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Water Testing laboratories

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Water Quality

School of Agriculture
School of Consumer and Family Sciences
Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service
West Lafayette, Indiana
USDA Cooperating



Water Testing Laboratories

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Testing Water

Most of us take the safety of our drinking water for granted. If your drinking water comes from a public water system, it is regularly checked under the requirements set by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). However if you are one of the 29% of Hoosiers whose water comes from a private well, *you* are responsible for the routine testing and maintenance of your drinking water quality.

Tests that are recommended annually include nitrate and coliform bacteria. Water should be tested for lead if your house was built before 1985 and if young children are present. Other tests should be performed if you have reason to suspect contamination such as nearby fuel or fertilizer storage. For more information on available tests, refer to the publication "Why and How to Test Home Water Supplies," WQ-4.

Options for testing your water include sending it to the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH), or to a commercial lab, buying a home test kit, or participating in a testing program offered by various groups. The ISDH offers tests for bacteria, fluoride, sodium, nitrate, and nitrite. To receive a test kit for any of these (\$8 each) send in the "Water Test Kit Order" inserted in this publication. A well at your home is considered a Private Individual/Business under the "Unregulated/ Unmonitored" section of this form.

For other tests, a good place to start is your county health department. County health departments either do testing for a modest fee or can provide information on collecting and submitting water samples to the ISDH or a commercial lab.

The ISDH certifies commercial labs that meet the EPA's guidelines for testing methods and equipment under the Safe Drinking Water Act. Non-certified labs may use the same testing equipment and methods as a certified lab and can provide accurate analysis of private wells. Any legal action requires test results from a certified lab.

Certified Laboratories

This publication lists Indiana labs currently certified by the ISDH. Certification expires, so check with the lab about their certification status. The current list of certified labs is also available from the ISDH at 317/233-8071.

Labs are certified to test for microbials and chemicals. Microbiological certified labs test for *E. coli*, total coliform, and fecal coliform. Chemical tests include nitrate, nitrite, lead, iron,



There is no general test for water quality. Water must be tested for specific substances.

copper, VOC's (volatile organic carbon), and pesticides. When you contact the lab, confirm that they test water from private wells. Most do, but some do not.

Fees vary from lab to lab. Contact the lab for their current fees and instructions for handling samples. In general, fees are less than \$20 for coliform bacteria and nitrate tests. Each additional test increases the cost. Comprehensive testing for pesticides or VOC's can cost hundreds of dollars.

Collecting and mailing a sample

Most laboratories supply sample bottles. Depending on the type of test, sample bottles may contain preservatives or include special handling instructions. The laboratory will usually mail back the sample results within several days or weeks. The results will include the concentration of the contaminant and whether it exceeds a drinking water quality standard. See WQ-3 "How to Take a Water Sample" for more information on collecting a sample.

For more information

Purdue Extension publications provide information on sources and solutions for a variety of contaminants.

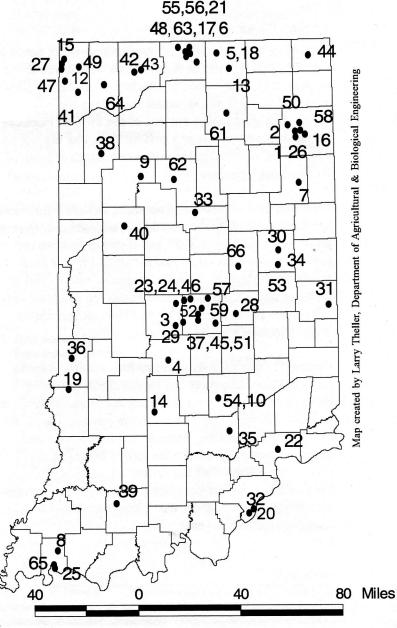
- WQ 3 "How to Take a Water Sample"
- WQ 4 "Why and How to Test Home Water Supplies"
- WQ 5 "Interpreting Water Test Reports"
- Indiana Farmstead Assessment
 (WQ-22) is a voluntary, confidential assessment of
 potential risks to your well water quality from
 farmstead activities. Worksheets on well condition and
 site, septic systems, pesticide management, and other
 topics can help you prevent contamination.
- Home*A*Syst (WQ-25) is an environmental risk assessment guide for the home.

The EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800/426-4791) answers questions related to water testing, treatment, health concerns, and other topics related to drinking water.

EPA Office of Ground Water & Drinking Water (http://www.epa.gov/safewater) provides information on drinking water standards, health concerns, and wellhead protection.

Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) Ground Water Section (317/240-6216) can provide information on what to do if you suspect contamination of ground water.

Indiana Certified Drinking Water Laboratories



Indiana Certified Drinking Water Laboratories

May 1999

M = labs that test <u>only</u> for Microbials

1. A & L Great Lakes Laboratories, Inc. (M+C)

3505 Conestoga Drive Ft. Wayne IN 46808-4413 219/483-4759 219/483-5274 FAX

2. Aqua Source, Inc. (M)

6811 Engle Rd. (46804) 2200 W. Cook Rd. Fort Wayne IN 46818 219/436-0343 219/436-0343 FAX

3. Aqua Systems Water Analysis Laboratory (M)

7785 E. US Highway 36 Avon IN 46168 317/272-3000, ext. 116 317/272-5000 FAX

4. Artesian Water Laboratory (M)

3760 Egbert Rd. Martinsville IN 46151 765/342-0899 765/349-0166

5. Bayer Corporation Consumer Healthcare Div.

Microbiology Lab (M) 1884 Miles Ave. (46514) P.O. Box 340 Elkhart IN 46515-0340 219/262-6635 219/262-7376 FAX

6. Bayer Diagnostic QAMicrobiology (M)

430 S. Beiger St. Mishawaka IN 46544 219/256-7793 219/256-7794 FAX

7. Bluffton Filtration Plant Lab

ATTN: Filtration Plant 900 Compromise Lane Bluffton IN 46714-9304 219/824-6064 219/824-6044 FAX

