

# Water Quality

School of Agriculture  
School of Consumer and Family Sciences  
Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service  
West Lafayette, Indiana  
USDA Cooperating



## Water Testing Laboratories

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### Testing Water

Most of us take the safety of our drinking water for granted. If your drinking water comes from a public water system, it is regularly checked under the requirements set by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). However if you are one of the 29% of Hoosiers whose water comes from a private well, *you* are responsible for the routine testing and maintenance of your drinking water quality.

Tests that are recommended annually include nitrate and coliform bacteria. Water should be tested for lead if your house was built before 1985 and if young children are present. Other tests should be performed if you have reason to suspect contamination such as nearby fuel or fertilizer storage. For more information on available tests, refer to the publication "Why and How to Test Home Water Supplies," WQ-4.

Options for testing your water include sending it to the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH), or to a commercial lab, buying a home test kit, or participating in a testing program offered by various groups. The ISDH offers tests for bacteria, fluoride, sodium, nitrate, and nitrite. To receive a test kit for any of these (\$8 each) send in the "Water Test Kit Order" inserted in this publication. A well at your home is considered a Private Individual/Business under the "Unregulated/Unmonitored" section of this form.

For other tests, a good place to start is your county health department. County health departments either do testing for a modest fee or can provide information on collecting and submitting water samples to the ISDH or a commercial lab.

The ISDH certifies commercial labs that meet the EPA's guidelines for testing methods and equipment under the Safe Drinking Water Act. Non-certified labs may use the same testing equipment and methods as a certified lab and can provide accurate analysis of private wells. Any legal action requires test results from a certified lab.

### Certified Laboratories

This publication lists Indiana labs currently certified by the ISDH. Certification expires, so check with the lab about their certification status. The current list of certified labs is also available from the ISDH at 317/233-8071.

Labs are certified to test for microbials and chemicals. Microbiological certified labs test for *E. coli*, total coliform, and fecal coliform. Chemical tests include nitrate, nitrite, lead, iron,



*There is no general test for water quality.  
Water must be tested for specific substances.*

copper, VOC's (volatile organic carbon), and pesticides. When you contact the lab, confirm that they test water from private wells. Most do, but some do not.

Fees vary from lab to lab. Contact the lab for their current fees and instructions for handling samples. In general, fees are less than \$20 for coliform bacteria and nitrate tests. Each additional test increases the cost. Comprehensive testing for pesticides or VOC's can cost hundreds of dollars.

### *Collecting and mailing a sample*

Most laboratories supply sample bottles. Depending on the type of test, sample bottles may contain preservatives or include special handling instructions. The laboratory will usually mail back the sample results within several days or weeks. The results will include the concentration of the contaminant and whether it exceeds a drinking water quality standard. See WQ-3 "How to Take a Water Sample" for more information on collecting a sample.

### *For more information*

Purdue Extension publications provide information on sources and solutions for a variety of contaminants.

