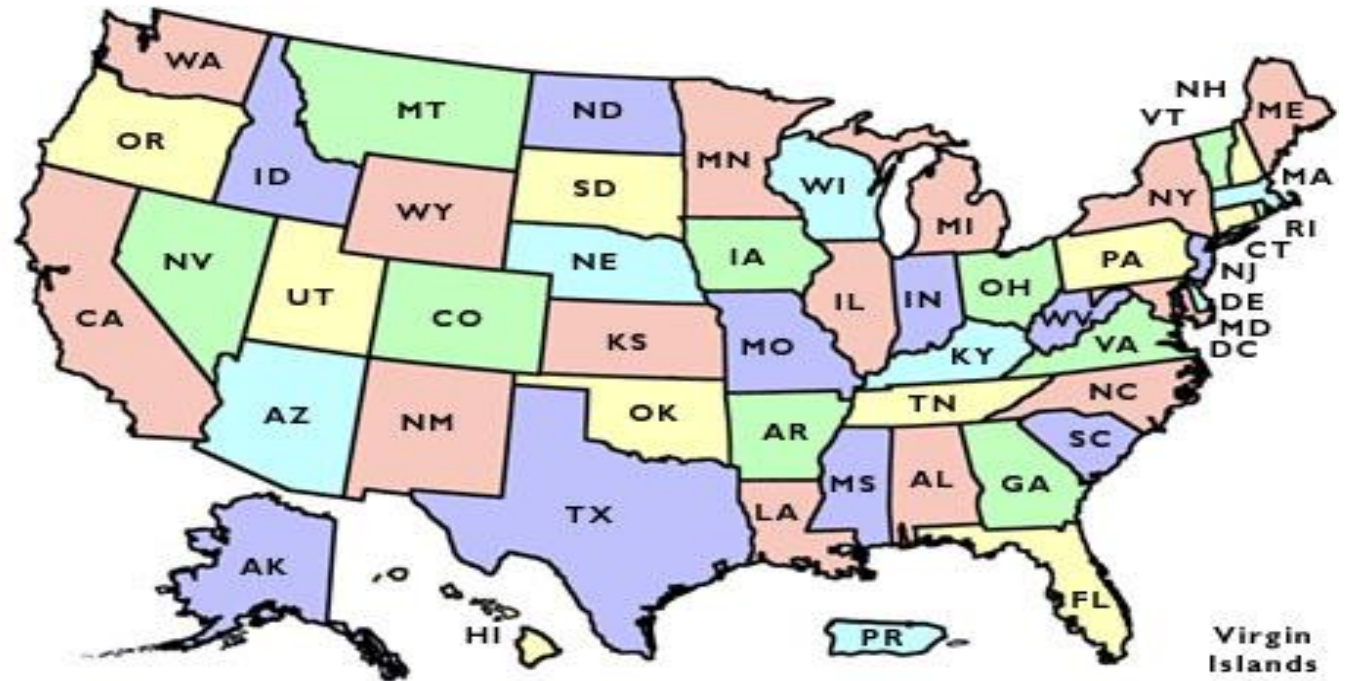
- Lori Blau, RDS II
- B.S. Ch E
- M.S. Engineering Mgmt.
- M.A. Teaching



# Where are you?

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- Type your city & state in the chat box!



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# Course Objectives

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- Understand what a sanitary survey is
- Understand what will be inspected
- Understand what records are needed

# Who is in the room?

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POLL





# What is a sanitary survey?

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## 40 CFR DEFINITION

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"Sanitary survey means an onsite review of the water source, facilities, equipment, operation and maintenance of a public water system for the purpose of evaluating the adequacy of such source, facilities, equipment, operation and maintenance for producing and distributing safe drinking water."

