



September 6, 2016

**Office of Water Quality Water-Quality Information Note 2016.04**

**Subject: Office of Water Quality (OWQ) Web Page: Guidance for Accepting  
Furnished Water-Quality Records**

**Purpose:**

The purpose of this note is to announce a new internal OWQ [Web Page](#) with guidance for acceptance of water-quality data provided from furnished records. A memorandum from the USGS Water Mission Area (WMA) on July 7, 2016, reiterated the policy for accepting furnished records for all hydrologic data. [OWQ Technical Memorandum No. 2016.08](#) is the policy developed for accepting furnished records of water-quality data. The new Web Page describes processes for accepting furnished records for continuous and discrete water-quality data. The Web Page features existing resources on data quality, site and data documentation, data timeliness, records processing and review, data publication, and USGS Software for water-quality-data review. The Web Page brings this information together in one convenient location.

Data that are collected and (or) analyzed by partner agencies (all or in part) and stored in NWIS are referred to as "furnished record." The USGS WMA supports the acceptance of furnished records as long as those data meet the rigorous USGS standards and provide useful information about water resources to the Nation.

The new Web Page – “Furnished-Record Policy: Supplemental Information for Water-Quality Data” is linked on the OWQ Intranet and can be accessed directly at: <http://water.usgs.gov/usgs/owq/policy/furnished-records/>

Please contact Cherie Miller ([cvmiller@usgs.gov](mailto:cvmiller@usgs.gov)) if you have any questions or comments.

WaQI Notes are archived on the OWQ web site, <http://water.usgs.gov/usgs/owq/WaQI/index.html>

Signed,  
The Office of Water Quality

Distribution: All WMA Employees

**Reference:**

Office of Water Quality Technical Memorandum No. 2016.08 “Water Mission Area policy on accepting furnished records, dated July 7, 2016 and accessed September 6, 2016 at <http://water.usgs.gov/admin/memo/QW/qw2016.08.pdf>.