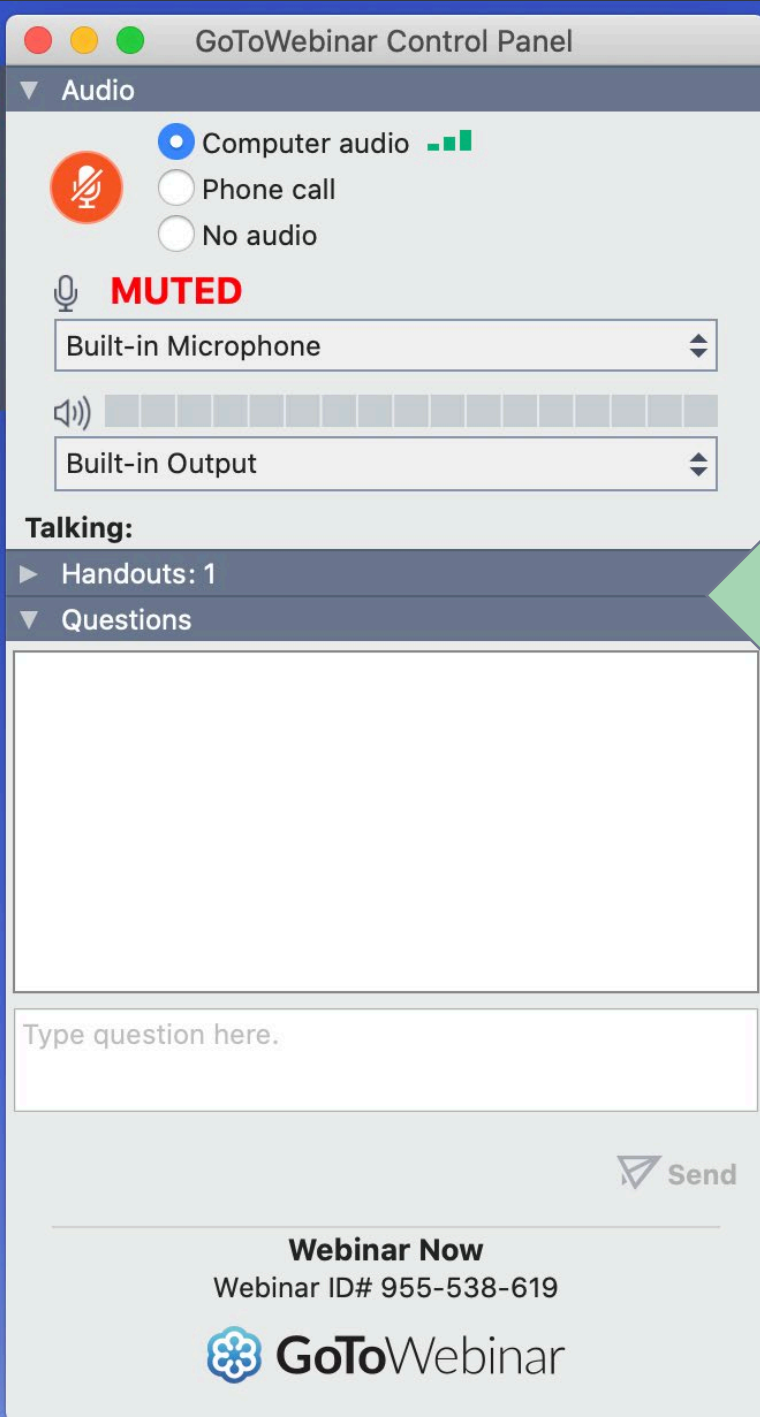


Using EPA's *Knowledge Retention Tool for Small Water Systems*

December 8, 2020


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 - Handouts
 - Questions/Chat
- Question and Answer Session at the end




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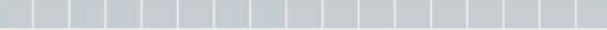
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Today's Presenter

- Deborah Vacs Renwick is an environmental engineer in the EPA's Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water as a member of the Sustainable Systems Team, focusing on workforce development. Prior to joining EPA she worked at the Alameda County Water District in Fremont, California in the Water Quality and Regulatory Compliance Division and served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Peru. She earned her bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Brown University and her master's in civil and environmental engineering from Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

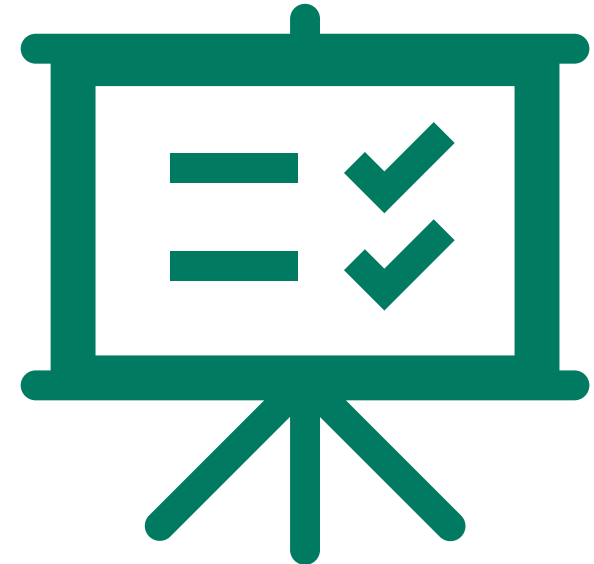


Deborah Vacs Renwick

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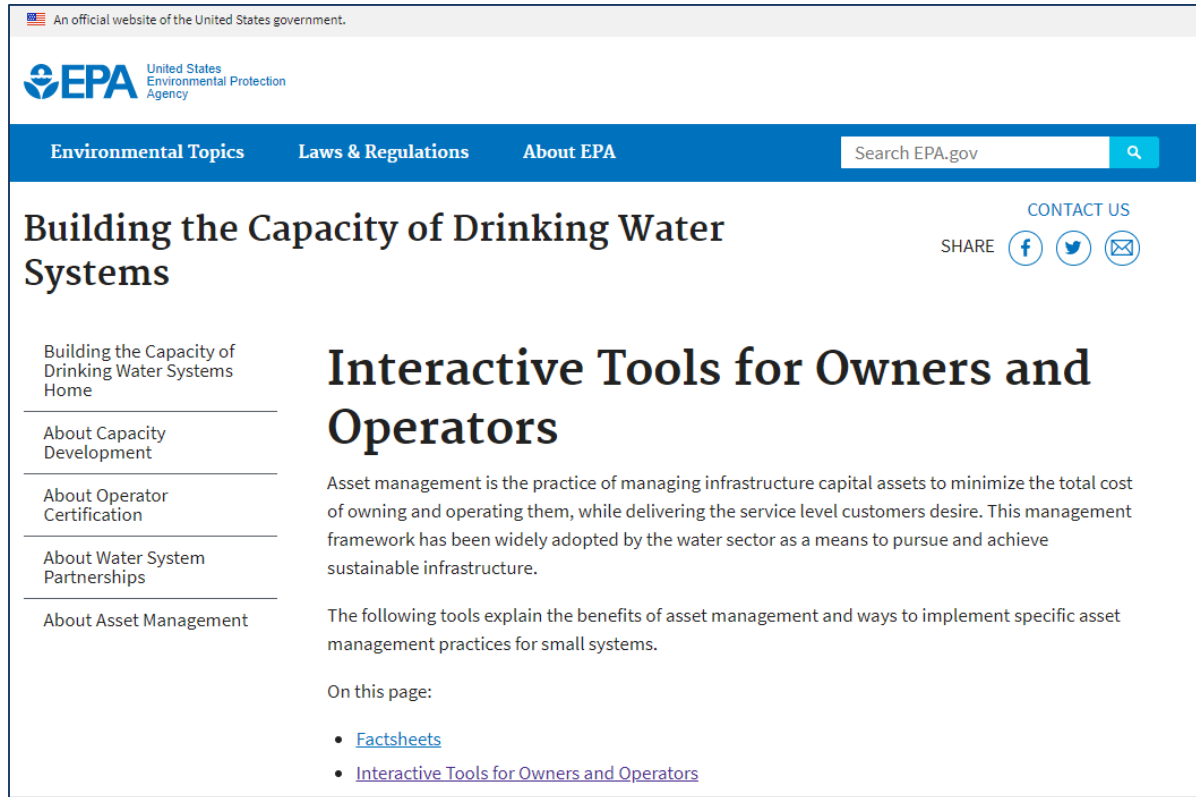
Agenda

