



WATER LAB

“Frequently Asked Questions”

(FAQ’s)

WHAT IS COLIFORM BACTERIA?

Coliform bacteria are collectively referred to as indicator organisms because they indicate the presence of human or animal feces. The coliform Escherichia coli (E. coli) will always be found in fresh pollution from warm blooded animals. Coliforms are also easily identifiable in the laboratory making them excellent indicator organisms.

ARE COLIFORMS HARMFUL?

Most coliform bacteria do not cause diseases. There are some rare strains of E. coli that cause disease or even death. These are usually found in raw or undercooked meat, especially ground beef.

SHOULD I HAVE MY WATER WELL TESTED?

It is recommended to have private, domestic water wells tested once a year.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO HAVE MY WATER TESTED?

The cost is \$15.00 per sample (Effective October 3, 2011)



WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I HAVE COLIFORMS IN MY WELL?

Contact a water well driller to have your well disinfected or contact the water lab for disinfection procedures.

HOW LONG BEFORE I GET MY RESULTS?

Results are usually available the following day.

HOW DO I GET A WATER SAMPLE KIT?

Call the lab (979-864-1628) and we will provide you with a sterile container and instructions.

WHEN DO YOU RUN SAMPLES?

Monday through Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and on Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (*See our calendar for days the lab is accepting samples.)

