

Water Well Screening

TEXAS WELL OWNER NETWORK

RESOURCES HELP LANDOWNERS PROTECT GROUNDWATER



The Texas Well Owner Network (TWON) program is an educational program that gives well owners the opportunity to have their well water samples screened for common contaminants including fecal coliform and E. coli bacteria.. The screening of the water samples is followed by a 1-hour explanation of the results, water well protection practices and focuses on wellhead protection and recommendations for remediating well contamination.

Well Informed Screening - August 12-13

- **Gillespie County AgriLife Extension Office: 38 Business Court, Fredericksburg**
- **Kendall County AgriLife Extension Office: 118 Saunders, Suite #2, Boerne**
- **Cow Creek Groundwater Conservation District: 9 Toepperwein Road, Boerne**
- **Hill Country UWCD: 508 South Washington Street, Fredericksburg**
- Samples should be collected in a new, unused 12-20 ounce water bottle
- Sample drop-off 8:30 a.m. — noon August 12th at above locations

(visit twon.tamu.edu for a printable version of collection instructions and sample information sheet)

Results & Interpretation meeting:

Thursday, August 13 @ 10:00 a.m.

Comfort Public Library, 701 High Street, Comfort

For more information, call or email John Smith: 979-204-0573
or visit our website: <https://twon.tamu.edu/>

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Funding for the Texas Well Owner Network is through a Clean Water Act nonpoint source grant provided by the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The project is managed by the Texas Water Resources Institute, part of Texas A&M AgriLife Research, AgriLife Extension and the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Texas A&M University.

Private water well screenings set for Fredericksburg, Comfort and Boerne August 12-13

Residents in Comfort, Boerne and Fredericksburg are invited to a free water well screening and result meeting

The [Texas Well Owner Network](#), TWON, is hosting a water screening event for those residents that may have had their private water well inundated with flood waters During the July rainfall events. The screening will be held on August 12-13 in Comfort.

Joel Pigg, [Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service](#) program specialist and TWON coordinator, College Station, said the Texas Well Owner Network program is for Texas residents who depend on household wells for their water needs.

“The TWON program was established to help well owners become familiar with Texas groundwater resources, septic system maintenance, well maintenance and construction, and water quality and treatment,” he said. “It allows them to learn more about how to improve and protect their community water resources.”

Water samples will be screened for total coliform bacteria and *E. coli* bacteria.

Water sampling and meeting information

— Water samples can be dropped off on Wednesday, August 12th from 8:30-noon at the AgriLife Extension office for Gillespie County, 38 Business Court, Fredericksburg or the Hill Country Underground Water Conservation District, 508 South Washington Street, Fredericksburg. There will be no cost for the water well screening.

— Water samples can be dropped off on Wednesday, August 12th from 8:30-noon at the AgriLife Extension office for Kendall County, 118 Saunders, Suite #2, Boerne or the Cow Creek Groundwater Conservation District, 9 Toepperwein Road, Boerne. There will be no cost for the water well screening.

The follow-up meeting to explain the results of the screenings will be at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, August 13th at the Comfort Public Library, 701 High Street, Comfort.

Sampling instructions

A water sample form must be completed for each sample submitted. Follow the directions below for sample collection: (visit our website <https://twon.tamu.edu/> for a printable version of the collection instructions and the sample information sheet)

- Pour the contents out of a new bottle of water, 12-20 ounces, and fill it with a water sample from your private water well.
- Take the sample from the spigot/hose bib nearest to the wellhead. Remove the water hose if one is present and take the water directly from the spigot/hose bib.
- If an inside faucet is used, remove the aerator on the faucet before making the collection. Rinse and dry the exterior of the faucet to prevent contamination of the water sample.
- If possible, wipe off with a Clorox-type towelette or paper towel wetted with a light bleach solution to kill any bacteria present on the faucet. Allow the cleaning solution to dry before sampling.
- Turn the water full force and let it run for 2 minutes or until you hear the pump start running.
- Reduce the water flow to a small stream, then take the sample.

Refrigerate the sample and transport it to a drop-off location in an ice chest as soon after collection as possible. It is best to collect the day the sample is submitted. Otherwise, make sure the sample is kept cool and out of direct sunlight. The sample should be collected within 24 hours of submission to ensure accurate results.

“We encourage you to bring samples from all wells on your property,” Pigg said. “Also, many participants who have water treatment equipment take samples before and after the treatment to make sure the equipment is functioning properly.”

Each sample should be labeled with your name, and if you bring more than one sample, the label should indicate which well the sample came from.

Pigg said it is essential for those submitting samples to be at the appropriate follow-up meeting to receive results, learn corrective measures for identified problems and improve their understanding of private well management.

To learn more about the programs offered through the network or to find additional publications and resources, visit <https://twon.tamu.edu>. For more information on the water screening contact John Smith at 979-204-0573.

The screenings are presented by AgriLife Extension and [Texas Water Resources Institute](#), TWRI, in partnership with the AgriLife Extension offices in Gillespie County and Kendall County.

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