1. Background Information
 - what is the tool?
 - why is it useful?
 - how do you fill it out?
2. How-to guide for using the Knowledge Retention Tool for Small Water Systems
 - Step through each page and table in the tool
3. Live demonstration of functions
4. Questions and Answer Session
 - Type questions into the Question Box throughout presentation



Background Information

What is the Knowledge Retention Tool?



The screenshot shows the EPA website's 'Building the Capacity of Drinking Water Systems' page. The header includes the EPA logo and navigation links for 'Environmental Topics', 'Laws & Regulations', and 'About EPA'. A search bar is also present. The main content area features a sidebar with links to 'About Capacity Development', 'About Operator Certification', 'About Water System Partnerships', and 'About Asset Management'. The main heading is 'Interactive Tools for Owners and Operators'. Below this, a paragraph explains that asset management is the practice of managing infrastructure capital assets to minimize costs while meeting service level desires. It states that this framework is widely adopted by the water sector. The page then lists the following tools: 'Factsheets' and 'Interactive Tools for Owners and Operators'.

- Spreadsheet based **template** to capture key information about your utility.
- Record different categories of information on each sheet.
- Can be used to transfer knowledge from a retiring operator or staff member or just to consolidate information.
- Can be downloaded from the EPA website here: <https://www.epa.gov/dwcapacity/interactive-tools-owners-and-operators> (Scroll down to the knowledge retention tool)

Knowledge Retention Tool

The [Knowledge Retention Tool Spreadsheet for Small Water Systems.xlsx](#) (18 pp, 153 K) is an Excel spreadsheet that helps operators consolidate system information into one location, enabling increased organization and coordination among operators. Designed to assist in personnel transition, the tool encompasses a wide variety of information that a new or contract operator would need to effectively manage and operate a small water system.



What information is asked for in the tool?

18 different sheets (tabs), each numbered and with a different topic

1. Handoff Checklist – use this to track completion of the other sheets



General

- 2. System Overview
- 3. Documents
- 4. People
- 5. Source Water



Quick Response

- 6. Emergencies
- 7. Security



System Operation

- 8. Filtration and Treatment
- 9. Process Monitoring and Sampling
- 10. Operational Supplies
- 11. System Maintenance
- 12. Storage
- 13. Distribution



Administration

- 14. Rules and Regulations
- 15. Technology
- 16. Operator Certification
- 17. Neighboring Utilities
- 18. Other Information

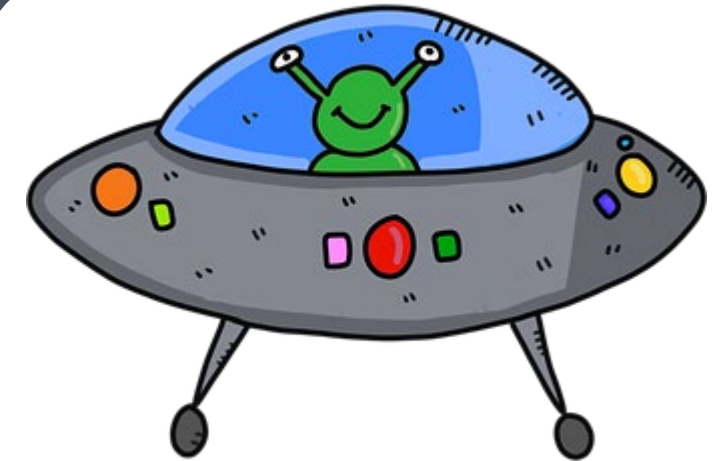
Why use the Knowledge Retention Tool?

- **Document institutional knowledge** from retiring or departing employees – this kind of information may not be written down anywhere else.
- **Store all the basic information** about a system – especially helpful for new employees but also for longer term employees.
- Demonstrates **managerial capacity** by having organized information and being prepared to train new staff.
- **Saves time!** No need to look in 5 different binders or search through a decade of email to find the answer you're looking for
- **Publicly available** and customizable.
- **Easy to use!** You don't need to be familiar with spreadsheets to use this tool effectively.



Filling out the Knowledge Retention Tool

- General Reminders:
 - If information is already recorded, note where it is kept.
 - Complete the tables with the answers to the prompts.
 - Extra rows are provided if needed – See appendix for how to add even more rows.
 - You may not be able to fill in every table on every sheet in one sitting – that's okay! Fill in what you can when you can and remember you can always update with new or more detailed information.
 - Not every table and sheet is relevant to every system – use what works for you!



If an alien landed at your water system and needed to keep it running, what information would they need?

Filling out the Knowledge Retention Tool (cont.)

[Return to Handoff Checklist](#)

[Return to Contents Tab](#)

Fill in the below tables (2) regarding general system information

In the [first](#) table, provide general information about the water system

In the [second](#) table, provide the system owner's contact information

[Return to Handoff Checklist](#)

[Return to Contents](#)

General System Information	Response
Water System Name	
PWSID	
Classification Type (Community, Transient, etc.)	
Water Source(s) Type	
Estimated daily water production	
What area does the system supply? (Name towns, or areas within towns)	

- Navigate using hyperlinks
 - Table of Contents
 - Handoff Checklist
 - Content Sheets
- Answer the prompts to fill out the Tool
 - Insert new rows if needed
 - Some information is linked between sheets
 - Better to put “N/A” than leave blank
- Reference location of existing information



Key Terms that will be used today

- Worksheet/Tabs - Each “page” of the tool is a separate Excel worksheet or tab – these are labeled with numbers and titles
- Table - Within a sheet there are tables to organize information – this sheet has 2 tables
- Cell – each square that you can click in is called a “cell”
- Hyperlinks – shown in blue, click on them to navigate between parts of a sheet or between sheets
- Rows and Columns – every sheet is made up of rows and columns like a normal spreadsheet, the lines are just hidden by the formatting

System Operation: Distribution

Fill in the following tables (2) regarding your distribution system.
[Water System Pipes](#)
[Water System Valves \(Distribution System\)](#)
 *Please note columns may extend past the initial view of your screen.
[3. Other Operations Document to record information about the distribution system map](#)

Water System Pipes [Return to Handoff Checklist](#) [Return to Contents](#)
 Provide information regarding your distribution system pipes.

