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:

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

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  

*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
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, andyolson@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.