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### **Bacteria, Nitrate, & Arsenic Testing**

When selling real estate that includes a domestic well, property owners are required to test the water for nitrate and total coliform bacteria. Domestic wells are those used for drinking and other household purposes. Beginning January 1st, 2010, property sellers will be also required to test their well water for arsenic (in addition to nitrate and total coliform bacteria). New requirements are due to amendments to the Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 448.271(1). Samples must be analyzed by an accredited laboratory.

If you are testing due to a real estate sale it is often preferred that we do a service call and draw the sample as a 3<sup>rd</sup> party to the sale. If you would like us to come draw the sample please call us and schedule an appointment.

Water samples are picked up from our store on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10:00 AM. Water samples must be taken the morning of and at the store by 10:00 AM. Water tests must be taken in sterile lab sample bottles provided by the lab and tests must be paid for before they are sent to the lab. Bacteria and Nitrate tests must be in the clear 120ml bottles and Arsenic must be taken in the opaque 250ml bottles.

### **Bacteria, Nitrate, & Arsenic Sample Procedure**

1. Choose a source to draw the sample from as close to the wellhead as possible. Try to avoid taking the test from a faucet in the house or anywhere far from the wellhead.
2. Disinfect the outside and any exposed areas of the hose bib that the sample will be drawn from. Either do this by using alcohol disinfectant or heat. If heat is used be cautious to melting any part of your plumbing.
3. Run the water until the lines are flushed and water is being pumped from the well.
4. Bacteria & Nitrates - Remove the lid from the clear sterile 120ml sample bottle, being careful not to set the lid down, touch the inside of the bottle or lid, or contaminate the bottle in any way. Fill the bottle to the top line (120ml) and carefully recap the bottle. (Bacteria and Nitrates can be tested from the same sample bottle)
5. Arsenic – Remove the lid from the opaque 250ml sample bottle, being careful not to set the lid down, touch the inside of the bottle or lid, or contaminate the bottle in any way. Fill the bottle full and carefully recap the bottle.
6. Bring the samples to our store before 10:00 AM. We will assist you in filling out the forms and take payment. The arsenic test will require a "Chain of Custody" form that we will help you fill out when you bring the sample in to us.

### **Prices**

**Bacteria Test - \$50.00**

**Nitrate Test - \$40.00**

**Arsenic Test - \$50.00**

**Sample Collection and Pick Up Fee (Service call) - \$85.00**

Results can take 1-3 business days to receive. Results are sent directly to Fisher's Supply and we will contact you as soon as we get them. We can fax and/or mail you a copy of the results or you are welcome to come and pick them up directly from the store. We do not keep a database of results.