	Miles of Mains or Number of Service Lines	Material of Construction (e.g., ductile iron, cast iron, PVC, high density polyethylene, steel, asbestos cement, other)	Average Number of Water Main Breaks per Year	Water main replacement program: how many feet of old water main are replaced each year?
Transmission Mains		Cell		
Distribution Mains			Table	
Customer Service Lines				

Water System Valves [Return to Handoff Checklist](#) [Return to Contents](#)
 Provide information regarding your distribution system valves.

Do you have a valve inspection program? If so, how often are valves inspected?	Is the location of all system valves known? If so, are they located with GPS data?	Name of Supplier (contact information can be entered on Sheet 4.)
		Table

6. Emergencies | 7. Security | 10. Operational Supplies | 8. Treatment | 9. Process Monitoring-Sampling | 11. System Maintenance | 12. Storage | **13. Distribution** | 14

Tabs/Worksheets **Active Worksheet**

How-to guide for using the Knowledge Retention Tool for Small Water Systems

Knowledge Retention

Congratulations on your new position or upcoming retirement! You play a crucial role here and we value your knowledge and expertise. To ensure that we can transition your responsibilities to one or more people after you depart, we ask that you assist us by answering the questions in this spreadsheet. Our intent is to help transition your responsibilities to different people, it is not intended to be used as an official job description as it relates to your employment. It is to ensure that none of your responsibilities are forgotten.

Please note, our system may have specific policies regarding records management and retention. Prior to filling out this spreadsheet, please be sure to consult with the management team. They will be able to provide you with supplementary instructions and information on any additional requirements.

This spreadsheet is designed to document the various actions you complete and responsibilities you hold throughout the course of your work: it is meant to serve as a recordkeeping device. For this reason, it may be beneficial to fill this out long before your last day, as it may help you to keep track of your many responsibilities in your remaining time here.

This spreadsheet does not need to be completed all at once; in fact it may help to work on it as you complete the different activities it asks about. You may find it helpful to talk to coworkers and your supervisor as you answer the questions, or to set aside some quiet time to review it. As time goes by, you'll work on and remember different components of your job.

You can keep track of when you've last updated various sections of this spreadsheet in the Handoff Checklist tab.

What's Ahead

This spreadsheet has two types of data collection:

- 1] [General, Quick Response, System Operation, and Administration](#), for key data about your responsibilities.
- 2] [Handoff Checklist](#), which is used to track the completion of the other sheets.

Instructions

Complete the information on each of the sheets along the bottom of this spreadsheet. In each, there is one or more tables to fill out. Please look for specific instructions at the top of each of these sheets regarding their contents. A few general reminders are below:

that we can transition your responsibilities to one or more people after you depart, we ask that you assist us by answering the questions in this spreadsheet. Our intent is to help transition your responsibilities to different people, it is not intended to be used as a official job description as it relates to your employment. It is to ensure that none of your responsibilities are forgotten.

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Complete the information on each of the sheets along the bottom of this spreadsheet. In each, there is one or more tables to fill out. Please look for specific instructions at the top of each of these sheets regarding their contents. A few general reminders are below:

- Please complete the tables with the answers to the prompts. We have provided extra rows in case you need them.
- If you already have the information requested in another location, like a notebook or in a file folder, you can reference that location in the table. For example, "See binder labeled "Internship MOAs (G-J) on the 2nd shelf in the bookshelf." Be as specific as possible and make sure that all notebooks and folders are clearly labeled.

Contents

Progress through the spreadsheet

Sheet No.	Type of Resource	Description	Information Captured
1	Checklist	Handoff Checklist	Review and acknowledgement that everything has been documented
2	General	System Overview	General system information
3	Administrative	Documents	Important documents for system operation
4	General	People	Important contacts and their information
5	General	Source Water	Source water information
6	Quick Response	Emergencies	Emergency preparedness contacts and documents
7	Quick Response	Security	Security system information
8	System Operation	Filtration and Treatment	Water treatment mechanisms
9	System Operation	Process Monitoring and Sampling	Sampling techniques and frequencies for compliance and process monitoring
10	System Operation	Operational Supplies	Supplies used in standard operation and where they can be obtained
11	System Operation	System Maintenance	Maintenance and flushing activities
12	System Operation	Storage	Water storage information
13	System Operation	Distribution	Distribution infrastructure and information
14	Administrative	Rules and Regulations	Applicable legislation
15	Administrative	Technology	Operational system software usage
16	Administrative	Operator Certification	Operator certification information
17	Other	Neighboring Utilities	Contact and additional information about neighboring utilities
18	Other	Other Information	Miscellaneous water system information

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Last Updated: 6/8/2020 17:09

Handoff Checklist

Progress Through the Spreadsheet



Name of Separating Employee	{Entered Name Links to Other Sheets}
Job Title	
Length of Time in Position	
Supervisor	

- Progress Bar and Navigation
- Operator information and request for information table
- Return to this sheet to fill out the...
 - General Checklist
 - Quick Response Checklist
 - System Operation Checklist
 - Administration Checklist

1. Handoff Checklist



Handoff Checklist

Progress Through the Spreadsheet

[Return to Contents Tab](#)

Instructions: Please enter dates when each section of the spreadsheet is completed and reviewed.
This page can be filled as you progress through the spreadsheet

Name of Separating Employee	{Entered Name Links to Other Sheets}
Job Title	
Length of Time in Position	
Supervisor	

General

Section	Date You Completed the Sheet (or enter N/A)	Date Sheet Was Reviewed by Supervisor
2. General System Information		
2. System Owner Contact Information		
3. Documents: SOPs		
3. Documents: Logs, Plans, Operations		
3. Documents: Historical Reference		
3. Documents: Key Files		
4. People: Key Emergency Contacts		
4. People: System's Staff		
4. People: Lab		
4. People: Contractors		

4. People: Contractors		
4. People: Local and State Government		
4. People: Neighboring Systems		
4. People: Vendors		
4. People: Other: Schools, Media, etc.		
5. Source Water: Characteristics		
5. Source Water: Monitoring		
5. Source Water: Vulnerabilities		

Quick Response

Section	Date You Completed the Sheet (or enter N/A)	Date Sheet Was Reviewed by Supervisor
6. Emergencies: Response Documents		
6. Emergencies: System Alarms		
6. Emergencies: Generators		
7. Overall Water System Security		
7. Facility Security Systems		

