



Public Health
Prevent · Promote · Protect

Mahomet Aquifer Arsenic Alert

If you obtain your water from a private well, it is always important to take proper precautions (i.e. routine sampling) and to practice good maintenance to help ensure the water you drink is safe. Please take note that if you reside in the northern part of Logan County and have a private well, the Mahomet Aquifer may be the source of your water. Please refer to the below map.

According to the Illinois State Water Survey (ISWS), arsenic (As) has been found at levels exceeding the maximum contaminant level of 10 parts per billion (ppb) throughout most of the Mahomet Aquifer. Arsenic is a contaminant that is a naturally occurring element located in the earth's crust. Arsenic can be found in deep bedrock and in shallow glacial materials that cover the northern two-thirds of the state and once it dissolves naturally, it can find its way to groundwater. Arsenic is highly toxic and in drinking water has been linked to various cancers and other ailments.

Once a new well is constructed, the Logan County Department of Public Health will initially sample the well for coliform bacteria, E. coli, nitrate and nitrite as required by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH). However, if you feel it is likely the Mahomet Aquifer is your water source, it is recommended that you take extra precaution by having your well tested for arsenic. For further information including fees, you can contact one of the local certified laboratories listed below.

If arsenic in your well is found to exceed the maximum contaminant level (10 ppb), exposure to arsenic can be reduced by (1) using bottled water for drinking and cooking, (2) installing a water treatment system such as reverse osmosis, home distillation, deionization or activated alumina media filter, (3) constructing a new well (does not work in some situations), or (4) connecting to a public water source. Per Section 4 of the Logan County Water Ordinance, if public water is available within 200 feet of the subject property, the public water shall be the sole water source. If you have questions, you can contact the Logan County Department of Public Health at 217-735-2317.

Testing Laboratories

PDC Laboratories, Inc.
2231 W. Altorfer Drive
Peoria, Illinois 61615
(309) 692-9688
www.pdcarea.com/labs

Prairie Analytical Systems
1210 Capital Airport Drive
Springfield, Illinois 62707
(217) 753-1148
www.prairieanalytical.com

Illinois State Water Survey
2204 Griffith Drive
Champaign, IL 61820
(217) 300-7420
info@isws.illinois.edu

