

## PERSONAL WELL WATER QUALITY

Maxxam provides suitable sampling containers and analysis required to assess the quality of your water source.



[Maxxam Water Testing Services](#)

### WELL WATER QUALITY – IT'S YOUR HEALTH

Private drinking water sources can potentially become contaminated with bacteria, chemicals, metals and minerals.

Early detection and good management of well systems is essential to avoid health effects or harm to those using the water supply.

Many contaminants can be tasteless, odourless and invisible. As the owner of a private well system, it is your responsibility to have your water tested to determine its quality.

### A COMPLETE WATER QUALITY ANALYSIS SHOULD BE CONDUCTED IN AN ACCREDITED LABORATORY FACILITY AND INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

- An assessment of possible chemical contaminants, such as ammonia from sewage, and arsenic and uranium from natural minerals.
- Bacterial counts, assessed as *E.coli* and total coliforms.
- An assessment of potential aesthetic problems, such as hardness and colour.
- A comparison of all parameters to the [Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality](#).

### GROUNDWATER SOURCES CAN BE CONTAMINATED IN SEVERAL WAYS:

- Chemical or fuel spills on the ground, e.g. pesticides or gasoline.
- Direct injection into the ground, e.g. septic leaching beds.
- Poorly constructed and/or poorly maintained wells.
- Leakage from wastes, e.g. manure storages, wastewater, septic tanks or landfills.
- Leaking underground or aboveground fuel storage tanks.
- Movement of groundwater from contaminated aquifer to clean water sources.
- Over-application of manure, commercial fertilizers or pesticides.

# PERSONAL WELL WATER QUALITY



Maxxam is a North American leader in analytical services and solutions to the energy, environmental, industrial hygiene, food and DNA industries.

We are a member of the Bureau Veritas Group of companies – a world leader in testing, inspection and certification services.

Maxxam supports critical decisions made by our customers through the application of rigorous science and the knowledge and expertise of our over 2,500 employees.

## OTHER RESOURCES

[“Should I Get My Well Water Tested?”](#)

## WELL WATER SHOULD BE TESTED 2-3 TIMES PER YEAR\*

Well water safety is ensured with frequent testing, water source protection, treatment and maintenance.

Water from well sources should be tested 2-3 times per year (as per Health Canada and various regional health units).

It is recommended that testing be conducted after any work is completed on the system and after significant weather events such as a fast thaw or severe rain storm and after long periods of non-use.

Further testing should be undertaken if there is a change in clarity, colour, odour or taste of the water or if there have been changes to the surrounding land use.

Maxxam can provide the required sampling containers specific to your region and individual testing needs. Please check with local authorities for testing requirements specific to your site.

## SAMPLING KITS AND ANALYSIS RESULTS

Sampling kits will be provided with the following items:

- Containers appropriate for sampling (sterile and with chemical preservatives).
- Chain of custody (documentation of control and transfer of samples between well owner and laboratory).
- Cooler for sample return.

It is important that all the information on the chain of custody (address, contact, sample identification, well location, etc.) is complete.

Samples should be returned to the laboratory within 24 hrs of sampling and be kept cold (<10°C\*\*). Loose ice packed in resealable bags and placed throughout the cooler is the most effective way to keep samples cool. Make sure samples are secure in the resealable bags provided.

Certificates of analysis are provided via email within 5-10 business days of sample receipt.

For more information or to place a sample container order, contact one of our customer service representatives today at:

1.800.665.8566

[info@maxxam.ca](mailto:info@maxxam.ca)

\* Health Canada, Water Quality - Reports & Publications

\*\* Check with your local authority to confirm sample temperature requirements.