

# *Should I Have My Water Tested?*

## **WATER IS ESSENTIAL FOR LIFE**

Doctors recommend that we drink at least 8 glasses of water a day. That's about 4 gallons a week or 200 gallons a year. Many of us take our water for granted and never consider testing it to be sure it is safe. It may be that some of us are afraid to have our water tested because we are not sure of what may be found. Fortunately, many problems that can occur with private wells and drinking water have solutions.

## **WHEN SHOULD I TEST MY WATER?**

GWS recommends private well owners test their water for bacterial contamination every year. In addition, the water can be tested for a variety of inorganic, mineral and toxic metals, volatile organic compounds, and pesticides. If you notice any change in your water, it should be tested. GWS also recommends you have your water tested after any repair work is done to a well. All new wells are tested as part of the permitting process and the cost is included in the permit fees. If you haven't had your well water tested in the past year, **NOW** is a good time to have it done.

## **PUBLIC WATER? SHOULD I TEST THE WATER?**

If you drink water from a community or municipal water source, your water is tested on a regular basis as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act. The USEPA mandates yearly reporting of these results to all consumers. If you have questions about your municipal or community water contact your supplier for a copy of the most recent report.

## **THE MECKLENBURG COUNTY GROUNDWATER & WASTEWATER SERVICES (GWS) OFFERS:**

- ⇒ The Information and results are unbiased and accurate
- ⇒ Collection of the samples from your home and delivery to a state certified laboratory that will conduct the analyses
- ⇒ Health risk assessments & consultation if any problems are found
- ⇒ No sales pressure - PUBLIC HEALTH is our business

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### **APPLICATION FOR TESTING YOUR WATER**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Site Address \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address if different from site address \_\_\_\_\_

*Please test my water for:*

#### **Option #1**

Bacteria Analysis (includes: total coliform bacteria) \$75.00

#### **Option #2**

Bacteria and Nitrate/ Nitrite Analysis (includes: total coliform bacteria, Nitrate/ Nitrite) \$100.00

#### **Option #3**

Bacteria Nitrate/Nitrite and Inorganic Analysis (includes: bacteria, nitrate, nitrite, pH, hardness, lead, arsenic, iron, manganese, copper, zinc, calcium, magnesium, alkalinity, chloride, fluoride, silver, barium, cadmium, mercury, sodium, chromium, sulfate, selenium) \$160.00

Additional Analysis that may be added to option 1, 2, or 3

Volatile Organic Compounds \$74.00

Pesticides \$74.00

First Draw Lead \$40.00

Is there a coded gate?  Yes  No If yes code \_\_\_\_\_

Is there a working spigot on the outside of the house?  Yes  No

Are there any dogs at the property?  Yes  No

*(If dogs are present they must be restrained at the time of sampling.)*

*Please include a check made payable to the Mecklenburg County Health Department and mail to:*

Mecklenburg County - Health  
Groundwater & Wastewater Services  
3205 Freedom Dr. Suite 8000  
Charlotte, NC 28208

Phone: (980) 314-1680 Fax: (704) 336-6894

<http://groundwater.charmeck.org>