

#### **Contact Us**

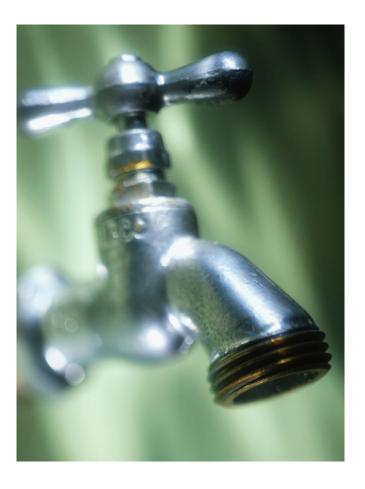
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> EPA Certified in Coliform (Bacteria) and Nitrate –N detection

# Water Analysis



AG HEALTH LABORATORIES

**Nitrate and Colilert** 

## Why Should I Test My Water?

Whether your drinking water comes from a public water supply (city water) or private well and/or spring, each drinking water source may be at risk contaminated. Water is considered to be "contaminated" when it contains harmful or objectionable substances which may be dissolved, suspended, or biological. Therefore, testing your drinking water may be helpful for your health.

At **Ag Health Laboratories**, we are certified to perform coliform (bacteria) and nitrate testing on drinking water. These include a presence/absence test for coliforms and E.coli, and quantitative levels for nitrate-nitrogen.

# EPA Certified in Coliform (bacteria) and Nitrate-N detection

#### Colilert-Total Coliform: E-coli Presence/Absence

The Colilert test determines if there are any coliform bacteria or E.coli present in drinking water samples. This is the EPA and Washington State Department of Health safe drinking water tolerance level. Water containing 1 or more coliform colony forming unit per 100 mL will result in a positive Colilert test and, is considered unsafe for human consumption.

Colilert results are available 24 hours after the test is started

#### **Nitrate-Nitrogen Electrode Method**

The nitrate electrode responds to nitrate ion activity in water between 0.14 and 1400mg nitrate nitrogen per liter.

The Maximum Contaminate Level allowed by the Washington State Department of Health is  $10 \, \text{mg/L}$  and water containing greater than this is considered unsafe for human consumption. High risk individuals such as infants and adults with depressed immune systems are recommended to drink only water below 5.0  $\, \text{mg/L}$  nitrate nitrogen.

Nitrate analysis are typically completed within 24 hours, depending on sample volume.

### Water Sample Collection

**Step 1**: Pickup bottle and submission from *Ag Health Laboratories* 

#### **Step 2: Determine Sample Collection Location**

Typical Sample locations: kitchen sink, bathroom sink, outside spigot, well head. If you are testing for mortgage or state requirements please collect as directed by entity requiring testing.

Step 3: Remove any filters, screens, hoses, etc.

Step 4: Turn on water, allowing water to run 2-5 minutes

**Step 5:** After 2-5 minutes, turn water down to allow for easier filling bottle.

Bottles provided by Ag Health Labs are sterile and contain a preservative, do not rinse out bottle prior to use and take extreme care to prevent contamination. Do not set lid down, touch the inside of the cap, or let the rim of the bottle touch anything during the collection process.

Step 6: Fill bottle to 100mL line, replace cap

**Step 7**: Complete submission form. Print on hard surface, printing heavily as you are making multiple copies.

**Step 8**: Return bottle and submission form to Ag Health Labs within 24 hours of sample collection.

#### -----<u>Drinking Water Analysis</u>-----

Colilert	\$24.00
Nitrate	\$36.00