# Have you been through a sanitary survey?

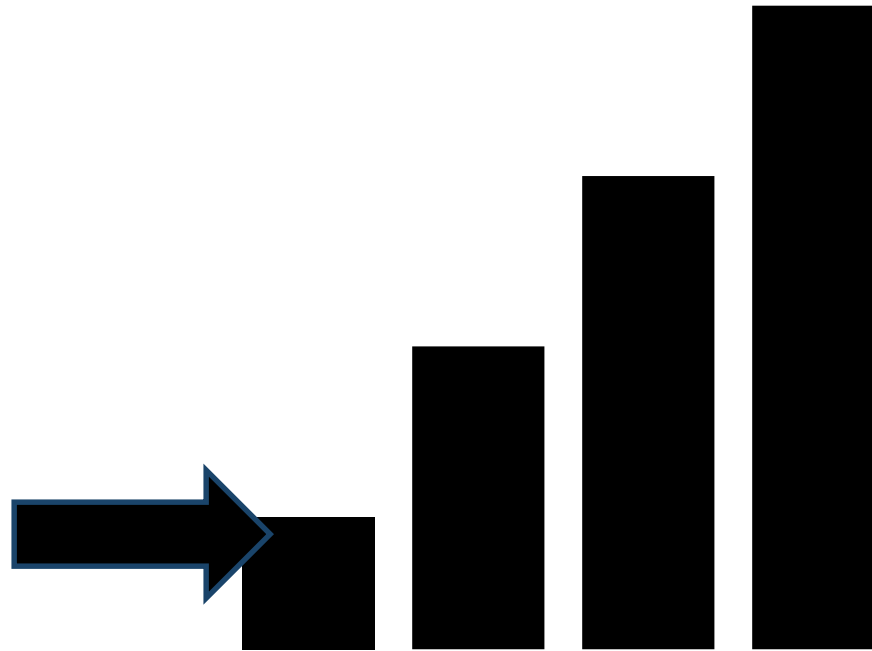
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# Sanitary surveys...

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- Evaluate the multiple barriers for protection of drinking water



# How often are sanitary surveys required?

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- Required every 3 to 5 years.
- If your system is scheduled for a sanitary survey then a surveyor will contact your facility.

# Sanitary Surveys also

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- Provide an opportunity to educate the system operators
- Enhance communication between TA providers, system, primacy agencies

# Who Performs the Sanitary Survey

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- Primacy Agency
- TA Provider or Contractor

# A Survey Has Been Scheduled. Now What?

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- Who Should attend?
  - Operator(s)
  - Owner/Utilities Manager
  - Administrative contact



# A Survey Has Been Scheduled. Now What?

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- Prepare for questions about
  - General operations
  - Management
  - Security
  - Specific technical questions

# How do I prepare for the survey?

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- The survey will include
  - A records review
  - A field inspection.

# Eight Areas of a Sanitary Survey

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1. Source(s) \*
2. Treatment
3. Distribution System
4. Finished Water Storage \*

# Eight Areas of a Sanitary Survey

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- 5. Pumps, pumping stations
- 6. Monitoring & Reporting \*
- 7. Management & Operation \*
- 8. Operator Compliance

# How do I prepare for the survey?

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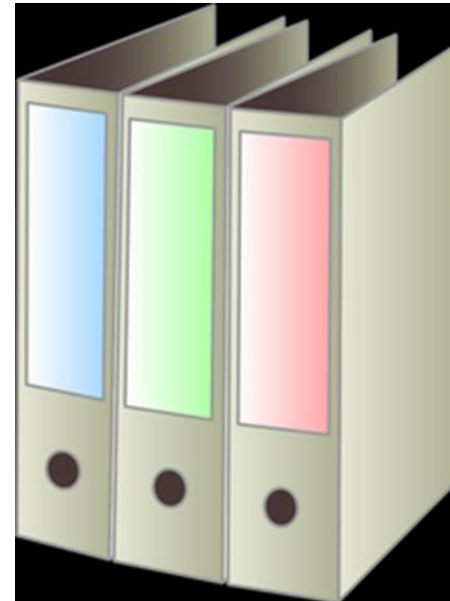
- Having records ready for review will provide for a more efficient use of time.