System Operation

Section	Date You Completed the Sheet (or enter N/A)	Date Sheet Was Reviewed by Supervisor
8. Treatment: Filtration		

8. Treatment: Filtration		
8. Treatment: Disinfection		
8. Treatment: Additional		
9. Sampling: Process Monitoring Samples		
9. Sampling: Lab Analysis		
10. Operational Supplies: Equipment		
10. Operational Supplies: Chemicals		
10. Operational Supplies: Pumps		
11. System Maintenance: General		
11. System Maintenance: Flushing		
12. System Operations: Storage		
13. Distribution: Piping		
13. Distribution: Valves		

Administration

Section	Date You Completed the Sheet (or enter N/A)	Date Sheet Was Reviewed by Supervisor
14. Rules and Regulations: Relevant		
14. Rules and Regulations: Permits		
14. Rules and Regulations: Waste Disposal		
15. Technology: Software		
16. Operator Certification: Information		
16. Operator Certification: Operations		

Administration

Section	Date You Completed the Sheet (or enter N/A)	Date Sheet Was Reviewed by Supervisor
14. Rules and Regulations: Relevant		
14. Rules and Regulations: Permits		
14. Rules and Regulations: Waste Disposal		
15. Technology: Software		
16. Operator Certification: Information		
16. Operator Certification: Opportunities		
17. Neighboring Utilities: Contacts		
17. Neighboring Utilities: Additional		
18. Other Information		

Request to Contact You

May we contact you if we have additional questions after your last day?
If so, what phone number and/or email address should we use to reach you?

Phone Number	
Email Address	

Acknowledgement of Completion

Please print and sign this page upon completion of the spreadsheet and checklist.

Employee	
Supervisor	



General System Information and System Contact Information

[Return to Handoff Checklist](#)

[Return to Contents](#)

General System Information	Response
Water System Name	
PWSID	
Classification Type (Community, Transient, etc.)	
Water Source(s) Type	
Estimated daily water production	
What area does the system supply? (Name towns, or areas within towns)	
Number of Connections	
Critical Customers (Hospitals, schools, etc. Contact information can be added to sheet 3.)	
Estimated Population of the System	
Operator Required (Types, Numbers)	
Other Systems that the System is Connected to or Has Formal or Informal Agreements With (Sheet 17)	

- General System Information
- System Owner Contact Information

General

Section	Date You Completed the Sheet (or enter N/A)	Date Sheet Was Reviewed by Supervisor
2. General System Information		
2. System Owner Contact Information		

Administration – Important Documents

{Entered Name Links to Other Sheets}

Fill in the following tables (4) with information regarding the documents you maintain

[Standard Operating Procedures \(SOPs\)](#)

[Logs, Sampling Plans, and Other Operation Documents](#)

[Historical Reference Documents \(ex: Past Sanitary Surveys\)](#)

[Key Files](#)

*Please note that columns may extend past the initial view of your screen.



SOPs; Logs, Sampling Plans, and Other Operation Documents; Historical Documents

Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)

[Return to Handoff Checklist](#)

[Return to Contents](#)

Name	Purpose	Physical or Electronic Location	How frequently is this document updated?	Person Responsible for Updating Document	Date of Most Recent Update



Key Files



- File Name
- Purpose
- Physical or Electronic Location and File Path (if electronic)
- Frequency of Use
- Person Responsible for Updating Document
- Date of Most Recent Update



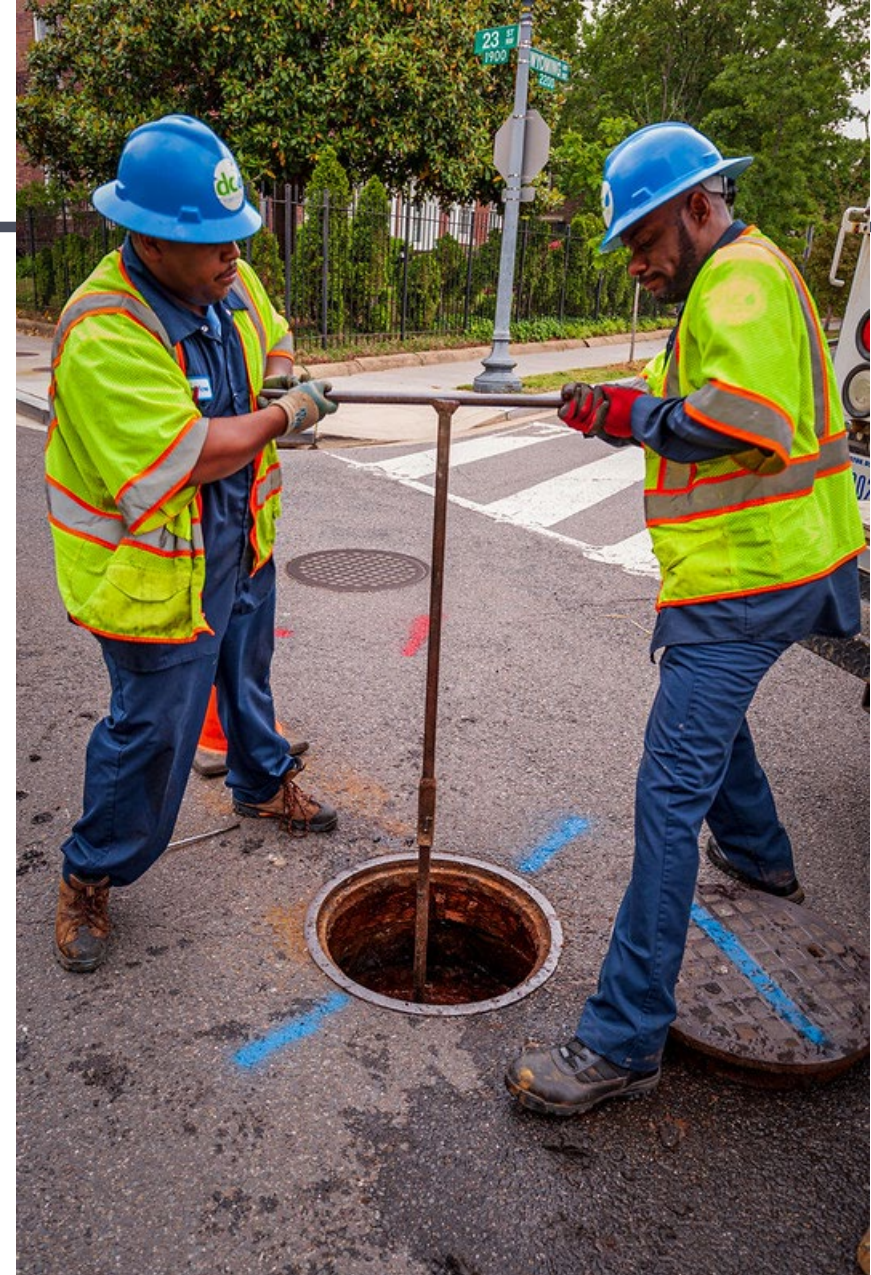
Emergency Contacts

- Organization
- Contact Person (if applicable)
- Title
- Phone number, Email Address and Address



System's Staff Contacts

- Operator Name
- Position
- Phone Number and Email Address
- What services does the contract operator provide?
- What grade(s) of operators are provided by the contract operator?
- When should this operator be contacted?