8. Central States Analytical (M+C*)

2406 Lynch Rd Evansville IN 47711 812/464-9000, ext. 232 812/424-0667 FAX

9. Chem-A-Lab (M)

933 W. Hanawalt Rd. P.O. Box 217 Monticello IN 47960 1-800-932-8265 219/583-8990 219/583-8918 FAX

10. Columbus City Utilities (M+C)

1111 McClure Road P.O. Box 1987 Columbus IN 47202-1987 812/372-8861 812/376-2475 FAX

11. Core Laboratories, Inc. (M+C)

2400 Cumberland Drive Valparaiso IN 46383 219/464-2389 219/462-2953 FAX

12. Crown Point Public Water Supply (M)

1321 Merrillville Road Crown Point IN 46307 219/662-3255 219/662-3292 FAX

13. Dairy Farmers of America (M)

1110 S. 9th St. (46526) P.O. Box 557 Goshen IN 46527 219/533-3141, ext. 245 219/533-2708 FAX

14. Dillman Road Quality Control Lab (M)

100 W. Dillman Rd. Bloomington IN 47403 812/824-4900 812/824-2894 FAX

15. East Chicago Water Works (M)

3330 Aldis Ave. P.O. Box 806 East Chicago IN 46312 219/391-8487 219/391-8409 FAX

16. Edglo Laboratories, Inc. (M+C)

2121 E. Washington Blvd Fort Wayne IN 46803 219/424-1622 219/424-9124 FAX

M + C = labs that test for both Microbials and Chemicals

17. EIS Analytical Services, Inc. (M+C)

1701 N. Ironwood Drive South Bend IN 46635 219/277-0707 219/273-5699 FAX

18. Elkhart Wastewater Utilities Lab(M)

1201 S. Nappanee Elkhart IN 46516 219/293-2572, ext. 217 219/293-7658 FAX

19. Environmental Certification Labs, Inc. (M)

11422 US HWY 41 S. P.O. Box 569 Farmersburg IN 47850-0569 1-800-458-3489 812/696-5076 812/696-2596 FAX

20. Environmental Consultants, Inc. (M+C)

391 Newman Avenue Clarksville IN 47239 812/282-8481 812/282-8554 FAX

21. Environmental Health Laboratories (M+C)

110 S. Hill Street South Bend IN 46617 1-800-332-4345 219/233-4777 219/233-8207 FAX

22. Environmental Laboratories, Inc. (M+C)

635 Green Rd., P.O. Box 968 Madison IN 47250-0968 812/273-6699 812/273-5788 FAX

23. Environmental Water Technologies, Inc. (M+C)

1450 E. Main Street Brownsburg IN 46112 317/852-8966 317/852-8975 FAX

24. ESG Laboratories (M+C)

5933 W. 71st Street Indianapolis IN 46278 317/290-1471 317/290-1670 FAX

25. Evansville Waterworks Filtration Plant Lab (M) 1301 Waterworks Rd.

1301 Waterworks Rd. Evansville IN 47713 812/428-0568 812/423-1277 FAX

26. Ft. Wayne-Allen Co. Health. Dept. Lab (M)

1 E. Main St., Room 520 Ft. Wayne IN 46802 219/449-7359 219/427-1391 FAX

27. Hammond Water Filtration Plant (M)

925 Empress Dr. Hammond IN 46320 219/853-6439 219/473-9143 FAX

28. Hancock Water Laboratory (M)

801 N. State Street Greenfield IN 46140 317/462-0424 317/462-0558 FAX

29. Heritage Environmental Services, LLC. (C)

7901 W. Morris Street Indianapolis IN 46231 317/243-8304 317/486-5095 FAX

30. Hoosier Microbiological Laboratory (M+C)

912 W. McGalliard Muncie IN 47303 765/288-1124 765/288-8378 FAX

31. Indiana American Water Co. Richmond District (M) 1720 Sylvan Nook Dr.

Richmond IN 47374 765/962-0470, ext. 224 765/962-1518 FAX

32. Indiana American Water Co. Jeffersonville Laboratory (M)

2423 Middle Road Jeffersonville IN 47130 812/282-8203 812/284-3541 FAX

^{*}Certified for chemical testing by Kentucky

33. Indiana American Water Co. Kokomo District (M) 1700 E. Superior St. PO. Box 740

P.O. Box 740 Kokomo IN 46903-0740 765/457-5563 765/457-8491 FAX

34. Indiana American Water Co.

Muncie District (M) 1420 Burlington Dr. P.O. Box 1152 Muncie IN 47308-1152 765/741-1274 765/741-1258 FAX