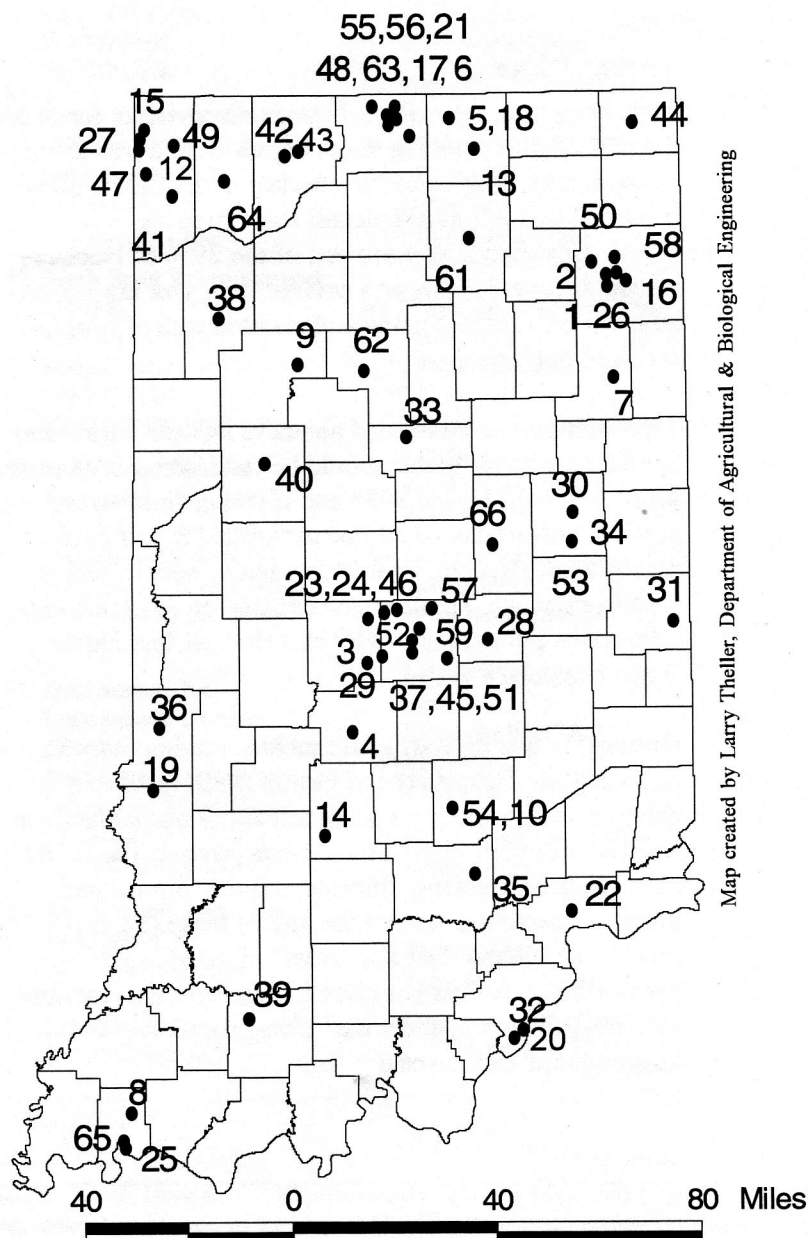
- WQ 3 "How to Take a Water Sample"
- WQ 4 "Why and How to Test Home Water Supplies"
- WQ 5 "Interpreting Water Test Reports"
- Indiana Farmstead Assessment (WQ-22) is a voluntary, confidential assessment of potential risks to your well water quality from farmstead activities. Worksheets on well condition and site, septic systems, pesticide management, and other topics can help you prevent contamination.
- Home\*A\*Syst (WQ-25) is an environmental risk assessment guide for the home.

The EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800/426-4791) answers questions related to water testing, treatment, health concerns, and other topics related to drinking water.

EPA Office of Ground Water & Drinking Water (<http://www.epa.gov/safewater>) provides information on drinking water standards, health concerns, and wellhead protection.

Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) Ground Water Section (317/240-6216) can provide information on what to do if you suspect contamination of ground water.