Lab Contacts

- Name of Lab
- Phone number, Email Address, Address





State and Local Government Contacts

- Name
- Position
- Office or Department
- Phone Number, Email Address, Address
- When should they be contacted?





Neighboring System Contacts

- Linked to tables in Sheet 17.

Neighboring Systems Contacts

{Entire table below linked to Sheet 17}

[Go to Sheet 17](#)

[Return to Handoff Checklist](#)

[Return to Contents](#)

System Name	Contact Person	Position	Phone Number	Email Address	Are your systems



Contractor, Vendor, and Other Key Contacts

- Name
- Organization/Company (if applicable)
- Service Provided [Contractors and Vendors]
- Position [Other Key Contacts]
- Phone Number, Email Address, Address





General – Source Water

{Entered Name Links to Other Sheets}

Fill in the below tables (3) regarding your source water

[Source Water Characteristics](#)

[Source Water Monitoring](#)

[Source Water Vulnerabilities](#)

*Please note that columns may extend past the initial view of your screen.



Source Water Characteristics

- Source Water Type
- What is the name of each source water?
- Where is the source located?
- Name of Watershed (If applicable)
- What is the size of the watershed (square miles)?
- Are there any water rights issues regarding the watershed?
- What percentage of the watershed land is owned by the water system?
- Known Point Sources of Pollution Within Watershed
- Known Non-Point Sources of Pollution Within Watershed
- For ground water supplies, is there a map that shows the area of influence? If so, where is it located?
- Are there any potential sources of pollution in the well's area of influence?
- Additional Watershed Characteristics



Source Water Monitoring

- Parameter Monitored
- Where are your sampling locations?
- Describe the monitoring process
- How frequently do you monitor this parameter?
- What equipment is necessary for the monitoring/sampling and where is it stored?
- Who calibrates the field instruments?
- Do you have a written SOP for calibrating field instruments and collecting samples?
- Are there state or federal regulations related to this parameter?
- When did the most recent monitoring occur?
- Who analyzes the sample (if applicable)?
- Additional Monitoring Comments



Source Water Vulnerabilities

- Contaminant Name
- How frequently does this contaminant appear in your source water?
- Source of Contaminant (if known)
- Mitigation Actions You Take If the Contaminant is Detected in Source Water
- Who (if anyone) should be contacted if this contaminant is detected in source water?
- Are there any ongoing actions to prevent the contaminant from entering source water?





Quick Response – Emergencies

{Entered Name Links to Other Sheets}

Fill in the following tables (3) regarding Emergencies

[Emergency Response Documents](#)

[System Alarms](#)

[Emergency Generators](#)

*Please note that columns may extend past the initial view of your screen.

[4. Key Emergency Contacts](#)



Emergency Response Documents

Emergency Response Documents

Document Name	Type of Emergency Response Plan (examples provided)
	Water System Emergency Response Plan
	Town Emergency Response Plan
	State Emergency Response Plan

Looking for more information on Emergency Response Plans and Risk Assessments as part of America's Water Infrastructure Act? Check out more resources here:

<https://www.epa.gov/waterresilience/americas-water-infrastructure-act-risk-assessments-and-emergency-response-plans>

- Document Name
- Type of Emergency Response Plan (examples provided)
- Physical or Electronic?
- What situation does it address?
- Is this document confidential?
- Who has copies of this document?
- Where is it located?
- When was it last updated?
- How often are tabletop or field exercises conducted so that staff members are familiar with the emergency plans?



System Alarms

- Set Points for Pumps
- Set Points for Storage Equipment
- Set Points for Treatment Equipment
- Set points for Pressure Issues
- How are you notified of an alarm?
- How are the triggers resolved?





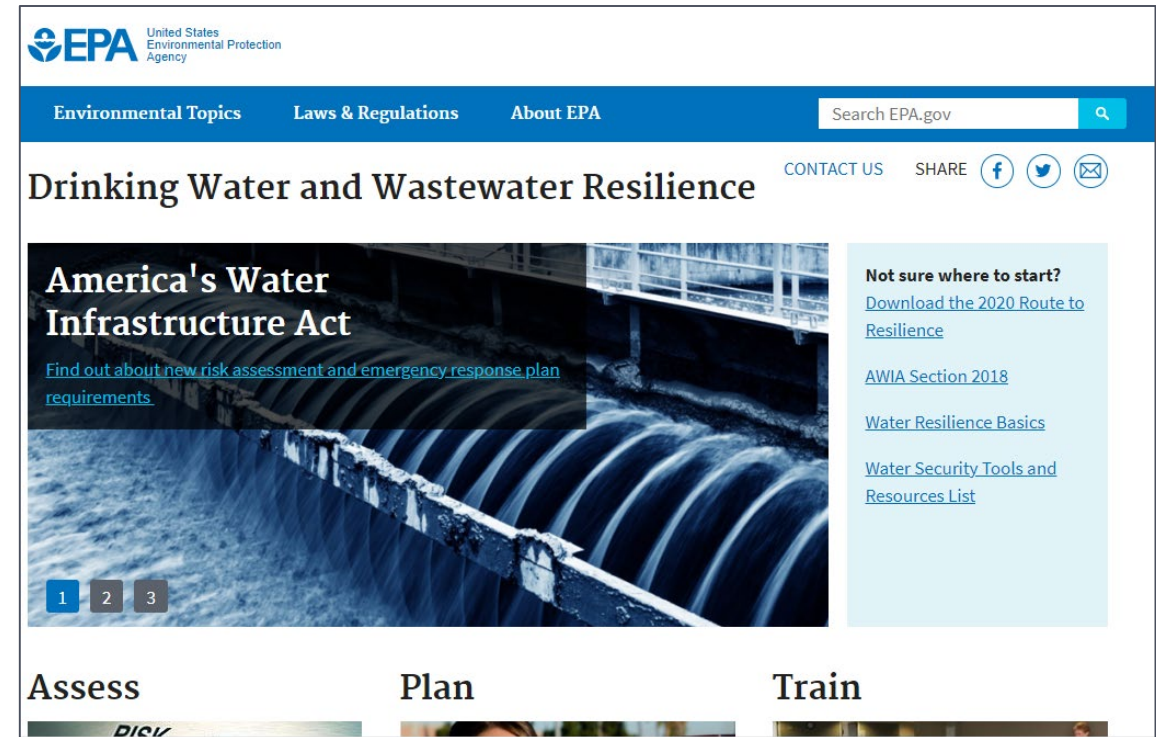
Emergency Generators

- Type (Make/Model)
- KW Provided
- Type of Plug Used
- Location
- Does it turn on automatically or manually?
- What equipment does this generator provide power for?
- Is the generator sized to power all of this equipment?
- Is there a carbon monoxide detector installed?
- Frequency of exercising (loaded and unloaded) tests/maintenance checks
- Date of Last Maintenance Check
- Who Conducts the Maintenance Checks?
- Contact Information (if applicable)



Overall Water System Security System

- Do you have a security system in place?
- Briefly, how does it work?
- Who is in charge of its operation?
- Are there regular tests or drills?
- What is the schedule for regular tests or drills?
- What company installed and maintains the system?
- What is their contact information?
- If the security system triggers, how are you notified?
- If the security triggers, what is the immediate response?



