



Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District

122 8th Avenue S.
Madison MN 56256
320-598-7321 x 3
www.lacquiparleswcd.org

CONSERVATION COMMENTS

DATE: July 27, 2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Nitrate Clinic Report

The Lac qui Parle SWCD and Lac qui Parle County Water Plan, with the MN Department of Agriculture, sponsored a free nitrate testing clinic July 27 in the SWCD office. The majority of well water samples brought in by Lac qui Parle County residents tested far below the EPA recommended limit of 10 ppm for drinking water. Several samples were below that threshold, yet high enough that residents will continue regular monitoring. Unfortunately a few residents had unsafe nitrate levels and were referred to certified labs for additional testing. Most participants had water treatment systems, and tested before and after samples. One person realized the value of regular testing when he discovered his reverse osmosis system wasn't working!

Nitrate is a naturally occurring chemical found in our environment. Too much nitrate in drinking water can cause serious health problems for certain groups of people, especially babies. Excess nitrate from fertilizers, animal waste, and septic systems can contaminate groundwater. Nitrate contamination is often the first sign of deteriorating groundwater quality.

If you missed the Nitrate Clinic and would like information on where you can get your water tested, call the SWCD at 320-598-7321 x 3.

