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## Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

Fall 2020

Member Name  
Member Address  
City, State, Zip

### NEW REQUIREMENTS FOR ON-FARM DRINKING WATER WELLS

**Nuevas Requisitos de Calidad de Agua Requieren que usted Responde**  
(Para obtener más información en español (formularios u otra información), por favor contáctenos al telefono (916) 464-4611 o vía email a: [irrlands@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:irrlands@waterboards.ca.gov).)

Beginning **1 January 2022** all <coalition> members and/or property owners will be required to sample their on-farm drinking water supply wells for nitrate by 31 December 2022 and annually thereafter. If you have a well, used for drinking or cooking on a parcel(s) where rice is produced, please follow the directions below:

- Contact an ELAP Laboratory- List of certified laboratories can be found on our webpage (link below) and/or enclosed for your use.
- Complete the Drinking Water Well Member Information Form- Submit enclosed form with sample to the laboratory only.
- Notification Requirements- If sample results are **greater than 10 mg/L** nitrate as nitrogen you must **notify** the user(s) using the attached Notification Template and also send a signed copy to the Central Valley Water Board.

For additional details or frequently asked questions please go to:  
[https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water\\_issues/irrigated\\_lands/drinking\\_water](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/irrigated_lands/drinking_water)

If you have questions regarding these new requirements, please contact us at [irrlands@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:irrlands@waterboards.ca.gov) or by phone at (916) 464-4611.

*Original signed by*

Patrick Pulupa  
Executive Officer

Enclosure: Drinking Water Well Sampling Quick Guide  
Drinking Water Well Member Information Form  
Notification Template  
List of ELAP laboratories

### Contact a Certified Laboratory

- Laboratory must be certified through the Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP) for nitrate + nitrite as nitrogen testing.  
[https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water\\_issues/irrigated\\_lands/drinking\\_water/dw\\_elap\\_labs\\_list.pdf/](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/irrigated_lands/drinking_water/dw_elap_labs_list.pdf/)
- Inform laboratory that you are a coalition member and need your domestic well(s) sampled for **nitrate + nitrite as nitrogen**; make sure that the lab can load data to GeoTracker.
- Laboratory and/or third-party consultants are available to assist with sampling, refer to the Sample Results and Reporting Requirements below.

### If you are Collecting your own Sample

- Obtain sample bottles (with or without a preservative) with labels and chain of custody (COC) form for nitrate + nitrite as nitrogen sampling from laboratory.
- Follow proper sampling procedures and **hold times** (provided by your laboratory).
- Transport unpreserved samples to the laboratory using a cooler with ice (39.2°F).
- Submit COC and Drinking Water Well Member Information Form with sample(s) to the laboratory and keep a copy for your records.

### Sample Results and Reporting Requirements

- Laboratory will create a GeoTracker account based on the Drinking Water Member Information Form information.
- The laboratory will enter your sample results into GeoTracker, the state groundwater database.
- If nitrate + nitrite as nitrogen levels are **equal to or less than 10 mg/L**, sample again the next year.
- If nitrate + nitrite as nitrogen levels are **greater than 10 mg/L**, use the Notification Template to notify drinking water users **within 10 days** of learning of the exceedance and also send a signed copy to the Central Valley Water Board. The Notification Template is included with your outreach materials or located on our webpage:

[https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water\\_issues/irrigated\\_lands/drinking\\_water](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/irrigated_lands/drinking_water)

No further sampling required.

Central Valley Water Board  
Attn: ILRP  
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