

ATTENTION:

PRIVATE WELL OWNERS

HAVE YOU HAD YOUR WELL TESTED FOR WATER QUALITY?

The Missoula City-County Health Department and Missoula Valley Water Quality District are offering a **free** arsenic analysis for private well owners/users in Missoula County. An optional (but recommended) nitrate/nitrite analysis is available for an additional \$10.00. Postage for mailing the drinking water samples to the analytical laboratory is also included at no extra charge.



Why: Private well water is not routinely monitored by state or local agencies. Testing for water quality in private wells is usually the well owner's responsibility. The Environmental Protection Agency has also recently lowered the arsenic drinking water standard from 50 micrograms per liter to 10 micrograms per liter. Review of published analysis of private well water has indicated that some private wells in Missoula County contain "naturally occurring arsenic" exceeding the new 10 microgram per liter standard.

When: A limited number of free arsenic tests are now being offered.

What: The offer includes a free arsenic test kit and prepaid postage. An optional nitrate/nitrite analysis can also be purchased. A test for total coliform/e-coli bacteria is always available at the Missoula City-County Health Department.

Cost: Free! Nitrate/nitrite analysis \$10.00.

How: Contact the Missoula Valley Water Quality District at 258-4890. Sample kits can be picked up at the Missoula City-County Health Department, 301 W. Alder, Missoula.