

## TEST YOUR DRINKING WATER DHD#10 Opens Drinking Water Lab

April 25, 2019– Did you know, in Michigan, the Safe Drinking Water Act does not regulate private wells that serve less than 25 people? This means that it is up to the private well owner to make sure the drinking water is safe.

Clean drinking water is essential to our health. However, water can become contaminated with bacteria found naturally in the environment or with human-made chemicals from industrial waste and fertilizers.

District Health Department #10 (DHD#10) has an in-house drinking water lab located at the DHD#10 Mason County office. Here, drinking water testing and analysis are performed for the bacteria known as coliform, including E. coli, as well as for nitrates, which are human-made chemicals often used in fertilizer. DHD#10 also can test surface water from lakes, rivers, and streams for E. coli.

### How does it work?

Just stop into any DHD#10 office in your area to pick up a water testing kit. You can have both bacterial analysis and chemical analysis performed, or just one or the other.

**Bacterial Testing Kit:** Cost = \$20 – All bacterial testing kits come with a sample bottle and a pre-addressed envelope to mail the sample back.\*

**Nitrate Testing Kit:** Cost = \$20 – All nitrate testing kits come with a sample bottle, pre-addressed envelope, gel pack and cooler to send your sample back.\*

\*If you are performing both the bacterial and the nitrate tests, you can send both sample bottles inside the cooler provided for the nitrate test.

For more information on how to collect and return a water sample, please visit [www.dhd10.org/homeowners/drinking-water-testing](http://www.dhd10.org/homeowners/drinking-water-testing) or call your local health department office at 888-217-3904.

### About DHD #10

District Health Department #10 (DHD #10) is Michigan's largest geographical health department, mandated to promote and protect the public from unsafe and hazardous conditions and provide methods of promoting good health and disease prevention. Some of the vital programs provided by DHD #10 include Immunizations, Infectious Disease Control, STI Testing and Counseling, WIC, Maternal Infant Health Program, Healthy Families Northern Michigan, Children's Special Health Services, Hearing and Vision Screening, Family Planning, Cancer Screening, Worksite Wellness, Smoking Cessation, Substance Use Prevention, Chronic Disease Prevention, and Environmental Health Services. DHD #10 serves Crawford, Kalkaska, Lake, Manistee, Mason, Mecosta, Missaukee, Newaygo, Oceana, and Wexford counties. For more information, visit [www.dhd10.org](http://www.dhd10.org).



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#### COUNTIES SERVED:

Crawford  
Kalkaska  
Lake  
Manistee  
Mason  
Mecosta  
Missaukee  
Newaygo  
Oceana  
Wexford



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