

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DRINKING WATER TESTING

BACTERIOLOGICAL AND NITRATE ANALYSIS

(please call 249-4413 for additional information, Erik, Jeff or Linda)

COLIFORM BACTERIA is a general term used to describe a group of bacteria whose presence indicates contamination of a water system. Certain types of coliform, such as E. coli, are capable of causing illness in humans. Grays Harbor County recommends that private well owners test their water at least once a year for coliform bacteria and once every three years for nitrates.

In Montesano

Water sample collection bottles may be obtained from the reception desk at the Grays Harbor County Public Services Department located on the 3rd floor of the Courthouse Administration Building in Montesano (100 W. Broadway) 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. M-F and may be dropped off at the following times:

MONDAY thru WEDNESDAY 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.*
THURSDAY 8:00 A.M. – 3:00 p.m.*
(Call for availability during holidays)

In Aberdeen

Water sample collection bottles can also be obtained from the Grays Harbor County Public Health and Social Services Department located at 2109 Sumner Ave, between 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. M-F and may be dropped off on:

TUESDAYS before 3:00 p.m.
(Note: this office is closed from Noon – 1p.m. daily)
(Call for availability during holidays)

WATER SAMPLE SUBMITTAL INSTRUCTIONS

- The fee for bacteriological analysis is \$22; the fee for nitrate analysis is \$22. Payment is due when the sample bottle is picked up. A receipt number will be placed on the lab slip.
- Please read and follow the instruction located on the back of the water lab form. **Improper handling could invalidate your sample.**
- Water samples CANNOT be tested if they are over 30 hours old.
- Samples can only be accepted in the bottles provided by the laboratory. Do not rinse out the chemical residue inside the bottles.

*Nitrate samples are analyzed on Wednesday only at 12 p.m. Please submit samples for nitrate analysis within 48 hrs. of collection on Monday, Tuesday or before noon on Wednesday.