



Home Well Water Testing



UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
EXTENSION
Paulding County

All well water samples should be collected from the first draw of water out of the kitchen faucet or from the faucet used most often for drinking. A first draw water sample is collected (after a minimum of 6 hours, but not more than a 12 hour period) during which time there was no water usage from that faucet prior to sampling. Either early morning or evening upon returning from home are the best sampling times to ensure a good sample. Place a clean sample container below the faucet and gently open the cold water tap to fill sample bottles. At least a 1 pint (500 mL) is needed for most samples. [Water Sampling Instructions](#)

Recommended Baseline Water Tests for Home Wells- Expanded Water Test and Bacteria Test

Expanded Water Test (W2).....\$63.00 per sample (includes postage):

Designed to address common well water problems in Georgia such as corrosion, high levels of iron and manganese, and nitrate from various sources. This test package should be done at least once on wells before using a less inclusive test. The Expanded Water Test is required for installation and design of home water treatment systems. This test includes the Basic Water Test (see below), Anions, Soluble Salts, and Alkalinity tests.

Bacteria Test (W35)\$36.00 per sample (DOES NOT include required “Overnight Air” postage):

The most common microbiology test checks for the presence of *E. coli* and total coliform bacteria. This test requires a special test kit with sample instructions available at the Extension office. This test is recommended annually on home wells. [Visit website for more information about disinfecting your well water through shock chlorination.](#)

Radon in Water Test.....\$30.00 (DOES NOT include required Overnight AIR postage):

This test requires a special test kit with sample instructions available at the Extension office. [Instructional video](#) on how to sample. It is recommended that you test the air in your home first for radon and if results are high, then test well water.

Basic Water Test (W1).....\$25.00 per sample (includes postage):

pH and Water Hardness, Phosphorus, Potassium, Calcium, Aluminum, Chromium, Manganese, Copper, Cadmium, Iron, Zinc, Sodium, Nickel, Magnesium, Boron, Molybdenum, and Silica

Water Lead Test (W42).....\$45.00 per sample (includes postage):

Lead testing is recommended for homes and/or wells built prior to 1985. Pipes could contain lead solder which could leach into your drinking water.

Home Loan Closing Package (W33B).....\$85.00 per sample (DOES NOT include required

“Overnight Air” postage): Nitrate (NO₃-N), nitrite (NO₂-N), lead (Pb), and microbiology. – **Check with your lender to see if this meets their criteria.**

Fish Pond General Water Quality-(W34C).....\$40.00 per sample (includes postage)

pH and Water Hardness, Phosphorus, Potassium, Calcium, Aluminum, Chromium, Manganese, Copper, Cadmium, Iron, Zinc, Sodium, Nickel, Magnesium, Boron, Molybdenum, Silica, Alkalinity (bicarbonate), pH, and CO₂

Other tests are available upon request.

Pond =\$40

Irrigation Water Well Test=\$25

Household Water Well Test-\$63 (Minerals)

Bacteria Testing- \$36 Test kit to client-
They ship to UGA.-*TIME SENSITIVE*
For non-routine UGA Water lab tests, please speak to the county agent for sampling and cost information.



UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

EXTENSION

Paulding County

Office Use Only

Paid _____

Pending _____

Results Sent (date) _____

Mail _____ OR Email _____

DATE _____

Name _____ Phone # _____

Address _____ City _____ Zipcode _____

Email Address _____

How do you prefer to receive your results: Email OR snail mail

Bacteria test vs. Mineral Test - You may need both, but they are separate tests and instructions

Bacteria testing is time sensitive. You purchase a kit with specific instructions that you must follow in order to get reliable test results. You will then need to ship the sample overnight (a label is included and shipping costs are included in the fee for the test). If you are testing for bacteria, you do not need to complete the lower portion of this form.

Mineral testing will give you results for common minerals found in water. You may obtain a sample container from the office or sterilize a pint jar and take the sample from the tap. To avoid contamination, cover with saran wrap and then the jar lid and bring the sample to our office.

Mineral Test Requested

Household water well Irrigation Well Fish pond Other

Household Water Test will give the following results: Water pH, hardness, saturation index, alkalinity, conductivity, mineral concentrations of: aluminum, boron, cadmium, calcium, carbon dioxide, chloride, chromium, copper, fluoride, iron, magnesium, manganese, molybdenum, nickel, nitrate-nitrogen, phosphate, phosphorus, potassium, silica, sodium, sulfate, total dissolved solids, and zinc.

Testing for Lead and Arsenic content requires a separate test.

For Water Tests If this is a well water test, is the well (circle one): Drilled OR Bored

Well depth _____ Well Casing Diameter _____ Date and Time of sample _____

What is the water used for? _____

Why are you having this water tested? _____

We accept cash, credit/debit or check made out to Paulding County 4-H Form Updated 3/2/2026