<https://www.epa.gov/waterresilience>



Facility Security Systems

- Do you have security cameras at remote facilities?
- Facility Name (if applicable)
- Are they in operable condition? Where is the video feed transmitted?
- What is the protocol for accessing SCADA?
- Are there critical passwords needed to access the system? If so, what are they?
- Does the water system have any security needs?





System Operation – Filtration and Treatment

{Entered Name Links to Other Sheets}

Fill in the following tables (3) regarding various water treatment mechanisms you use

[Filtration](#)

[Disinfection](#)

[Additional Treatment](#)

*Please note that columns may extend past the initial view of your screen.



Filtration

- Filtration Type
- How frequently is this technique used?
- How often are the filters backwashed?
- What parameters are used to determine when a filter needs to be backwashed?
- How often does the filter media need to be replaced?
- When was the media last replaced?





Disinfection

- Disinfection Type
- Contaminant Treated
- Location in the System
- Frequency of Application
- What is the dosage (if applicable)?
- What upkeep is necessary?
- Necessary Chemicals, Equipment, Etc.





Additional Treatment Methods

- Treatment Method
- Location
- Frequency of Use
- What is the dosage (if applicable)?
- What upkeep is necessary?
- Necessary Chemicals, Equipment, Etc.





System Operation – Process Monitoring and Sampling

{Entered Name Links to Other Sheets}

Fill in the following tables (2) regarding various samples you collect for compliance and to ensure the treatment processes are working correctly.

[Process Monitoring Samples](#)

[Sample Collection for Lab Analysis](#)

*Please note that columns may extend past the initial view of your screen.



Process Monitoring Samples

- Water Quality Parameter
- When are measurements taken?
- Instrument Make and Model
- Calibration Frequency for Instrument
- When was the instrument last calibrated?
- Is there a SOP for collecting process monitoring samples?





Sample Collection for Lab Analysis

- Type of Sample Collected
- Sampling Frequency
- When should the next sample be collected?
- Name of Lab
- Name of Sample Collector(s)
- Is sampler certified?
- Is there a SOP for sample collection?





Equipment

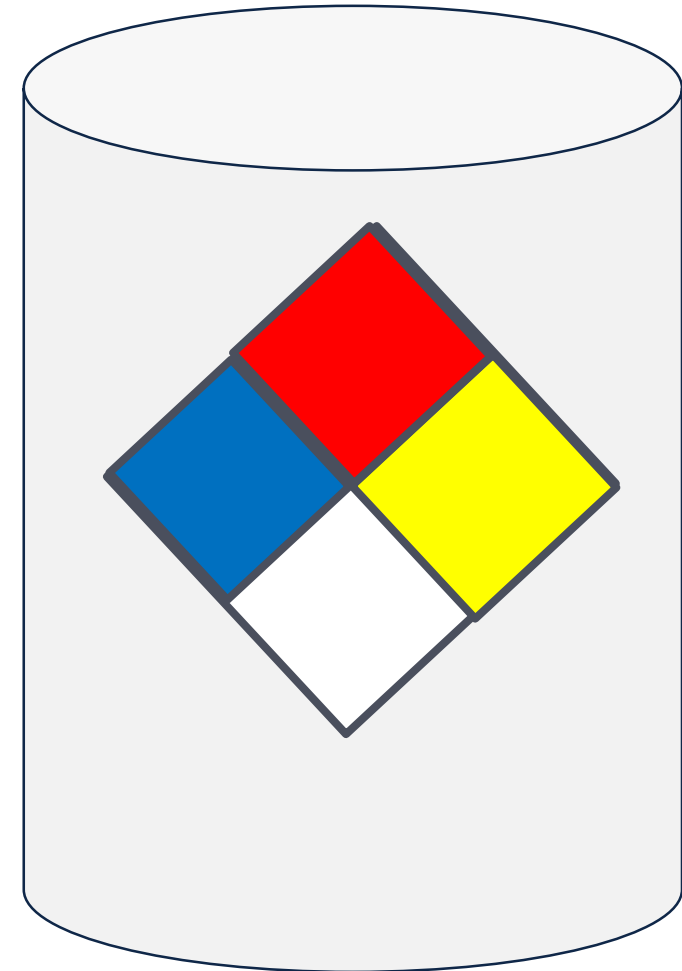
- Name
- What is this piece of equipment used for?
- Where is this piece of equipment stored?
- Where are the instructions and equipment documentation stored?
- Does this piece of equipment require any maintenance or regular calibration?
- If yes, when was it last reviewed for maintenance or calibrated?
- How often does this piece of equipment need to be replaced (e.g., expected useful life)?
- When was this piece of equipment last replaced?
- Manufacturer Contact Information (website, phone number, address)





Chemicals

- Chemical Name
- What is this chemical used for?
- What is the proper dosage?
- Where is this chemical kept?
- Chemical Supplier
- Supplier Contact Information
- If primary supplier is not available, what is the name of an alternate chemical supplier?
- Alternate Supplier Contact Information
- How often are refills necessary?
- Is this product certified for use in drinking water?





Pumps

- Pump Name/ID
- Pump Schedule
- Pump Cycling
- Pump Operating Set Points
- What routine maintenance is performed?
- Date of Most Recent Maintenance Activity
- Date of Most Recent Pump Replacement





General Maintenance

- What maintenance do you perform regularly?
- How frequently do you perform this activity?
- Who do you contact when a piece is in need of repair or replacement?
- Contact Information (website, phone number, etc.)





Flushing Information

- Do you conduct regular system flushing?
- Is there a flushing plan/schedule and where is a copy located?
- If there is no flushing plan in place, please list the top 5-10 areas where flushing is most critical.
- When was the last system flushing?





Storage Tanks

- Tank Name or ID
- Tank Type (standpipe, ground level, elevated, buried, etc.)
- Tank Volume (Million gallons)
- Tank Operating Levels (high and low, in feet)
- Last Inspection Date
- Were any repairs identified in the last inspection report?
- If yes, were these repairs completed?
- Last Cleaning Date
- Last Date of Interior Coating
- Last Date of Exterior Coating



System Operation – Distribution

{Entered Name Links to Other Sheets}

Fill in the following tables (2) regarding your distribution system.

