



Environmental Services

The Environmental Section of the Jefferson County Health Department performs a variety of services that impact the entire Jefferson County community. Often called the “invisible profession”, the services provided by environmental health professionals in Jefferson County have a positive, significant impact upon the health of our citizens by protecting the environment in which we all live.

The Environmental Lab tests water from Missouri Department of Natural Resources regulated sources such as Jefferson County cities and water districts, mobile home parks, and subdivisions.

Visit the Health Department web site for more information:

www.jeffcohealth.org/departments/environmental-services/



Flooding and Private Wells

In April, 2011 the Jefferson County Health Department issued a press release titled, “Free Water Sampling for Private Wells Due to Recent Flooding”. It stated:

“Citizens of Jefferson County using a private well for their drinking water source are urged to have the water tested if they experienced recent flooding. High flood waters infiltrating a drinking water source could pose a risk of contamination. This contamination may cause illness to individuals drinking the water. People using a private well that has been flooded may have their water tested at Jefferson County Health Department for free. Please contact the Jefferson County Health Department for more information concerning well sampling.”

Jefferson County Health Department
405 Second Street, PO Box 437
Hillsboro MO 63050
Phone: 636-797-3737 FAX: 636-797-4631

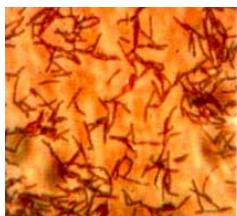
Environmental Services - Laboratory Services

WATER TESTING & SCREENING OF DRINKING WATER



Jefferson County Health Department
636-797-3737 Extension 3

Bacteriological Water Testing



The Jefferson County Health Department Lab is state certified for the testing of drinking water samples from private and

public wells for bacterial contamination. If you have a private well, it should be tested for bacterial contamination periodically to ensure the water you drink is safe.

Common soil bacteria called coliforms may be present in well water. Although they do not cause disease themselves, their presence may indicate that other bacteria or viruses are also present, sometimes due to poor well construction. To protect your health, well water should have NO bacteria in it.

Testing Costs:

Citizens of the county: \$14.00
Non Citizens: \$17.00

Drinking water samples must be collected in a sterile container provided by the health department. (Water collected in containers that are not provided by our lab will not be tested.) Results are usually available in 24 to 48 hours.

Element & Chemical Screening of Drinking Water

The Health Department lab is not certified to do chemical testing of drinking water. The lab can, however, perform screens of drinking water for certain elements and chemicals. The screens are not precise, but serve as an indicator for common elements and chemicals.

The lab can screen for the following:

Sulfide	Alkalinity
Sulfate	Bromine
Nitrogen Ammonia	Chloride
Manganese	Copper
Nitrite	Iodine
Nitrate	Iron
Conductivity	Fluoride
PH	Hardness
Acidity	Hardness Total

Testing Costs:

Each Element or chemical: \$5.00
Up to five elements or chemicals: \$20.00

You Be The Inspector !

In some areas of Jefferson County, residents get their water from private wells. Although most well water is of good quality, there are several contaminants, both naturally occurring and otherwise, which may affect the suitability of the water supply.



It is recommended that well water be routinely tested. Unlike public water supplies that are continuously monitored, each homeowner is responsible for assuring a safe supply of water from his/her own well.

If your well water contains contaminants that exceed safe drinking water standards, contact the Health Department for treatment methods. Ask staff about obtaining these flyers:

- Explanation of Unsatisfactory Bacteriological Water Sample Results
- Procedure for Emergency Disinfection of Drinking Water
- Procedure for Well Disinfection
- Procedure for Eliminating "Rotten Egg Odor" from Hot Water

Visit the Health Department web site at www.jeffcohealth.org