35. Indiana American Water Co. Seymour District (M) 7174N 760E, 100 Vine St.

P.O. Box 253 Seymour IN 47274 812/522-9596 812/522-5685 FAX

36. Indiana American Water Co. Terre Haute District (M)

800 N. 1st St. Terre Haute IN 47807 812/232-7369, ext. 235 812/232-3497 FAX

37. Indianapolis Water Co. (M+C)

950 W. 16th Street 1220 Waterway Blvd. P.O. Box 1220 Indianapolis IN 46206 317/920-3381 317/920-3387 FAX

38. Jasper County Hospital— Water Laboratory (M+C)

1104 E. Grace Street Rensselaer IN 47978 219/866-5141, ext. 332 219/866-3234 FAX

39. Jasper Municipal Utilities (M)

455 E. 8th St. (47546) P.O. Box 750 Jasper IN 47547-0750 812/482-2010 812/482-9827 FAX

40. Lafayette Home Hospital (M)

2400 South St. Lafayette IN 47904 765/447-6811, ext. 2949 765/449-3135 FAX 41. Lake County Health Department (M+C)

2293 N. Main Street Crown Point IN 46307 219/755-3676 219/755-3668 FAX

42. LaPorte City Water Dept. (M)

1119 Lake St. LaPorte IN 46350-3294 219/326-9540, Ext. 03 219/326-9135 FAX

43. LaPorte County Health Department (M)

809 State St., 4th Floor LaPorte IN 46350-3385 219/326-6808, ext. 429 219/326-6808, ext. 203 FAX

44. M & S Labs, Inc. (M)

113 E. Maumee St. Angola IN 46703-1920 219/665-2857 219/665-1199 FAX

45. Marion County Health Department (M+C)

3838 North Rural Street Indianapolis IN 46205 317/543-4670 317/543-4683 FAX

46. Micro Air, Inc. (M)

6320 Las Pas Trail Indianapolis IN 46268 317/293-1533 317/290-3566 FAX

47. Microbac Laboratories, Inc. (M+C)

544 Conkey Street Hammond IN 46324 219/932-1770 219/932-1721 FAX

48. Mishawaka Municipal Water Utility Lab (M)

Mishawaka Wastewater Treatment Plant 1020 Lincolnway West Mishawaka IN 46544 219/258-1655, ext.26 219/255-3557 FAX

49. Northwest Indiana Water Company (M)

650 Madison St. P.O. Box M-486 Gary IN 46401-0486 219/880-2360 219/881-2261 FAX 50. Sherry Labs, Inc.-Ft. Wayne (M+C)

5738 Industrial Rd. Ft. Wayne IN 46825 219/471-7000 219/471-7777 FAX

51. OA Laboratories & Research, Inc. (C)

1430 N. Stadium Drive Indianapolis IN 46202 317/639-2626

317/636-6760 FAX

52. Pace Analytical Services, Inc. (C) 7726 Moller Road Indianapolis IN 46268 317/875-5894

317/872-6189 FAX

53. Sherry Laboratories (M+C)

2203 South Madison Street P.O. Box 284 Muncie IN 47302 1-800-874-3563 317/747-9000 765/747-0228

54. Sherry Laboratories (M+C) 629 Washington St., Stc. 300 Columbus IN 47201

812/375-0531 812/375-0731 FAX

55. South Bend Environmental Lab(M)

3113 Riverside Dr. South Bend IN 46628 219/277-8515 219/277-8980 FAX

56. South Bend Medical Foundation, Inc. (M)

530 N. Lafayette Blvd. South Bend IN 46601 1-800-544-0925, ext. 241 219/234-4176, ext. 241 219/288-2262 FAX

57. TestAmerica, Inc. Indianapolis Division (M+C)

6964 Hillsdale Court Indianapolis IN 46250 317/842-4261 317/842-4286 FAX

58. Three Rivers Filtration Plant (M+C)

1100 Griswold Drive Ft. Wayne IN 46805 219/427-1254 219/427-1354 FAX **59. Townsend Research, Inc.(M)**1339 Sadlier Cir. W. Dr.
Indianapolis IN 46239
317/375-0893
317/375-1046 FAX

60. Tri-State Analytical Testing Laboratory (M)

1 Tri-State University Ave. Angola IN 46703-0307 219/665-4812 ext 4812 219/665-4501 FAX

61. Turner Technologies, Inc. (M+C)

560 S. Zimmer Road Warsaw IN 46581-1096 219/267-3305 219/269-6569 FAX

62. Twin Rivers Medical Laboratory (M)

902 W. Broadway Logansport IN 46947 1-800-999-4973 219/739-0004 219/739-0105 FAX

63. Valley Lea Laboratories (M)

4609 Grape Rd. D-4 (Mishawaka IN 46545) P.O. Box 6369 South Bend IN 46660 219/272-8484 219/272-8485 FAX

64. Valparaiso Dept. of Water Works (M)

> 1903 Pümping Station Rd. 205 Billings St. Valparaiso IN 46383-3699 219/462-6174 219/462-4542 (plant) 219/531-1194 FAX

65. Vanderburgh Co. Dept. of Health (M)

Civic Center Complex Rm. 127 1 NW Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Evansville IN 47708 812/435-5657 812/435-5612 FAX

66. Water Pollution Control Utility (M+C)*

2801 Gene Gustin Way Anderson IN 46011 765/648-6563 765/648-6570 FAX

*This lab tests only for flouride