The Grants-to-Counties Program at the State Hygienic Laboratory has provided financial assistance for well water testing since 1987. To carry out the mission of this program, funds are provided to the State Hygienic Laboratory and to the Iowa Department of Public Health in participating counties across Iowa.

When to use the State Hygienic Laboratory’s Grants-To-Counties Program

County Public Health Departments should contact the State Hygienic Laboratory if:
- the client’s well water is bacteriologically safe but has nitrate levels greater than 10 mg/Liter;
- the client’s well water poses a direct health threat because of extenuating circumstances, such as a chemical spill near the well or an accidental back-siphoning incident;
- the client’s well water has a sudden change in taste, color or smell;
- there is chemical storage leaking near the well (for example, a fuel tank either above or below ground);
- the well has been inundated by flood waters; or
- a member of a family whose drinking water is from a private well becomes ill and has been referred by a physician.

The State Hygienic Laboratory’s Grants-to-Counties Program has also supported post-flood well testing and special studies.

What does the State Hygienic Laboratory’s Grants-To-Counties Program offer to County Public Health Departments?

- NO FEES CHARGED for approved testing
- Rapid turnaround time: Results in 48 hours to five days
- Web access to results
- Technical assistance:
  - Telephone consultation
  - Partnership with Iowa Department of Public Health, Iowa Department of Natural Resources and other state agencies
  - Educational materials and resources
  - Annual environmental health specialist training
  - Conferences, committees, exhibits
  - Information and instructions on our website
- Rapid, convenient shipping at no charge
- Limnologists to assist with sample collection if needed
Find out more about the State Hygienic Laboratory’s Grants-to-Counties Program on our website.

http://www.shl.uiowa.edu/env/privatewell/grantstocounties.xml

Questions about our Grants-to-Counties Program may sent to:

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⇒ Nancy Hall (nancy-hall@uiowa.edu)
⇒ Sherri Marine (sherri-marine@uiowa.edu)