



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**Boone County  
Health Department**

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## NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO OFFER REDUCED WATER TESTING RATES**

**BOONE COUNTY**— National Groundwater Awareness Week is March 8-14. Just as people check their furnaces or smoke detector batteries seasonally, spring is a good season to have an annual water well checkup before peak water use season begins.

Safe drinking water is something that most of us take for granted, but every year there are instances of contaminated drinking water in Boone County. The Boone County Health Department is offering a reduced rate to private well owners for the testing of water samples for coliform bacteria and nitrates for the rest of March. During this time, the normal \$50.00 bacteria and nitrates analysis fee will be reduced to \$37.00.

“In this area, one-hundred per cent of our water comes from groundwater and about 18,000 Boone County residents rely on private wells to supply that water. We recommend testing private well water at least once a year for well maintenance and to prevent waterborne illness,” explains Amanda Mehl, Boone County Health Department’s Public Health Administrator. An annual checkup is the best way to ensure high-quality drinking water and to prevent waterborne illness. Preventive maintenance can also be less costly than emergency maintenance, as well as prolonging the life of your well.

Sterile test bottles and sampling instructions are available at the Boone County Health Department. All water samples must be collected on a Tuesday or Wednesday at anytime after 10:00 a.m. and

brought to the Boone County Health Department on the same day before 4:00 p.m. Results of water samples are ready for homeowners in approximately three working days.

For further information on water testing, please call the Health Department office at (815) 544- 2951 ext. 2, or send an email to: [info@boonehealth.org](mailto:info@boonehealth.org). Our office is open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. For more information on Groundwater Awareness Week you can also visit the National Groundwater Association Web site at: <http://www.ngwa.org>.

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### **About The Boone County Health Department**

The Boone County Health Department is a local health department committed to serving the health needs of its almost 54,000 residents. Established in 1966, we promote and protect the health of the people and the communities in Boone County, right here, where they live, work, learn and play.