

Regular testing is important to:

1. identify existing problems
2. ensure water is suitable for the intended use, especially if used for drinking by humans and animals
3. track changes over time
4. determine the effectiveness of a treatment system

The quality of a water source may change over time, even suddenly. Changes can go unnoticed as the water may look, smell, and taste the same.

Is My Water Safe to Drink?

The only way to tell if your drinking water is safe is by having it tested at a certified laboratory. Harmful bacteria, parasites, and viruses are invisible to the naked eye, so water which looks and tastes good may not necessarily be safe to drink.

What Tests Should I Have Done?

Useful tests are available to help determine the health and safety of a water supply, and the performance of a water treatment system. Your local health department can assist in selecting tests important for assessing your drinking water.

If you have questions, contact
Albert Gosselin Jr
Registered Sanitarian
(860) 887-5581 Ext 131
building@preston-ct.org

What Can I do to Protect Drinking Water Quality?

There are a number of different reasons why private wells may become contaminated or observe changes in water quality. Some are due to natural causes while many are caused by human activity. Because ground-water is actually precipitation that has infiltrated the soil and rock below us, what we do on the land surface can often have a large effect on the quality of our groundwater resource and private wells. While some land use activities have a larger impact on water quality than others, there are a number of things private well owners can do at home which may help to reduce the potential for groundwater contamination and improve their water supply.

1. Maintain your well
2. Use pesticides and fertilizer in moderation
3. Maintain proper care of your septic system

Water is a shared resource; we all must do our part to help keep our groundwater supplies safe.

Funded in part by the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection through a United States Environmental Protection Agency Clean Water Act Section 319 Nonpoint Source Grant in conjunction with Connecticut Federation of Lakes.



**Amos Lake Public
Awareness Project**



Why Test Your Drinking Water?

You expect the water from your faucet to be pure and safe for your family.

However, chemically pure water rarely exists in nature. Almost all natural and man-made chemicals can dissolve in and contaminate water. This can be dangerous because your well water begins as rain or snow that percolates into the ground and is then delivered to your home through your well. Water can become contaminated anywhere along its journey from rain to your home.

If you have a private well, water quality testing is important for you and your family. Contaminants in drinking water have been linked to cancer and toxicity, posing a risk to human health. Many of these contaminants have no taste, odor, or color. Their presence can only be determined by laboratory testing.

YOU are the only one responsible for monitoring the quality of your water and ensuring the health and safety of your family. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recommends that all homeowners with private wells test their drinking water every year.

