
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

Winter 2022

Sacramento River Watershed Coalition Member- <subwatershed group>

NEW REQUIREMENTS FOR ON-FARM DRINKING WATER WELLS

Nuevas Requisitos de Calidad de Aqua Requieren que usted Responde

(Para obtener más información en español (formularios u otra información), por favor contáctenos al telefono (916) 464-4611 o vía email a: irrLands@waterboards.ca.gov.)

Beginning **1 January 2022** all Sacramento River Water Quality Coalition members and/or property owners will be required to sample their on-farm drinking water wells for nitrate by 31 December 2022 and annually thereafter. If you have a well, used for drinking or cooking on an enrolled parcel(s), please follow the directions below:

- Contact an ELAP Laboratory- List of certified laboratories can be found on our webpage (link below) and/or enclosed for your use.
- Complete the Drinking Water Well Member Information Form- Submit enclosed form with sample to the laboratory only.
- Notification Requirements- If sample results are **greater than 10 mg/L** nitrate as nitrogen you must **notify** the user(s) using the attached Notification Template and also send a signed copy to the Central Valley Water Board.

For additional details or frequently asked questions please go to:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/irrigated_lands/drinking_water

If you have questions regarding these new requirements, please contact <staff> by email at <staff email> or by phone at (916) 464-XXXX.

You can also contact us at irrlands@waterboards.ca.gov or by phone at (916) 464-4611.

Original signed by

Patrick Pulupa
Executive Officer

Enclosure: Drinking Water Well Sampling Quick Guide
Drinking Water Well Member Information Form
Notification Template
List of ELAP laboratories

DENISE KADARA, ACTING CHAIR | PATRICK PULUPA, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Drinking Water Well Sampling Quick Guide

Contact a Certified Laboratory

- Laboratory must be certified through the Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP) for nitrate + nitrite as nitrogen testing.
https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/irrigated_lands/drinking_water/dw_elap_labs_list.pdf/
- Inform laboratory that you are a coalition member and need your domestic well(s) sampled for **nitrate + nitrite as nitrogen**; make sure that the lab can load data to GeoTracker.
- Laboratory and/or third-party consultants are available to assist with sampling, refer to the Sample Results and Reporting Requirements below.

If you are Collecting your own Sample

- Obtain sample bottles (with or without a preservative) with labels and chain of custody (COC) form for nitrate + nitrite as nitrogen sampling from laboratory.
- Follow proper sampling procedures and **hold times** (provided by your laboratory).
- Transport unpreserved samples to the laboratory using a cooler with ice (39.2°F).
- Submit COC and Drinking Water Well Member Information Form with sample(s) to the laboratory and keep a copy for your records.

Sample Results and Reporting Requirements

- Laboratory will create a GeoTracker account based on the Drinking Water Member Information Form information.
- The laboratory will enter your sample results into GeoTracker, the state groundwater database.
- Your well will be given a global ID# to use in future years if further sampling is required.
- If nitrate + nitrite as nitrogen levels are **equal to or less than 10 mg/L**, sample again the next year.
- If nitrate + nitrite as nitrogen levels are **greater than 10 mg/L**, use the Notification Template to notify drinking water users **within 10 days** of learning of the exceedance and also send a signed copy to the Central Valley Water Board. The Notification Template is included with your outreach materials or located on our webpage:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/irrigated_lands/drinking_water

No further sampling required.

Central Valley Water Board
Attn: ILRP
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