

# WELL TESTING PROGRAM

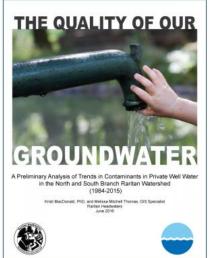
- RHA partners with municipalities throughout the region to offer residents the opportunity to test their well water.
- Testing is done by a state-certified laboratory for analysis.
- Test results come directly to us, and we share the results directly with residents.

partnership \* community service \* convenience \* affordability \* privacy



The only way to know your well water is safe is to test it!

# 





1,280 people tested their drinking water in 2016 675 wells tested since January 2017

# Well Testing Throughout the Watershed

- Program established in 1974
- ✓ Over 16,000 records
- √ 80% of residents rely on well water

# Participating Municipalities

- Alexandria Township
- Bedminster Township
- Bernardsville Borough
- Bethlehem Township
- Bridgewater Township
- Califon Borough
- Chester Twp & Boro
- Clinton Township
- Delaware Township
- East Amwell Township
- Far Hills Borough
- Franklin Township

- Kingwood Township
- Lebanon Township
- Mendham Township
- Mount Olive Township
- Raritan Township
- Readington Township
- Roxbury Township
- Tewksbury Township
- Union Township
- Washington Township
- West Amwell Township







#### Convenience

Residents find the program's accessibility and affordability appealing. This is key to increasing participation rates.



#### Communication

Township generated messages are an effective means of communicating with the public. Residents need reminders to test!



#### Community

Health professionals and groundwater professionals can work together to help well owners.



#### Education

Well owners come from every social, economic and educational class. Many homeowners are new to rural life and the responsibility that comes with a well.

# STEPS TO BETTER PARTICIPATION



# 2



#### Support

township partners in communication efforts and provide resources for education and outreach

### Emphasize

convenience, privacy and affordability

#### Disseminate

information to the public regarding local contamination risks and the need to test.

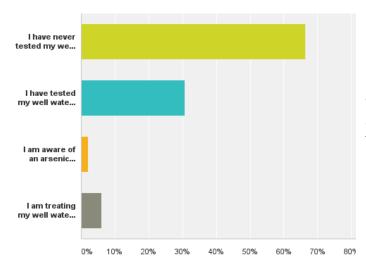
Work with partners in healthcare fields for broader reach

# Informational Survey for Private Well Owners

## Community Well Test Participant Pilot Study, Fall 2016

A Joint Project of Raritan Headwaters and Columbia University Superfund Research Program (Community Engagement and Research Translation Cores)

- 88% heard about the program through a township communication
- 64% tested through RHA out of convenience
- 70% of respondents have never tested their well for arsenic



What is your experience with arsenic? Please choose all that apply



# https://www.raritanheadwaters.org/arsenicawareness-toolkit-for-local-leaders/





# Thank you for joining us today! We hope to see you at our next Watershed Tools for Local Leaders Workshop.

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