



Thank you for taking the initiative to test your private well water. As a Teton County resident, living *outside* city limits and using water from a *private well*, you are responsible for the testing, operation, and maintenance to ensure that your well water is safe to drink. Teton County, ID residents generally enjoy very high quality drinking water due to Teton County, Idaho's low density, rural population and its location high in the headwaters of the Teton River Watershed. However, it is important to note that some areas of Teton County, ID do have elevated nitrate levels caused by improperly maintained septic systems, personal or commercial fertilizer use, animal waste, or a combination of those factors. Also in Idaho, there are pockets of Arsenic and Fluoride due to underlying geology of the area. These factors are taken into account in the testing guidelines chart below.

The Idaho Department of Health and Welfare recommends that Idaho private well owners follow these testing guidelines:

Type of Contaminant	When to Test	When to Treat
Bacteria	Once a year	Treat any amount
Nitrate	Once a year	If 10 mg/L or higher
Nitrite	Once a year	If 1 mg/L or higher
Arsenic	Once every 3 to 5 years	If 0.01 mg/L or higher
Uranium	Once every 3 to 5 years	If 30 µg/L or higher
Fluoride	Once every 3 to 5 years	If 4 mg/L or higher

The Idaho Department of Health and Welfare also recommends that you test your water **IMMEDIATELY** if:

- You notice a change in color, smell, or taste of your water
- Your neighbors have found contaminants in their water
- There has been flooding near your well
- You are concerned about water quality and are unsure if your water is safe

Certified Laboratory Tests

If you are interested in testing your private well water for contaminants, there are several certified drinking water laboratories in the region. Prior to bringing a water sample in for analysis, please contact the lab to get the correct sampling containers and complete instructions on how to properly take, store, and transport the sample.

IAS Envirochem

3314 Pole Line Road, Pocatello, ID, 83201
(208) 237-3300
iasec3308@iasenvirochem.com
www.iasenvirochem.com

Tests for: Arsenic, Sodium, Nitrate, Nitrite, Copper/Lead, Sulfates, Fluoride, Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs), Uranium, Total coliform, E. coli and more

Teton Microbiology Laboratory, Inc.

300 South Freeman Av, Idaho Falls, ID, 83402
(208) 529-0077
tetonmicrolab@gmail.com
www.tetonmicrobiology.com

Teton Microbiology Laboratory can administer bacteriological water testing (Total Coliform, and E.Coli) in house. For additional contaminate testing, Teton Microbiology Lab can provide bottles, and can collect and deliver samples to IAS Envirochem for analysis. Teton Microbiology Lab recommends that Idaho residents test for E.coli, total coliform, nitrate, arsenic, and fluoride using the schedule listed above.

*Tests for: Total coliform, E. coli in house
Carries sample bottles for nitrate, arsenic, and fluoride to pick up at their office and will send out to IAS Envirochem for analysis.*

Teton County, WY Public Health Water Lab

40 East Pearl Street, PO Box 937, Jackson, WY, 83001
(307) 732-8463
<http://www.tetonwyo.org/1081/Drinking-Water-Safety-Testing>

*Tests for: Total coliform, E. coli
\$20 per test and **will** test for ID residents*

Teton Conservation District

420 W. Pearl Ave, Jackson, WY, 83001
(307) 733-2110

info@tetonconservation.org

<https://www.tetonconservation.org/well-test-kits/>

Teton Conservation District in Teton County, WY provides well-test kits for Teton County, WY residents at a cost shared rate of \$50 per kit. Alta, WY residents can purchase a well testing kit at the Teton Conservation District office in Jackson. These kits **are not** available to Teton County, ID residents.

Tests for: Bacteria Coliform Presence or Absence, Sulfate, Total Hardness, Nitrate, Nitrite, Total Dissolved Solids, pH, Flouride and Chloride. Lead and Arsenic can be added for \$15 each. \$50 per test kit for Teton County, WY residents

Eastern Idaho Public Health Teton County Office

820 Valley Centre Dr, Driggs, ID 83422

(208) 354-2220

Does not perform tests but does provide bottles for nitrate and bacteria tests to be performed elsewhere (Teton Microbiology Lab, Teton County, WY Public Health)

Testing Follow Up

If your well water tests above the Maximum Contaminate Level listed on the first page under "When to Treat", do not consume the water until actions are taken to treat the water including:

- Have your well inspected by a licensed contractor
- Follow up with the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality for treatment options:

900 North Skyline Drive, Suite B, Idaho Falls, ID 83402
Flint Hall, P.G., Environmental Scientist, (208) 528-2650, flint.hall@deq.idaho.gov
Andy Olson, Water Quality Analyst, (208) 528-2611, andy.olson@deq.idaho.gov
- If contaminate is nitrate, do not boil water as this will increase nitrate concentration

This project was undertaken in connection with the settlement of an enforcement action taken by the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality for alleged violations of the requirements of the Hazardous Waste Management Act.