

Free Drinking Well Water Sampling!!

Kent Conservation District

Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program (MAEAP)

My household gets its drinking water from a private well, and I would like to have this well tested for nitrate and nitrite.

I understand that I will not be charged for this test. I also understand that the results from my test will be confidential. The Kent Conservation District and the Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program (MAEAP) will sponsor a free domestic drinking water well screening during our upcoming tree and plant sales events. Those that wish to have their well water tested free of charge can bring water samples to one of our upcoming events.

Samples from drinking water wells will be screened for nitrate and nitrite. The screening is open to everyone who uses a personal well for drinking water. Bring your sample to one of our events. Please complete the well water information form and bring it with your water sample. This service is for private drinking water wells only. Public water supplies are tested regularly. Please do not bring samples from public water supplies or non-drinking water sources. Only drinking water well samples will be tested. You do not have to use a special bottle for this screening. Any small clean jar will work—one ounce of water is enough.

Please follow the directions below to sample your well. Collect samples just before getting them to the sample drop-off.

Samples must be less than 48 hours old for a valid nitrate result.

- 1. Complete the well water information form and bring it with your water sample.**
- 2. Pick a tap that supplies water that does not run through any treatment devices (water softener, carbon filter, etc.). An outdoor faucet often works well.**
- 3. Run the water for 20-30 minutes before collecting the sample. This will give the pump time to flush the water pressure tank and plumbing so you can collect a valid sample. Disconnect any hoses before collecting the sample; do not sample through a hose. Rinse the sample bottle and lid thoroughly in the water to be sampled; then fill and cap the bottle.**
- 4. Label the bottle clearly with your name, the sampling date, and the well name (cottage well, Mom's well, etc.) using a waterproof pen. Put the sample information sheet into a waterproof bag, and then seal the water sample and the information into a second waterproof bag.**
- 5. Keep the sample dark and cold (on ice or refrigerated) until it is dropped off.**

All results are confidential. You will get your results onsite at one of our upcoming events. Ask for Heather and she will test your water sample.

Please fill out the well water information form completely and bring it with your water sample to one of our spring events. You can get more information from The Kent Conservation District Office at 616-942-4111 ext 4, or from your local MAEAP technician, Samantha.Braman@macd.org.