



## **IMPROVED PROCESS FOR 2018 WELL TESTING ANNOUNCED**

A more streamlined and convenient registration and payment system has been developed for the 2018 Well Testing Program for Readington Township residents. The improved online ordering process will make selecting and paying for the desired tests easier than ever.

A Basic Test Kit for coliform bacteria and nitrates is available for just \$60 through the Community Well Testing Program. For those getting the Basic Kit other tests such as arsenic, lead and radon are available for additional fees. Each test kit comes with easy-to-follow instructions and all required containers.

Test kits may be selected and purchased online at <http://www.TestMyWell.org> from September 17 through October 19 this year. A complete list of available tests and why they might be relevant is on the website page. Specific instructions for obtaining your test collection kit from the municipal offices will be provided during the online signup process. Samples are to be dropped off at the Municipal Building on either Monday, October 22, Wednesday, October 24 or Friday, October 26 between 6:30-9:00am. Samples will be tested by a state-certified laboratory and confidential results will be communicated directly to residents about two weeks later. If pollutants are detected out of normal range levels well owners will be provided information on how to correct the problem.

To accommodate the commuter residents the Environmental Commission will also make the kits and advice on the tests available in the evenings of October 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> in the Municipal Building Lobby (509 Route 523 in Whitehouse Station) from 5 – 8 pm and at the Three Bridges Library from 5 – 7 pm on Wednesdays October 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>.

This year's Testing is especially timely given the continuous heavy rainfall experienced throughout the Summer and the potential for surface water contamination where pesticides, fertilizers and coliform bacteria may be present.

Arsenic is naturally occurring and very prevalent in this part of New Jersey and the state recommends considering testing for arsenic every 3-5 years to monitor the levels in drinking water from private wells.

The Readington Environmental Commission, in partnership with local nonprofit Raritan Headwaters, offers this water testing opportunity once a year to residents and businesses at substantial savings over commercial rates. About 80% of residents rely on private wells for their drinking water.

For more information, please contact Mara Tippet of Raritan Headwaters Association at 908-234-1852, ext. 401 or via email at [welltesting@raritanheadwaters.org](mailto:welltesting@raritanheadwaters.org). Visit the RHA website for demonstrations of proper well water sampling techniques at ([www.raritanheadwaters.org](http://www.raritanheadwaters.org)).



**Environmental Commission**