[Water System Pipes](#)

[Water System Valves \(Distribution System\)](#)

*Please note columns may extend past the initial view of your screen.

[3. Other Operations Document to record information about the distribution system map](#)



Water System Pipes

- Miles of Mains or Number of Service Lines
- Material of Construction
- Average Number of Water Main Breaks per Year
- Water main replacement program: how many feet of old water main are replaced each year?





Water System Valves



- Do you have a valve inspection program?
- If so, how often are valves inspected?
- Is the location of all system valves known? If so, are they located with GPS data?
- Name of Supplier



Administration – Rules and Regulations

{Entered Name Links to Other Sheets}

Fill in the following tables (3) regarding the relevant regulations, permits and waste disposal processes your system must follow.

[Relevant Rules and Regulations](#)

[Required Permits for Operations](#)

[Waste Disposal](#)

*Please note columns may extend past the initial view of your screen.



Relevant Rules and Regulations

- Rule
- Brief Summary
- Local, State, or Federal?
- Relevance to Your System
- Where to find more information on the rule and its requirements (link to source document online, reference number, etc.)?

EPA United States Environmental Protection Agency

Environmental Topics Laws & Regulations About EPA Search EPA.gov

CONTACT US SHARE

Drinking Water Requirements for States and Public Water Systems

Sanitary Surveys

Sanitary surveys provide an opportunity for the primacy agency to visit the water system and educate the operator about proper monitoring and sampling procedures and to provide technical assistance. [View resources on sanitary surveys.](#)

Related Information

- [Safe Drinking Water Act](#)
- [Lead in Drinking Water](#)
- [WIIN Strategic Plan](#)
- [Analytical Methods](#)
- [Regulation Development Process](#)
- [Existing Flexibilities under the Safe Drinking Water Act](#)

1 2 3 4

Rules Water Systems State Resources

<https://www.epa.gov/dwreginfo>



Required Permits for Operations

- Permit
- Where can this permit be obtained?
- Does this permit require renewal? If yes, when does the renewal process need to be started?
- Address, Website URL, Phone Number



Waste Disposal

- Type of Waste (floc from treatment, unused chemicals)
- Volume Produced (gallons per day)
- Disposal Method





Software and/or Web-based Programs and Tools

- Program Name
- Description and Use
- Installed on the computer or accessed online?
- License purchase necessary?
- Cost (if applicable)
- Frequency of Use
- Location of Manuals, Instructions, Job Aids, Etc. (including links to online resources)
- Available Training





Operator Certification Information and Certification and Training Opportunities

Operator Certification Information

- Level Required
- Renewal Frequency
- Hours Required for Renewal
- Renewal Contact Information

Certification and Training Opportunities

- Program Name
- Program Location
- Program Website

Looking for information on Operator Certification in your state?
Check out these resources on the EPA website:
<https://www.epa.gov/dwcapacity/find-epa-drinking-water-operator-certification-contact>



Neighboring Utilities

{Entered Name Links to Other Sheets}

Fill in the below tables (2) with important contacts and their contact information

[Neighboring Systems Contacts](#)

[Additional Information About Neighboring Systems](#)

*Please note that columns may extend past the initial view of your screen.



Neighboring Systems Contacts and Additional Information About Neighboring Systems

Neighboring Systems Contacts

- System Name
- Contact Person
- Position
- Phone Number, Email Address

Additional Information About Neighboring Systems

- Are your systems interconnected?
- Do you have any emergency agreements with them?
- When should they be contacted?
- How far is the system for your system?
- Do you know what type of treatment/chemicals are used at the neighboring system? If yes, list them



Other Information

- What other information do you feel would be helpful for us to know about your position?



An Example of Filling out the Tool

Please stand by as we switch to a live
demonstration of the Tool



Wrapping Up

- Link to EPA's Knowledge Retention Tool for Small Water Systems:

<https://www.epa.gov/dwcapacity/interactive-tools-owners-and-operators>

Q&A Session

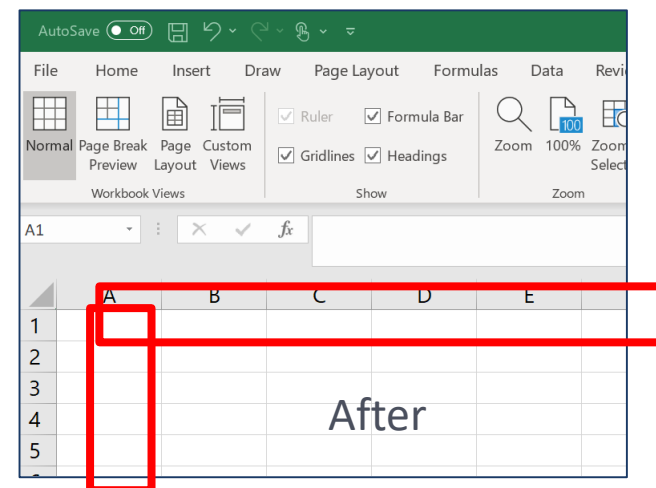
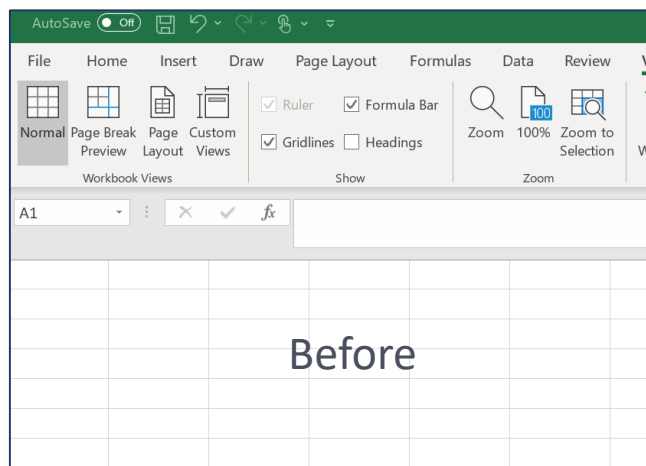
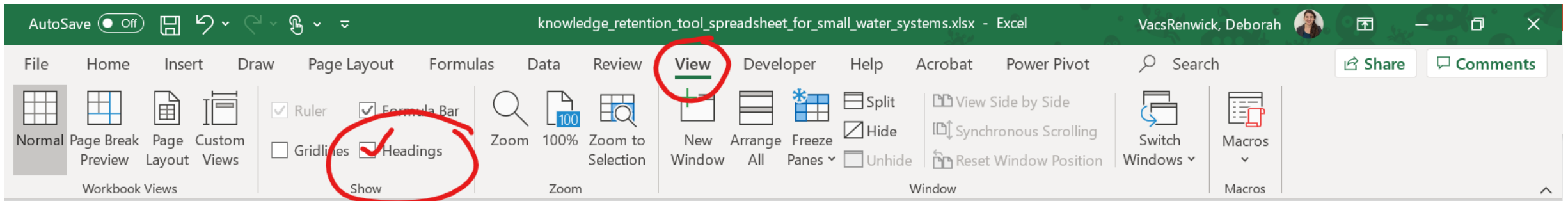
Questions about the Tool? Please send them to
our presenters directly using the “Question”
function

APPENDIX

Tips and Tricks for Navigating the Knowledge Retention Tool

Why can't I see the rows and columns in the spreadsheet?

