

HEALTH AND SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

PRIVATE WELL INFORMATION

If your home or business lost water pressure at any point, water available from your tap should be considered unsafe. Until well water is determined to be safe and free of contamination, bottled water should be used for consumption and oral hygiene purposes.

DETERMINING WELL WATER SAFETY

Indications of a damaged well may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Damaged or melted or exposed electrical wiring.
- Damaged or melted well casing, liner, pipe, or other aboveground piping.
- Damaged well house or pressure tank.
- Debris, ash, and sediment entering uncovered wells.

What to do if the well is damaged

- If the well casing or plumbing around the well was damaged by fire the water should be tested at a minimum for bacteriological quality (i.e. Total and E-coli Coliform Bacteria) and for Benzene.
- If there is need for additional water quality testing, especially for heavily impacted burn areas, it is recommended to test for the entire panel of Volatile Organic Chemicals (not only Benzene) and heavy metals including but not limited to: Aluminum, Antimony, Arsenic, Cadmium, Selenium and Lead.

If the well casing or well cap is damaged, a qualified professional such as a licensed well driller or pump contractor should inspect the well to ensure it is not exposed to the elements. If well repairs are required, casing repairs must be performed only by a licensed well contractor. Well pumps and drop tubes may be replaced or repaired by other qualified professionals. When repairs are complete, the well should be disinfected using Clorox plain bleach, purged of disinfectant, and then tested for coliform to determine the water is safe for consumption.

Water Testing Laboratories

Water sample analysis should be conducted by a CA certified laboratory. The table below lists laboratories that provide services to Kern County.

Lab Name:	Phone:	Address:
Zalco Laboratories, Inc.	(661) 395-0539	4309 Armour Avenue Bakersfield, CA 93308
Dellavalle Laboratory Inc.	(559) 233-6129	1910 W McKinley, Suite 110 Fresno, CA 93728
Midway Laboratory	(661) 765-2364	315 Main Street P. O. Box 1151 Taft, CA 93268
Clinical Labs of San Bernardino	(760) 244-3481	17152 Darwin Ave. Hesperia, CA 92345
FGL Environmental	(559) 734-9473	9415 W. Goshen Ave. Visalia, CA 93291

Lab Results and Treatment

Once your water supply is confirmed to be safe and potable, water lines serving your home or business should be thoroughly flushed.

For more information regarding wells, please visit kerncountypublichealth.com or contact us via email at EH@kerncounty.com or via phone at (661) 862-8740.