WELL WATER PLAN

Well Water Test Planner

Plan one lab test the right way. Tick each box, then keep this page with your results.

THE YEARLY TEST (CDC)

- [ ] Total coliform bacteria.
- [ ] Nitrate (CDC says all well owners should test every year).
- [ ] Total dissolved solids (TDS).
- [ ] pH.

ASK YOUR HEALTH DEPARTMENT ABOUT

- [ ] VOCs, lead, arsenic, mercury, radium, pesticides or herbicides.
- [ ] Which ones matter where you live.
- [ ] Radon in water, if radon in your air is high.

ASK THE LAB ABOUT NUISANCE PROBLEMS

- [ ] Iron and manganese (orange or black stains).
- [ ] Hardness (scale, soap film).
- [ ] Sulfate and chloride (odor, salty taste).

TEST SOONER IF

- [ ] You hear about local well water problems.
- [ ] Flooding, land disturbance or nearby waste sites may affect your well.
- [ ] You repair or replace any part of the well system.
- [ ] Taste, color or smell changes.
- [ ] Someone is pregnant or a child starts living with you.

GET IT DONE

- [ ] Get a list of state-certified labs from your health department, environmental department or county. Safe Drinking Water Hotline: (800) 426-4791.
- [ ] Ask the lab for sample bottles and read the instructions fully.
- [ ] Follow the lab's rules on tap, flushing time, bottle fill and delivery deadline.
- [ ] Deliver the sample quickly, as the lab says.

AFTER THE RESULTS

- [ ] Positive for bacteria? Stop drinking it untreated, boil for a 1-minute rolling boil or use another safe source, and call your health department.
- [ ] Choose treatment by the lab number, not by guesswork.
- [ ] Retest after any treatment is installed to confirm it works.
- [ ] Write the date here and plan next year's test: _____

> Taste, smell and color do not tell you whether water is safe to drink. For health-related testing use a state-certified lab; home kits are screening only. Not medical or plumbing advice.

Free well water checker: wellwaterplan.com/whats-wrong-with-my-well-water/ · Based on CDC well testing guidance (details on the site)

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