

Water Information/Testing

For more information go to the EPA Web site <http://water.epa.gov/drink/info/well/faq.cfm>

Disinfection of a private well (Bacteria) http://www.in.gov/isdh/files/Well_Disinfection.pdf

Drinking Water

Private Wells

- It is up to the homeowners to sample their own well water. It is a good idea to test your drinking water as its quality can change
- Bacteria testing is the most common – Coliform is common in the intestine of man and animals and its presence indicates the water is being contaminated by bacteria.
- Chemicals are much harder as one may have to test for a specific chemical.
 - One should discuss with the laboratories what chemical testing is appropriate for your situation
 - A Bacteria test is a good first step
 - Nitrates exceeding 10 mg/l as nitrogen have been shown to cause methemoglobinemia in infants (Blue Baby)
 - Arsenic, lead and other individual test can be performed
 - There are some general tests however it does not rule out other chemicals
 - Herbicide/Pesticide scan
 - Volatile Organic Carbons (VOC) Scan

Public Water

- Public water towns and cities are tested on a regular basis.
- Non Community water supplies fall under Indiana Department of Environmental Management and are tested on a regular basis (Private Wells for Churches, Restaurants, etc.)