

# Helpline FAQs

## HOW DO I GET MY DRINKING WATER TESTED?

If you live on a private property that is not supplied by a municipal drinking water system, you are responsible for performing your own testing.

This can include private wells, treated lake water or water from cisterns.

## IF YOU WANT TO TEST FOR BACTERIAL CONTAMINATION

Public health units across Ontario will test your water for bacterial indicators of contamination free of charge. Water collection kits can be picked up and samples can be dropped off at designated locations. Visit the website of your local public health unit for more information using the links below.

[List of public health units >](#)

[Well water testing instructions >](#)

## IF YOU WANT TO TEST FOR CHEMICAL CONTAMINANTS

If you are concerned about chemicals such as sulfur or nitrates, or need additional water quality information, these tests need to be conducted by a licensed private laboratory. These labs can be contacted for information on pricing and sampling. Visit the links below to find a lab or public health unit near you.

[List of licensed laboratories >](#)

[List of public health units >](#)

