



Public Health
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**Peoria City/County
Health Department**

Media Release

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To: All Media

From: Peoria City/County Health Department
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For Immediate Release

Participants Needed to Test Well Water for Lead Contaminants

We know that lead is harmful to health – especially the health of children. We know that drinking water in cities with public water systems can contain lead. What we do NOT know is if lead is found in private water wells in Illinois.

Researchers at the University of Illinois and Northern Illinois University have teamed up with Peoria City/County Health Department to find out if lead is a problem in well water in Peoria County, as well as in several other regions of the state. Peoria City/County Health Department is recruiting 75 volunteers who live in Peoria County and who have private water wells to help answer this question – Is there harmful lead in our water wells?

Participating residents using well water will be provided a well water test kit for lead and complete a short questionnaire about water use in the home. The water well test kit and testing are free for participants. The researchers will provide the participants with the results of the testing, including information on how to reduce any high lead levels detected. Summary results are for research only and direct results will not be shared with government agencies. The study is expected to run through April 2019.

If you would like to participate in this study and receive a free lead test kit for your water well, call Peoria City/County Health Department at 309-679-6171, email environmentalhealth@peoriacounty.org, or visit our website www.pcchd.org for more information on this important study.

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The Peoria City/County Health Department continues efforts to improve community health in Peoria County with the overarching goal ***“to increase the number of people who are healthy at every stage of life.”***