



Northeast Tri County Health District

Well Water Testing

Guidance for Property Owners and Consumers

If you own a private well, you are responsible for testing your own water. Most lending institutions require the seller to provide water-sampling results to show the water is safe to drink when you buy or sell a home with a private water supply. Proof of adequate water is also necessary for certain building permits. If water treatment is necessary, a title notice may have been recorded for the property.

Contaminant	Testing Frequency (Minimum)	Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)
Coliform bacteria	Yearly	Must be ABSENT
Nitrate	Yearly (Summer)	10 mg/L
Arsenic	Twice: Summer and Winter	.01 mg/L
Uranium	Every 3-5 years (Summer)	30 pCi/L

If these contaminants are found, treatment is necessary to ensure safe drinking water.

should be repeated every three to five years. Uranium, like Nitrate, is known to have seasonal variation. Testing is best in the summer (April-September). At least twice, while you own the well, we also suggest testing for arsenic--once in summer and again in winter--to check any seasonal influences that may occur. Although arsenic does not cause rapid health effects, continued consumption over a relatively short time could lead to health concerns.

Please be sure to contact the lab prior to submitting your water sample to obtain the correct water sample container and information about collecting the water sample.

Bacterial Testing Only	Lincoln County Health Department PO Box 105 Davenport, WA 99122 (509) 725-2501 https://www.co.lincoln.wa.us/public-health/drinking-water/	Selkirk Regional Environmental Lab 10372 Hwy 31 Ione, WA 99139 (509) 446-3505	Okanogan County Public Health 1234 S. 2 nd Ave. Okanogan, WA 98840 (509)422-7140 https://www.okanogancounty.org/ochd/drinking_water.html
Inorganic & Bacterial Testing	Anatek Labs, Inc E 504 Sprague Avenue, Suite D Spokane WA 99202 (509) 838-3999 http://www.anateklabs.com/	AAA Laboratory 404 1 st Street Cheney, WA 99004 (509)235-9390 http://aaalab.org/	Tshimakain Creek Laboratories 5503 E. Broadway Spokane Valley, WA 99212 (509)928-3577 http://t-creek.com/

This is a partial list of local labs certified by the Washington State Department of Ecology (DOE). A complete list of accredited labs as well as additional information is available on the DOE Website at:

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/eap/labs/choozlab.htm>.

Stevens County	Pend Oreille County	Ferry County
240 E. Dominion Colville, WA 99114 Phone: (509) 684-2262 Option 2 Fax: (509) 684-8506	605 Highway 20 Newport, WA 99156 Phone: (509) 447-3131 Fax: (509) 447-5644	PO Box 584/ 147 N. Clark, Ste 1 Republic, WA 99166 Phone: (509) 775-3111 Fax: (509) 775-2858

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