# Get your records together!

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- Getting your records organized prior to the survey will make for a more efficient use of time during the survey



# How do I prepare for the survey?

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- For the field inspection
  - Make sure all areas are safe
  - Have all necessary keys
  - Make sure all parts of the system are accessible.



# What records to get ready...

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- Previous sanitary surveys
- Current population served
- Number of residential & commercial connections
- List of active & inactive sample sites
- Plant output (gallons/day)



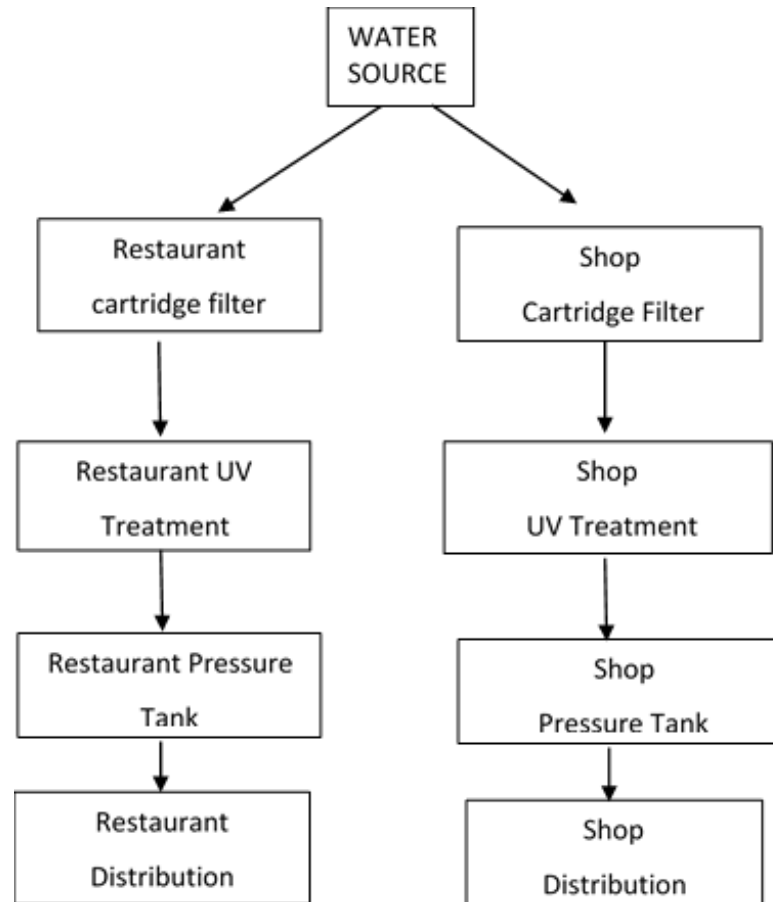
# What records to get ready...

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- Any new facilities put on-line since the last survey
- Monitoring plans and current sample maps
- Testing results, bacteriological, chemical testing, chlorine residuals \*
- System schematics

# Example Schematic

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# What records to get ready...

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- Storage tank cleaning reports\*
- List of certified operators \*
- Copies of well logs and well abandonment reports \*



