



## JACKSON COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT



# WELL WATER SCREENING August 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>

The Jackson County Conservation District will be screening drinking water well samples for nitrates on **Tuesday, August 15<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, August 16<sup>th</sup> 2023**. Samples can be brought to the Conservation District office between 9:30 AM and 4:00 PM on either day. The Conservation District office is located at 211 W. Ganson St., Suite 200, Jackson, MI. 49201.

The screening is free to anyone who uses a personal private well for drinking water in Jackson County. Simply collect a sample and follow the steps below to complete the Sample Information Form found on the back of this sheet.

**Please do *not* bring samples from public water supplies or non-drinking water sources. Only drinking water well samples will be tested.** You do not have to use a special bottle for this screening. Any small clean jar will work—one ounce of water is enough.

Follow the directions below to sample your well water. ***Collect samples just before getting them to the sample drop-off. Samples must be less than 48 hours old for a valid nitrate result.***

1. Fill out the water Sample Information Sheet, if available. Otherwise, this can be completed at drop-off.
2. Pick a tap that supplies water that has not run through any treatment devices (water softener, carbon filter, etc.) An outdoor faucet often works well.
3. Run the water for 20-30 minutes before collecting the sample. This will give the pump time to flush the water pressure tank and plumbing so you can collect a valid sample. Disconnect any hoses before collecting the sample; do not sample through a hose. Rinse the sample bottle and lid thoroughly in the water being sampled; then fill and cap the bottle.
4. Using a waterproof pen, label the bottle with your name, the sample date, and the well name (cottage well, Mom's well, etc.) Put the sample information sheet into a waterproof bag, then seal the water sample and information bag into a second waterproof bag.
5. Keep the sample dark and cold (on ice or refrigerated) until it is dropped off.

You will get your results and information on what to do should nitrite or nitrate appear in your drinking water. If you do not wish to wait a few minutes for your results you may just drop off the sample along with your completed form.

Be sure to complete the Sample Information Sheet and bring it with your water sample to the drop-off. You can get more information from the Jackson County Conservation District Office at 517-395-2082.

*This program is sponsored by the Jackson County Conservation District, the MAEAP Water Stewardship Program, and the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development. It is funded through the Michigan Groundwater and Freshwater Protection Act, the MDARD, and the U.S. EPA.*



MI AGRICULTURE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSURANCE PROGRAM
2023 DRINKING WATER WELL SCREENING
SAMPLE INFORMATION SHEET

Please complete this form and turn it in with your well water sample. Complete one form for each sample submitted.

Sample Code Number (Please Leave Blank)

Name

Sampling Address (where sample was taken)

Mailing Address for Results (if different)

Street

Street

City/State/Zip

City/State/Zip

Phone

Phone

County

County

Date Sampled:

Sampling Point: It is very important to identify the sample clearly with a name (cottage well, mom's well, etc.)

Well depth, feet (estimate if unknown) Age of well, years: (estimate if unknown)

Well diameter (circle the correct figure, estimate if not known): 2" 4" 5" 6" Other

Do any pregnant women or infants under 6 months old regularly live in this home? Y N

if No, skip this line. If Yes, do they drink the water supplied by this well? Y N

Please indicate the distance in feet from the well to:

- Nearest farmed field (not pasture)
grazing livestock
drain field
yard/feedlot (cattle, horses, chickens, pigs, etc.)
fertilizer storage or mixing area
Nearest lake, pond, or stream

Please put a check by the best description of your general soil texture:

- Very coarse/sand Sandy loam Silt loam Loamy or sandy clay
Heavy clay Organic/muck Other

Please circle or describe the main land uses within half a mile of your well (row crop, pasture, orchard, forest, rural residential, suburban, commercial, industrial, etc.)