

## Chloride Testing for Wells under the Lummi Peninsula Settlement Agreement

The Lummi Settlement Agreement specifies that all Eligible Landowners using groundwater from the Department of Ecology’s (Ecology) allocation will need to sample their well water for chlorides, beginning August 2008.

### Q: What is the sampling schedule?

Type of well	Sampling schedule	Submit lab analysis to Ecology no later than
Small Well	Every August	November 1st of same year
Supply Well	Every April, August, and December	15th of following month

### Q: How do I collect a sample of water?

**A:** All samples **must** be collected according to the procedures specified in Appendix F of the Uniform Technical Requirements (Exhibit G, pg. 47) of the Settlement Agreement. Proper procedures include using sterile sampling equipment, pre-pumping your well, and filling out a Chain of Custody form.

*All samples must be analyzed by a laboratory accredited for chloride sampling. Sampling procedure details are on the back of this sheet.*

### Q: Where do I find a water quality laboratory certified by Washington State or the U.S. government for chloride analysis?

**A:** Ecology-certified labs can be found at <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/laboratorysearch/Default.aspx>. Water quality laboratories can also be found under “Laboratories-Analytical” in most phone books. When you speak with the lab, confirm that they are certified to perform chloride analyses.

### Q: Where do I get a sampling bottle?

**A:** From the laboratory that will be analyzing the sample.

### Q: Where do I get a Chain of Custody form?

**A:** From the laboratory that will be analyzing the sample.

### Definitions, for the purpose of this document:

**Ecology’s Allocation:** the quantity of groundwater over which Ecology has permitting authority under the Agreement and state law, for use by eligible landowners.

**Small Well:** Any well regardless of size, developed or used for the production of water for no more than 3 allocations of 0.39 acre-feet-per-year under the Agreement.

**Supply Well:** Any well other than a Small Well.

### For more information:

Visit Ecology’s website at: [www.ecology.wa.gov](http://www.ecology.wa.gov) and enter “Lummi Settlement” into the Search box.

### Settlement Agreement:

View at: <https://ecology.wa.gov/Water-Shorelines/Water-supply/Water-rights/Case-law/Lummi-settlement>

### For specific questions:

Ecology Water Master  
Bellingham Field Office  
(360) 255-4400

### Special accommodations:

If you need this publication in an alternate format, call the Water Resources Program at 360-407-6872. Persons with hearing loss, call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with a speech disability, call 877-833-6341.

**Q: How will others know if I am sampling correctly?**

**A:** Per the Settlement Agreement, staff from Ecology and Lummi will be jointly “spot checking” chloride testing. If your well is randomly selected to be “spot checked” you will be notified by Ecology. Staff will either watch you sample your water and/or take their own sample and compare their results with yours.

**Procedure for Chloride Sampling for Analysis at a Laboratory**

**1. Contact a State- or U.S.-certified laboratory** (see reverse side for how to do this). From the lab, get the following supplies:

- An unopened and undamaged sample bottle for chloride sampling,
- Chain of Custody form, and
- The lab’s instructions for chloride sampling.

**2. Pump your well** until at least 3 casing volumes have been removed from the well. If you need technical assistance with this step, contact Ecology (see below).

**3. Collect a sample of your water.** You can take the sample from any nozzle, faucet, or outlet that is connected to your well AS LONG AS the water is collected PRIOR to any sort of treatment (water softener, filter, etc.). Make sure the inside of the sample bottle and lid do not come in contact with any foreign materials. Fill the bottle to the top and then securely reattach the lid.

*Note: If your sample is not collected successfully, or if the inside of your sample bottle or lid is touched by foreign materials, you will need to repeat this process with a NEW & STERILE sampling bottle.*

**4. Fill out the Chain of Custody form and all relevant information on the sample bottle.**

**5. Deliver your sample to the laboratory.** Bring along your Chain of Custody form. Follow any instructions the lab has provided to you for storage, transport, and delivery of the sample.

*Note: Always follow the lab’s instructions.* If laboratory instructions are different than those here, follow the instructions provided by the lab.

**6. Send a copy of the lab results to Ecology.** The lab will mail you the results of your chloride analysis. Submit a copy of the results to Ecology at the address below **according to the timetable on the reverse side of this sheet.** Make sure to include your name, address, phone number, system name (for a supply well), and Well ID number on all information you provide to Ecology.

**For questions, help, or further technical assistance, contact:**  
 Ecology’s Water Master  
 Ecology’s Bellingham Field Office  
 (360) 255-4400

**Submit results to the following address:**  
**Department of Ecology**  
 Bellingham Field Office, ATTN: Water Master  
 913 Squalicum Way, #101  
 Bellingham, WA 98225