

Public Safety Notice

Well Water Advisory

DATE: April 11, 2017

Environmental Trust Department

Your drinking water well may have an increased risk of contamination given this spring's high runoff and localized flooding.

If your well is located in low ground, watch for flooding or other surface runoff accumulating around the well. Well water which becomes cloudy or tastes different than usual may also indicate contamination from surface runoff. If this occurs it is advisable to discontinue use of the well water for drinking. Once the flooding dissipates, a sample from the well should be tested before resuming use.

Okanogan Health Department accepts samples, testing for bacterial contamination. The fee is \$35 and special test bottles needed are available from the Health Department.

- Okanogan Health Department (in the Public Services Building), 1234 S. 2nd Ave., Okanogan., WA Phone # (509) 422-7140.

You should request testing for coliform bacteria, an indicator of water contamination and potential source of microbial infection.

Coliform water samples are accepted in their office Monday – Thursday by 3:00 PM.

Several labs in Spokane or vicinity also will analyze water samples for bacteria:

- Anatek Laboratories, at East 504 Sprague Ave, Suite D. Phone is 509-838-3999.
- AAA Laboratory at 404 1st Street, in Cheney. Phone is 509-235-9390.

What are the potential Health Effects with ingesting Coliform Bacteria in water?

Potential health effects include assorted gastroenteric infections and diseases. Symptoms such as **nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and stomach cramps** are typically noticed.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND QUESTIONS CONTACT:

Todd Thorn, Watershed Program Manager at Environmental Trust at 634-2428.



It is advised always to keep the area around a well clear of contaminants. A distance of 100' is recommended.

Environmental Trust is not able to perform the well water testing.

