



## PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

January 3, 2012

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### FREE WELL WATER SAMPLING FOR RADIATION

The Jefferson County Public Health (JCPH) encourages residents who use well water to participate in a *limited* study this spring/summer of radiation levels in well water in Jefferson County. This program is funded through a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.

This study will determine how many wells have elevated levels of various radioactive contaminants, including gross alpha, gross beta, radon, uranium and radium. For public water supplies, maximum contaminant levels (MCL's) for gross alpha and radium are already established and the EPA is proposing MCL's for radon and uranium. MCL's do not apply to private wells however public water standards are used as guidelines during home sales or by lending companies. JCPH's goal is to determine how many wells would be impacted by these proposed MCL's.

JCPH will test selected wells at no charge to residents and only 15 participants are being tested this year. To qualify, your system must have either:

- A small pressure tank as we need to drain it to allow sampling of "fresh" water.
- A faucet between the well and pressure/holding tank so JCPH can sample without having to drain the tank.

You must also be available to allow us to sample during normal work hours. If you have an outside faucet, you do not need to be present during sampling. No evening or weekend sampling will occur.

We will make every effort to not disclose your name, address, or the results of these tests. However, this information will become a public record, and we cannot guarantee that the results will be confidential.

For more information or to apply, please call John Moody at 303-271-5714. You can also visit our website at [www.jeffco.us/health](http://www.jeffco.us/health).