

# Grower Quick Guide

## Drinking Water Well Sample Collection

### Contact a Certified Laboratory

- Laboratory must be certified through the Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP) for nitrate + nitrite as nitrogen testing.  
[www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking\\_water/certlic/labs/](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/labs/)
- Inform laboratory that you are an East San Joaquin Water Quality Coalition member and need your domestic well(s) sampled for **nitrate + nitrite as nitrogen**; make sure that the lab can load data to GeoTracker.
- Laboratory and/or third-party consultants are available to assist with sampling, refer to the Sample Results and Reporting Requirements below.

### If you are Collecting your own Sample

- Obtain sample bottles (with or without a preservative) with labels and chain of custody (COC) form for nitrate + nitrite as nitrogen sampling from laboratory.
- Follow proper sampling procedures and **hold times** (provided by your laboratory).
- Transport unpreserved samples to the laboratory using a cooler with ice (39.2°F).
- Submit COC and Drinking Water Well Member Information Form with sample(s) to the laboratory and keep a copy for your records.

### Sample Results and Reporting Requirements

- Laboratory will create a GeoTracker account based on the Drinking Water Member Information Form.
- The laboratory will enter your sample results into your GeoTracker account (State groundwater database).
- If nitrate + nitrite as nitrogen levels are **equal to or less than 10 mg/L**, sample again the next year.
- If nitrate + nitrite as nitrogen levels are **greater than 10 mg/L**, notify drinking water users and Central Valley Water Board within 10 days using the Drinking Water Well Notification Template included within your outreach materials or at [https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water\\_issues/irrigated\\_lands/drinking\\_water](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/irrigated_lands/drinking_water)  
No further sampling required.