



To protect, nurture and advance
the health of our community

ONEIDA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 29, 2020

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ONEIDA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT WATER ANALYSIS LAB HAS REOPENED AND IS ACCEPTING WATER SAMPLES

The Oneida County Health Department's (OCHD) Water Analysis Lab has reopened and is accepting water samples from the public. The Water Lab offers bacteria, nitrate, and arsenic testing options. Please stop by the Health Department from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday, to pick up a test kit and sampling instructions. Completed water samples may be returned to the Health Department for analysis Monday through Wednesday, from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm (*Schedule is subject to change during closed days). Cost of bacterial analysis is \$25, nitrates \$15, and arsenic \$20. Definitive test results for bacteria testing are provided within 48 hours.

Water testing is an inexpensive and effective way of ensuring a safe and healthy water supply. It's estimated that 20-25% of Wisconsin wells have bacterial contamination. OCHD advises all private well owners to have their well water tested annually for coliform bacteria. If there are infants under six months of age or women of childbearing age drinking the water, the water should be tested for nitrates before pregnancy, at birth, then every three to five years. It is also recommended to test nitrates annually if your nitrate levels are close to, or above, 10 ppm, or you live close by fertilized agricultural fields or animal feed lots.

During this COVID 19 event, OCHD staff is taking the necessary precautions to avoid exposure throughout the lobby and department settings. All visitors are requested to wear masks in our facility, including the lobby area. Staff will be wearing masks also. Arrangements to pick up of your water test kit and drop off your completed test kit may be made by calling OCHD prior to coming into the lobby in person. OCHD is committed to assuring the safety of our clients, staff, and the community.

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Phone: (715) 369-6111
Fax: (715) 369-6112
ochd@co.oneida.wi.us
www.OneidaCountyPublicHealth.org

100 W. Keenan Street
Rhineland, WI 54501
Monday- Friday 8:00AM-4:30PM

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Oneida County to a healthy future.*

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