## Indiana Certified Drinking Water Laboratories



# Indiana Certified Drinking Water Laboratories

May 1999

M = labs that test only for Microbials

M + C = labs that test for both Microbials and Chemicals

1. **A & L Great Lakes Laboratories, Inc. (M+C)**  
3505 Conestoga Drive  
Ft. Wayne IN 46808-4413  
219/483-4759  
219/483-5274 FAX
2. **Aqua Source, Inc. (M)**  
6811 Engle Rd. (46804)  
2200 W. Cook Rd.  
Fort Wayne IN 46818  
219/436-0343  
219/436-0343 FAX
3. **Aqua Systems Water Analysis Laboratory (M)**  
7785 E. US Highway 36  
Avon IN 46168  
317/272-3000, ext. 116  
317/272-5000 FAX
4. **Artesian Water Laboratory (M)**  
3760 Egbert Rd.  
Martinsville IN 46151  
765/342-0899  
765/349-0166
5. **Bayer Corporation Consumer Healthcare Div. Microbiology Lab (M)**  
1884 Miles Ave. (46514)  
P.O. Box 340  
Elkhart IN 46515-0340  
219/262-6635  
219/262-7376 FAX
6. **Bayer Diagnostic QAMicrobiology (M)**  
430 S. Beiger St.  
Mishawaka IN 46544  
219/256-7793  
219/256-7794 FAX
7. **Bluffton Filtration Plant Lab (M)**  
ATTN: Filtration Plant  
900 Compromise Lane  
Bluffton IN 46714-9304  
219/824-6064  
219/824-6044 FAX
8. **Central States Analytical (M+C\*)**  
2406 Lynch Rd  
Evansville IN 47711  
812/464-9000, ext. 232  
812/424-0667 FAX
9. **Chem-A-Lab (M)**  
933 W. Hanawalt Rd.  
P.O. Box 217  
Monticello IN 47960  
1-800-932-8265  
219/583-8990  
219/583-8918 FAX
10. **Columbus City Utilities (M+C)**  
1111 McClure Road  
P.O. Box 1987  
Columbus IN 47202-1987  
812/372-8861  
812/376-2475 FAX
11. **Core Laboratories, Inc. (M+C)**  
2400 Cumberland Drive  
Valparaiso IN 46383  
219/464-2389  
219/462-2953 FAX
12. **Crown Point Public Water Supply (M)**  
1321 Merrillville Road  
Crown Point IN 46307  
219/662-3255  
219/662-3292 FAX
13. **Dairy Farmers of America (M)**  
1110 S. 9th St. (46526)  
P.O. Box 557  
Goshen IN 46527  
219/533-3141, ext. 245  
219/533-2708 FAX
14. **Dillman Road Quality Control Lab (M)**  
100 W. Dillman Rd.  
Bloomington IN 47403  
812/824-4900  
812/824-2894 FAX
15. **East Chicago Water Works (M)**  
3330 Aldis Ave. P.O. Box 806  
East Chicago IN 46312  
219/391-8487  
219/391-8409 FAX
16. **Edglo Laboratories, Inc. (M+C)**  
2121 E. Washington Blvd  
Fort Wayne IN 46803  
219/424-1622  
219/424-9124 FAX
17. **EIS Analytical Services, Inc. (M+C)**  
1701 N. Ironwood Drive  
South Bend IN 46635  
219/277-0707  
219/273-5699 FAX
18. **Elkhart Wastewater Utilities Lab (M)**  
1201 S. Nappanee  
Elkhart IN 46516  
219/293-2572, ext. 217  
219/293-7658 FAX
19. **Environmental Certification Labs, Inc. (M)**  
11422 US HWY 41 S.  
P.O. Box 569  
Farmersburg IN 47850-0569  
1-800-458-3489  
812/696-5076  
812/696-2596 FAX
20. **Environmental Consultants, Inc. (M+C)**  
391 Newman Avenue  
Clarksville IN 47239  
812/282-8481  
812/282-8554 FAX
21. **Environmental Health Laboratories (M+C)**  
110 S. Hill Street  
South Bend IN 46617  
1-800-332-4345  
219/233-4777  
219/233-8207 FAX
22. **Environmental Laboratories, Inc. (M+C)**  
635 Green Rd., P.O. Box 968  
Madison IN 47250-0968  
812/273-6699  
812/273-5788 FAX
23. **Environmental Water Technologies, Inc. (M+C)**  
1450 E. Main Street  
Brownsburg IN 46112  
317/852-8966  
317/852-8975 FAX
24. **ESG Laboratories (M+C)**  
5933 W. 71st Street  
Indianapolis IN 46278  
317/290-1471  
317/290-1670 FAX
25. **Evansville Waterworks Filtration Plant Lab (M)**  
1301 Waterworks Rd.  
Evansville IN 47713  
812/428-0568  
812/423-1277 FAX
26. **Ft. Wayne-Allen Co. Health Dept. Lab (M)**  
1 E. Main St., Room 520  
Ft. Wayne IN 46802  
219/449-7359  
219/427-1391 FAX
27. **Hammond Water Filtration Plant (M)**  
925 Empress Dr.  
Hammond IN 46320  
219/853-6439  
219/473-9143 FAX
28. **Hancock Water Laboratory (M)**  
801 N. State Street  
Greenfield IN 46140  
317/462-0424  
317/462-0558 FAX
29. **Heritage Environmental Services, LLC. (C)**  
7901 W. Morris Street  
Indianapolis IN 46231  
317/243-8304  
317/486-5095 FAX
30. **Hoosier Microbiological Laboratory (M+C)**  
912 W. McGalliard  
Muncie IN 47303  
765/288-1124  
765/288-8378 FAX
31. **Indiana American Water Co. Richmond District (M)**  
1720 Sylvan Nook Dr.  
Richmond IN 47374  
765/962-0470, ext. 224  
765/962-1518 FAX
32. **Indiana American Water Co. Jeffersonville Laboratory (M)**  
2423 Middle Road  
Jeffersonville IN 47130  
812/282-8203  
812/284-3541 FAX

