IS IT TIME TO TEST YOUR WELL WATER?

While we live in a tremendous community with so much to recommend it, we need to occasionally think about the following facts:

- Our waste water treatment is built on on-lot septic treatment systems;
- Some of those systems are obviously 50 years old;
- Many of us enjoy family pets – including dogs;
- Some of us are hesitant to clean up after our dogs when we walk.

Age can lead to pollutant plumes travelling from a malfunctioning septic system to your well.

Dog waste left on roadside berms can not only impact down gradient wells, but will ultimately end up in our lake where many of us play.

Some years ago, the Board attempted to provide residents with access to a casual and voluntary sampling program, but there was apparently little interest. I would like us to, again offer a means to make water sampling and testing convenient.

In my work, I have a long standing relationship with Pottsville Environmental Testing Laboratory of Palo Alto (the lab that routinely samples our lake water). PETL is interested in maintaining a supply of clean sample jars in our office. Access to these would be during normally open office hours. I am usually in the Pottsville area at least once a week; and would be happy to deliver samples to the lab.

Following these comments is a price list of various lab tests that are commonly performed on drinking water. The most useful are a Coliform total and the so-called Langelier Index. Combined, these two will tell us if bad bugs are getting in our drinking water – and if our plumbing is subject to either corrosion or scaling. Currently, the total cost is $60.00

Anyone interested can contact me by phone or email and we can talk about proper sample care, etc., and arrange for pick-up.

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Here are the drinking water prices requested:

	PARAMETER	COST/TEST
1.	Alkalinity, Total	$ 10.00
2.	Coliform, Total	$ 15.00
3.	Chloride, Total	$ 15.00
4.	Hardness, Total	$ 12.00
5.	Iron, Total	$ 12.00
6.	Langelier Index	$ 45.00 (includes: alkalinity, hardness, pH, TDS)
7.	Lead, Total	$ 12.00
8.	Manganese, Total	$ 13.00
9.	Nitrate Nitrogen	$ 15.00
10.	Nitrite Nitrogen	$ 15.00
11.	pH	$ 10.00
12.	Sulfate, Total	$ 15.00
13.	Total Dissolved Solids	$ 10.00

See more information at - http://www.cdc.gov/features/groundwaterawareness/