



NEWS

GUADALUPE-BLANCO RIVER AUTHORITY
933 EAST COURT STREET · SEGUIN, TEXAS 78155 · FAX [830] 379-9718

GBRA EXPLAINS GUIDELINES FOR WATER WELL TESTING

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Contact: Judy Gardner, Mgr. of Communications and Education, [830] 379-5822

SEGUIN-The Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority is urging area residents who normally get their drinking water from wells near rivers and streams that flooded last week, to have their water tested before using it for human consumption.

“There has been a substantial increase in bacteria and harmful pathogens in the Guadalupe River and other surface waters due to rainfall runoff and the flooding of wastewater collection and treatment facilities,” said GBRA regional laboratory director Debbie Magin.

Shallow wells near area lakes often show symptoms of “influence” as lake levels fluctuate. Magin said a good example of “influence” is the number of occurrences of low or dry wells reported by many residents this week when gate repairs to GBRA’s hydroelectric dams at Lake Placid and Meadow Lake caused lake levels to be much lower than normal.

“This direct correlation indicates that these wells are affected by the lake water. Other indications that ground water may be impacted by surface water are significant and rapid shifts in water clarity or temperature” said Magin. “If your well has shown any of these symptoms, you should not use the well water for drinking, cooking, bathing or personal hygiene.”

To have your water tested, pick up a water sample bottle and instructions from GBRA at 933 East Court Street in Seguin. Test results are available at 4 p.m. the day after the sample is returned to the regional laboratory. If you have questions about testing your well, or to request a copy of GBRA’s free brochure “Water Well Guide - Common Questions, Common Problems, Common Solutions,” call (830) 379-5822.