\*Certified for chemical testing by Kentucky



- 33. Indiana American Water Co. Kokomo District (M)**  
1700 E. Superior St.  
P.O. Box 740  
Kokomo IN 46903-0740  
765/457-5563  
765/457-8491 FAX
- 34. Indiana American Water Co. Muncie District (M)**  
1420 Burlington Dr.  
P.O. Box 1152  
Muncie IN 47308-1152  
765/741-1274  
765/741-1258 FAX
- 35. Indiana American Water Co. Seymour District (M)**  
7174N 760E, 100 Vine St.  
P.O. Box 253  
Seymour IN 47274  
812/522-9596  
812/522-5685 FAX
- 36. Indiana American Water Co. Terre Haute District (M)**  
800 N. 1st St.  
Terre Haute IN 47807  
812/232-7369, ext. 235  
812/232-3497 FAX
- 37. Indianapolis Water Co. (M+C)**  
950 W. 16<sup>th</sup> Street  
1220 Waterway Blvd.  
P.O. Box 1220  
Indianapolis IN 46206  
317/920-3381  
317/920-3387 FAX
- 38. Jasper County Hospital-Water Laboratory (M+C)**  
1104 E. Grace Street  
Rensselaer IN 47978  
219/866-5141, ext. 332  
219/866-3234 FAX
- 39. Jasper Municipal Utilities (M)**  
455 E. 8th St. (47546)  
P.O. Box 750  
Jasper IN 47547-0750  
812/482-2010  
812/482-9827 FAX
- 40. Lafayette Home Hospital (M)**  
2400 South St.  
Lafayette IN 47904  
765/447-6811, ext. 2949  
765/449-3135 FAX
- 41. Lake County Health Department (M+C)**  
2293 N. Main Street  
Crown Point IN 46307  
219/755-3676  
219/755-3668 FAX
- 42. LaPorte City Water Dept. (M)**  
1119 Lake St.  
LaPorte IN 46350-3294  
219/326-9540, Ext. 03  
219/326-9135 FAX
- 43. LaPorte County Health Department (M)**  
809 State St., 4th Floor  
LaPorte IN 46350-3385  
219/326-6808, ext. 429  
219/326-6808, ext. 203 FAX
- 44. M & S Labs, Inc. (M)**  
113 E. Maumee St.  
Angola IN 46703-1920  
219/665-2857  
219/665-1199 FAX
- 45. Marion County Health Department (M+C)**  
3838 North Rural Street  
Indianapolis IN 46205  
317/543-4670  
317/543-4683 FAX
- 46. Micro Air, Inc. (M)**  
6320 Las Pas Trail  
Indianapolis IN 46268  
317/293-1533  
317/290-3566 FAX
- 47. Microbac Laboratories, Inc. (M+C)**  
544 Conkey Street  
Hammond IN 46324  
219/932-1770  
219/932-1721 FAX
- 48. Mishawaka Municipal Water Utility Lab (M)**  
Mishawaka Wastewater Treatment Plant  
1020 Lincolnway West  
Mishawaka IN 46544  
219/258-1655, ext. 26  
219/255-3557 FAX
- 49. Northwest Indiana Water Company (M)**  
650 Madison St.  
P.O. Box M-486  
Gary IN 46401-0486  
219/880-2360  
219/881-2261 FAX
