

## **Information about SEWAGE AND/OR WATER SYSTEM INSPECTIONS in Wyoming County, NY**

**Wyoming County Health Department, 5362 Mungers Mill Road, Silver Springs, NY  
(585) 786-8894**

Typical report turnaround time for:

Bacteria result is about one week after the appointment date.

Lead, Nitrate and Nitrite are generally more than two weeks after the appointment date.

Sewage system inspection is typically one week after the appointment date.

While these times are typical, it may be longer if results are delayed at the lab, or if corrections to water or septic systems are required. In many cases, but not all, we are able to give a verbal result for the bacteria sample on Friday afternoon.

We suggest scheduling an appointment for a water/sewage inspection for about a month before closing; earlier if you believe there might be issues.

A completed application with fee must be received prior to us making an initial appointment.

Resamples may be scheduled prior to receipt of payment, but results will not be released until payment is received. Even if the septic test will be performed 30 days after occupancy, the fee for the water and dye must be received in this office prior to closing.

Health Department employee will enter property ONLY when accompanied by owner or an owner's authorized agent.

You may choose to disinfect the well and cold water plumbing if the building has been unoccupied for more than a few weeks, new well was recently drilled, and recent work performed on well components or house plumbing. Contact us for recommended disinfection procedure. We recommend that the initial flush of heavily chlorinated water not go into an onsite septic system. We suggest avoiding the addition of large amounts of extra water to a septic system (especially in a short period of time) to avoid overloading it. Avoid running the well dry. Use fresh bleach, as bleach loses its potency over time.

After three unsatisfactory bacteria samples, we then typically recommend permanent disinfection be installed on the potable water supply. New York State Health Department recognizes two disinfection methods: liquid chlorination installed on the supply line in the house, or Ultraviolet (UV) light.

If you have installed an Ultraviolet (UV) light, it is usually necessary to disinfect the plumbing after the UV light prior to re-sampling. This can be accomplished by disinfecting the well, or by introducing chlorine into the filter before the UV light, or in the UV unit itself.

Unless there is a permanent disinfection system installed, the water must be free of chlorine residual prior to us collecting a bacteria sample.

**REVISED JAN 18, 2018**