



**SAGINAW COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**
protecting and promoting the public's health since 1928

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WHAT'S IN YOUR WELL WATER?

The Saginaw County Department of Public Health (SCDPH) Laboratory Services Division is recommending home owners with private well water to have their drinking water tested.

Approximately 50 percent of Saginaw County communities depend on private wells for their drinking water from, and some of those wells have unhealthy levels of nitrites, coliform, or other contaminants. More importantly, these contaminants cannot be detected by taste or smell, so testing is the only way to detect them!

The good news is if your test results find contaminants, there are ways to treat private well water to make it safe, but you first have to understand what's in your water before you can make an informed decision about how to treat it. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) instructs the public to routinely have their private water supplies tested annually for nitrate and coliform bacteria to detect contamination problems early.

While private wells are not monitored by government or municipal agencies, public water systems must ensure safety by having the water tested. This means the well owner must take responsibility for monitoring well water quality.

SCDPH is a certified by Michigan Department of Environmental Quality for testing bacteria and limited chemistries. For more information on SCDPH's water testing, please visit www.saginawpublichealth.org and select Laboratory, Water Quality, or call the SCDPH Drinking Water Lab at (989) 758-3825.

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