

## **DRIVE-THROUGH WELL WATER AND LEAD TESTING DATES SET FOR READINGTON**

Every day we depend on our faucets to deliver cool, refreshing water that is clean and free of contamination – but, since contaminants are usually invisible, how do you know that your water is safe?

Most Readington residents get their drinking water from private groundwater wells, and unlike public utilities, private wells are not subject to similar regulations at state or national levels. Well owners bear the responsibility for water quality monitoring and ensuring the safety of their drinking water. Contaminants are often odorless, colorless, and tasteless so the only way to know for sure that your water is safe, is to evaluate it.

### **RECENT FLOODING EMPHASIZES PRIVATE WELL TESTING THIS YEAR**

Heavy rainstorms over the Summer caused flooding which washed out roads, damaged property, and caused power outages. That flooding also poses another significant, but less visible threat: It can cause contamination of our drinking water supplies.

Contaminants like coliform bacteria and nitrates flow with surface runoff into wellheads and groundwater supplies from neighboring properties, farm fields, failed septic systems, and other sources. These sudden, intense downpours are becoming more common and so it is important to take steps to make sure your water supply is safe.

Well users can have their drinking water evaluated each year through Readington Township's Community Well Testing program. This October, the Readington Environmental Commission and Readington WaterWatch are again partnering with non-profit Raritan Headwaters Association to offer online registration and payment for water test kits and a "Same-Day Pickup and Return" drive through process.

Whether you drink water from a private well or a public source, if you live or work in an older, pre-1986 structure you should take advantage of the Lead Test option to determine if there is an unsafe level of lead leaching from pipes or solder.

During Testing Days, Raritan Headwaters' distinctive blue van and Environmental Commission and WaterWatch volunteers will greet residents, answer questions, and distribute testing kits. To ensure the safety of all volunteers and participants will follow current state and Centers for Disease Control guidelines.

Residents will have the option of choosing when to return the filled sample bottles- either the very same morning they pick up their kits or on another of the scheduled well test dates.

**Participants will pre-order their test kit online at [www.raritanheadwaters.org/readington](http://www.raritanheadwaters.org/readington). The volunteers will have your kit ready and waiting for you when you arrive on your Drive-Through Day.**

## **2021 COMMUNITY WELL TESTING ‘DRIVE-THROUGH DAYS’ SCHEDULE:**

### **At Readington Municipal Building Parking Area (509 County Road 523, Whitehouse Station):**

Saturday, October 16 from 9am-12pm (Kit sales and pre-order pick-up only, no sample returns)

Tuesday, October 19 from 8am-10am (Sample returns accepted until 11am)

Wednesday, October 27th from 8am-10 am (Sample returns accepted until 11am)

### **At Three Bridges Fire Company Parking Lot (467 Main Street, Three Bridges):**

Wednesday, October 20 from 8am-10 am (Sample returns accepted until 11am)

Tuesday, October 26th from 8am-10 am (Sample returns accepted until 11am)

Complete details on testing options and pricing are available at [www.raritanheadwaters.org/readington](http://www.raritanheadwaters.org/readington).

Raritan Headwaters staff are available to offer help on deciding which testing options are right for you.

You may contact the Raritan Headwaters Well Testing office at 908-234-1852 ext. 401 or email to [welltesting@raritanheadwaters.org](mailto:welltesting@raritanheadwaters.org) with questions or problems accessing the online ordering system.

For any other questions regarding the testing sites, dates, times, or procedures, Shannon Long at the Readington Township offices is available at 908-534-4051 ext. 234 or by email [boh@readingtontwp-nj.org](mailto:boh@readingtontwp-nj.org)

**TO SEE THE WELL TESTING CHOICES AND TO REGISTER [CLICK HERE](#)**