# What records to get ready...

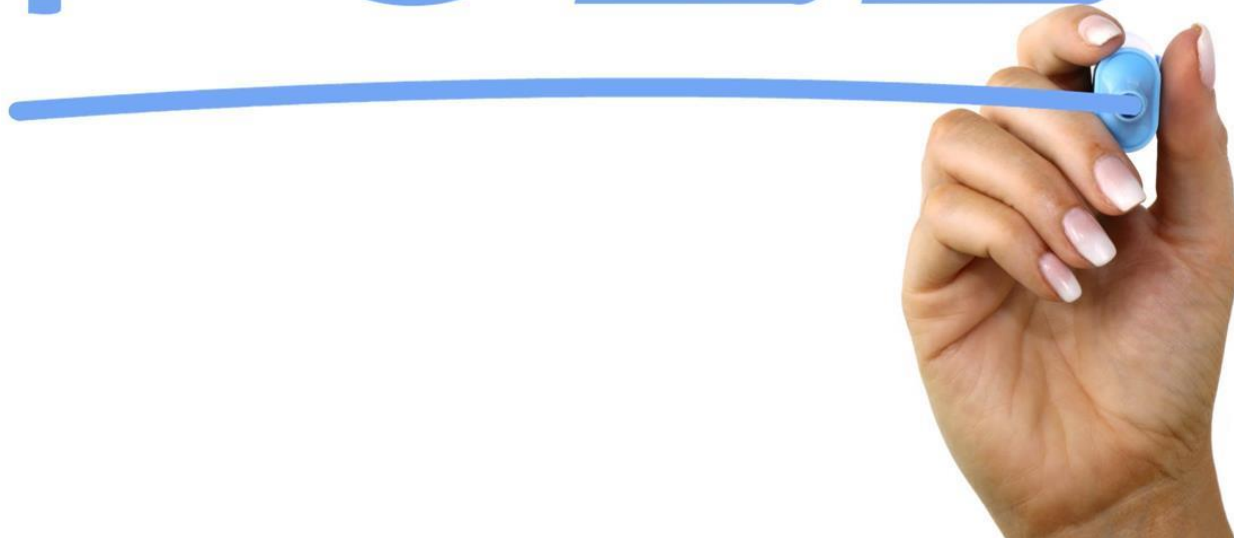
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- Disinfection Profile (if SW/GWUDI)
- Cross connection control plan \*
- Operations & Maintenance (O & M) plan \*
- Emergency Response Plan \*
- Other paperwork

# What type of water source(s) do you have?

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POLL



# Get ready for the field inspection...

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- Checking these items before the survey can minimize the likelihood of being cited for Significant Deficiencies



# Get ready for the field inspection...

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- Assure the following:
  - All facilities are accessible
  - All facilities are safe
  - All facilities are working

# Get ready for the field inspection...

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- Assure the following, continued:
  - All facilities are clean and orderly
  - If portions of your facilities are owned/controlled by other entities, contact them **prior** to the survey to coordinate access.



# During the survey...

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Things the surveyor  
will look at in the field



# During the survey...

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Sources



# During the survey...

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- Wells
  - Area surrounding the well graded away from the well?
  - Does the well extend a minimum of 18" above the final ground elevation or 12" above the pump house slab?
  - Are conduits sealed?

# During the survey...

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## Wells, continued

- Vents and/or vacuum breakers screened with 24-mesh non-corrodible screen?
- Any openings into the well?

# Well Screens

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# Why worry about the vents and seals?

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# During the survey...

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- For Springs
  - Surface water drainage pathways into the spring box
  - Spring box is properly constructed
    - Hatch, roof, overflow vent
  - Drain pipe on collection box screened

# During the survey...

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- Surface water sources
  - Upstream pollution sources
  - Intakes protected from silt build up
  - Multiple intake locations
  - Control over watershed



# During the survey...

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## Storage Tanks



# During the survey...

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- Location of overflows and drain line discharges
  - have either 24-mesh non-corrodible screen, or a properly sealing flapper or duckbill valve?

# During the survey...

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- Types of overflow coverings



# During the survey...

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## Tank Hatches

- Shoebox lid that overlaps the opening?
- Rubber gasket that is in good condition?
- Locking mechanism and is locked?



# During the Survey

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# During the survey...

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## Storage Tanks

- Tank vent has a 24-mesh non-corrodible screen?
- Any leaks?
- Tank been cleaned and inspected within the last 10 years?

# During the survey...

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# During the survey...

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Please note:

- In some areas, surveyors are not allowed to climb standpipes or elevated storage tanks.
- Surveyors also will not climb unsafe tanks or ladders.



## During the survey...

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- If the surveyor is unable to personally observe the storage tank top, you will need to provide pictures (either taken at the time of the survey or dated).

# After the Survey

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- Surveyor compiles information
- The primacy agency will review the information



# After the Survey

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- If significant deficiencies are identified by the primacy agency, you typically have 120 days to correct the deficiencies or submit a Corrective Action Plan (CAP)

# Questions?

# Contact Information

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