



What Should I Test My Well Water For?

Need help? Call the Well Test Office at 908-234-1852 ext 401

Test	Reasons to Test	Possible Sources
Basic Kit - \$60.00 Coliform bacteria and Fecal (E. coli) Confirmation + Nitrates <i>Testing recommended annually</i>	Testing for coliform bacteria and nitrates every year provides a general indication of the sanitary quality of your drinking water. Presence of coliform bacteria indicates water contamination and the presence of intestinal parasites and pathogens. High levels of nitrates are harmful to infants and pregnant women.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structural issues (cracks in well casing, damaged or non-watertight well cap) • Septic system problems or seepage near well • Stormwater runoff • Seepage from fertilized land
pH, Conductivity & Total Dissolved Solids - \$5.00 Performed by RHA	Good indicator of overall groundwater quality. Helpful in determining if water is corrosive.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dissolved mineral, salts, or metals in the water • Urban and agricultural runoff
Iron - \$15.00 <i>Testing recommended if you are experiencing any signs</i>	Discoloration of laundry or plumbing fixtures, rust stains. Bitter or metallic taste.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Naturally occurring deposits • Industrial wastes
Manganese - \$15.00 <i>Testing recommended if you are experiencing any signs</i>	Discoloration of laundry or plumbing fixtures, rust stains. Bitter or metallic taste.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Naturally occurring deposits • Manufacturing and agricultural runoff
Lead - \$25.00 <i>Testing recommended for homes built before 1987</i>	Can cause physical or mental development problems in infants or children. Kidney problems or high blood pressure in adults. Harmful to pregnant women and developing babies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corrosion of household pipes, fittings, solder • Soft water may be more corrosive
Copper - \$25.00 <i>Testing recommended if you are experiencing symptoms or see signs of copper pipe corrosion</i>	High levels can cause vomiting, diarrhea and stomach cramps/nausea. Long term exposure can cause anemia and disrupt liver and kidney function. Discoloration/blue-green stains of plumbing fixtures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corrosion of household pipes and fittings. • Soft water may be more corrosive
Arsenic - \$35.00 <i>Testing recommended every 5 years or more frequently if monitoring an installed arsenic treatment system</i>	Can cause increased risk of cancers, gastrointestinal ailments, diabetes, and cardiovascular impacts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Naturally occurring deposits in bedrock and soil • Wood preservative
Volatile Organics (62 chemicals) - \$95.00 <i>Testing recommended at least once, but best to test every 5-7 years</i>	High levels can cause liver, nervous system disorders, irregular heartbeat, high blood pressure, anemia and cancer.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Underground fuel storage tanks, gas stations, • Landfills and hazardous waste sites • Dry cleaners • Septic systems
Radon - \$50.00 <i>Testing recommended at least once</i>	Exposure to radon in drinking water can lead to lung cancer. Can be ingested or inhaled as gases are released from the water into the air.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Naturally occurring, produced by the decay of uranium and radium in soil, rock and water
Gross Alpha - \$80.00 <i>Testing recommended at least once</i>	Exposure to gross alpha emitters in drinking water can lead to lung cancer. Can be ingested, or inhaled as gases that are released from the water into the air	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erosion of natural deposits of minerals that are radioactive, may emit alpha radiation, which can enter the home through well water
Hardness - \$15.00	High levels can cause dry, itchy skin, mineral buildup around faucets, scummy residue on tubs/showers, rusty toilet rings, and reduced appliance lifespan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Naturally occurring deposits of calcium and magnesium