

Office of Environmental Health Drinking Water Lab FAQs

Call: (907) 434-2015
Hours of Operation: Mon-Fri 9am-5pm

What services does the lab provide?

The lab offers bacterial testing for public water systems in the Norton Sound/Bering Straits Region. Water samples are tested for coliform bacteria contamination. The lab does not test for other contaminants.

Can I get a water sample from my private well? sources for private individuals?

Not yet. OEHL hopes to have coliform bacteria testing for private wells and traditional drinking water in the future. Keep in mind, drinking water should be tested for more than bacterial contaminants. Nitrate, arsenic, lead, and copper are some common contaminants.

Will the lab offer other testing?

OEHL does not plan to expand testing services beyond coliform bacteria. Other testing is significantly more complex and cannot be supported in our lab.

How long before testing are results available? does it cost?

It takes a minimum of 24-48 hours for finalized results. OEHL charges \$25 per sample to cover base expenses.

How can my community get set up for testing?

Check to see if your public water system has existing contracts with other labs. Services with other labs may be pre-paid. If not, submit a 30-day written notice of intent to utilize the OEHL lab services to get signed up.