- Row numbers and column letters have been hidden for a cleaner look - you can un-hide them by going to View and checking "headings"



How do I put multiple lines of text into one cell?

- If you want to put something on a new line but stay within the same cell, use the ALT Key and ENTER Key together.

~	!	@	#	\$	%	^	&	*	()	-	+	Delete
.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	_	=	
Tab	Q	W	E	R	T	Y	U	I	O	P	{	}	
	[\
Caps	A	S	D	F	G	H	J	K	L	:	"		Enter
Shift	Z	X	C	V	B	N	M	<	>	?			Shift
Ctrl		Alt											Ctrl

Computerhope.com

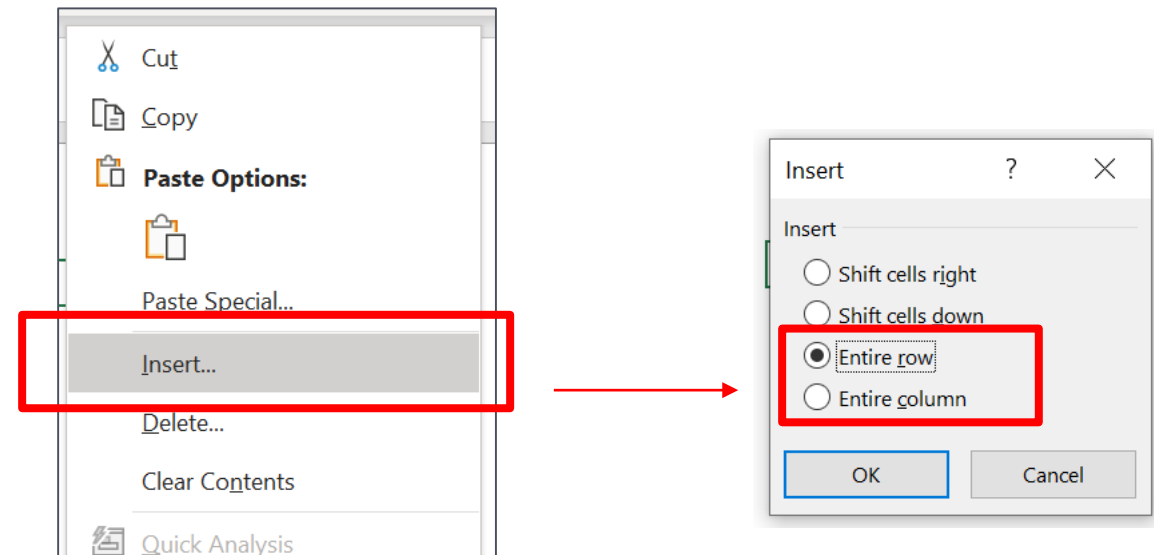
- Example:

	List of wells within wellfield A:	
	- well #1	
	- well #2	
	- well #3	



How can I add an extra row or column?

- To add a row:
 1. Right click where you want the extra row to be added (the row will go above where you click)
 2. Select “Insert”
 3. Pick “Entire Row” and click “OK”
- To add a column:
 1. Right click where you want the extra column to be added (the column will go to the left of where you click)
 2. Select “Insert”
 3. Pick “Entire Column” and click “OK”



I can't see all the tabs/sheets – how do I get to them?

- 3 ways to do this

1. Use the hyperlinks to navigate between sheets

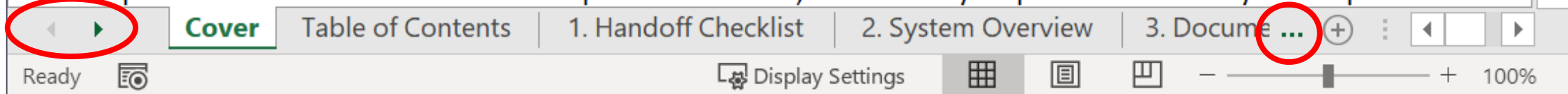
[Return to Contents Tab](#)

Contents			
Progress through the spreadsheet			
Sheet No.	Type of Resource	Description	Information Captured
1	Checklist	Handoff Checklist	Review and acknowledgement that everything has been documented
2	General	System Overview	General system information
3	Administrative	Documents	Important documents for system operation
4	General	People	Important contacts and their information
5	General	Source Water	Source water information
6	Quick Response	Emergencies	Emergency preparedness contacts and documents
7	Quick Response	Security	Security system information
8	System Operation	Filtration and Treatment	Water treatment mechanisms
9	System Operation	Process Monitoring and Sampling	Sampling techniques and frequencies for compliance and process monitoring
10	System Operation	Operational Supplies	Supplies used in standard operation and where they can be obtained
11	System Operation	System Maintenance	Maintenance and flushing activities
12	System Operation	Storage	Water storage information
13	System Operation	Distribution	Distribution infrastructure and information
14	Administrative	Rules and Regulations	Applicable legislation
15	Administrative	Technology	Operational system software usage
16	Administrative	Operator Certification	Operator certification information
17	Other	Neighboring Utilities	Contact and additional information about neighboring utilities
18	Other	Other Information	Miscellaneous water system information

Last Updated: 11/5/2020 17:57

responsibilities in your remaining time here.

This spreadsheet does not need to be completed all at once; in fact it may help to work on it as you complete the differ

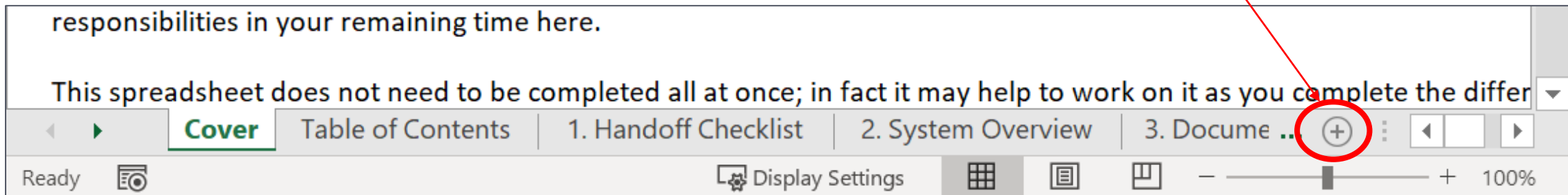


2. Use these arrows to go to the next or previous tab

3. Click on these dots to see the next couple tabs. Note that the same dots will appear on the left if there are unseen tabs to the left

How do I add an extra sheet/tab?

Click on the “+” sign to add a new sheet/tab to the tool



- Note: if you add an extra sheet/tab, it won't automatically be added to the table of contents or the handoff checklist but you can add it there manually. It will not automatically count towards the progress bar either unless you make some changes to the formulas