- 50. Sherry Labs, Inc.-Ft. Wayne (M+C)**  
5738 Industrial Rd.  
Ft. Wayne IN 46825  
219/471-7000  
219/471-7777 FAX
- 51. OA Laboratories & Research, Inc. (C)**  
1430 N. Stadium Drive  
Indianapolis IN 46202  
317/639-2626  
317/636-6760 FAX
- 52. Pace Analytical Services, Inc. (C)**  
7726 Moller Road  
Indianapolis IN 46268  
317/875-5894  
317/872-6189 FAX
- 53. Sherry Laboratories (M+C)**  
2203 South Madison Street  
P.O. Box 284  
Muncie IN 47302  
1-800-874-3563  
317/747-9000  
765/747-0228
- 54. Sherry Laboratories (M+C)**  
629 Washington St., Ste. 300  
Columbus IN 47201  
812/375-0531  
812/375-0731 FAX
- 55. South Bend Environmental Lab (M)**  
3113 Riverside Dr.  
South Bend IN 46628  
219/277-8515  
219/277-8980 FAX
- 56. South Bend Medical Foundation, Inc. (M)**  
530 N. Lafayette Blvd.  
South Bend IN 46601  
1-800-544-0925, ext. 241  
219/234-4176, ext. 241  
219/288-2262 FAX
- 57. TestAmerica, Inc. Indianapolis Division (M+C)**  
6964 Hillsdale Court  
Indianapolis IN 46250  
317/842-4261  
317/842-4286 FAX
- 58. Three Rivers Filtration Plant (M+C)**  
1100 Griswold Drive  
Ft. Wayne IN 46805  
219/427-1254  
219/427-1354 FAX
- 59. Townsend Research, Inc. (M)**  
1339 Sadlier Cir. W. Dr.  
Indianapolis IN 46239  
317/375-0893  
317/375-1046 FAX
- 60. Tri-State Analytical Testing Laboratory (M)**  
1 Tri-State University Ave.  
Angola IN 46703-0307  
219/665-4812 ext 4812  
219/665-4501 FAX
- 61. Turner Technologies, Inc. (M+C)**  
560 S. Zimmer Road  
Warsaw IN 46581-1096  
219/267-3305  
219/269-6569 FAX
- 62. Twin Rivers Medical Laboratory (M)**  
902 W. Broadway  
Logansport IN 46947  
1-800-999-4973  
219/739-0004  
219/739-0105 FAX
- 63. Valley Lea Laboratories (M)**  
4609 Grape Rd. D-4  
(Mishawaka IN 46545)  
P.O. Box 6369  
South Bend IN 46660  
219/272-8484  
219/272-8485 FAX
- 64. Valparaiso Dept. of Water Works (M)**  
1903 Pumping Station Rd.  
205 Billings St.  
Valparaiso IN 46383-3699  
219/462-6174  
219/462-4542 (plant)  
219/531-1194 FAX
- 65. Vanderburgh Co. Dept. of Health (M)**  
Civic Center Complex  
Rm. 127  
1 NW Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
Evansville IN 47708  
812/435-5657  
812/435-5612 FAX
- 66. Water Pollution Control Utility (M+C)\***  
2801 Gene Gustin Way  
Anderson IN 46011  
765/648-6563  
765/648-6570 FAX

\*This lab tests only for flouride