

**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**  
**BUREAU OF HUMAN SERVICES LICENSING**  
**Community Homes for Individuals with Mental Retardation**  
(55 Pa.Code Chapter 6400)

**Q/A - Regulatory Clarifications – March 2015**

*The clarifications and interpretations below will remain on the Department's web site until the information is included in the next updated Regulatory Compliance Guide (RCG).*

**Regulation: § 6400.68(c) – Running Water**

*§ 6400.68(c) - A home that is not connected to a public water system shall have a coliform water test by a Department of Environmental Resources' certified laboratory stating that the water is safe for drinking purposes at least every 3 months. Written certification of the water test shall be kept.*

**Question:** How will the Department measure "every 3 months" – does this mean every 90 days, quarterly, or is it specific to 3 calendar months? Also, will the Department include a 15-day grace period on top of the 3 months?

**ANSWER:** "Every 3 months" means every 3 calendar months. For example, if a home had its water tested on January 1, then it would need its next water tests to be conducted by April 1, then July 1, and finally October 1 of that year. The Department does not include a 15-day grace period for this regulation. If the home has a unique circumstance which prohibits it from conducting its water tests timely every 3 months, then the home should contact the Department.