

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DEPARTMENT

Green County Health Department

The Green County Health Department was identified as the lead organization for the following recommendations. Recommendation numbers correspond with the numbers within the Livestock Facility Study Group Report & Recommendations document.

COMMUNITY MAPPING & MONITORING (page 25)

MONITORING (page 25)

3. Coordinate well water test results, which are required to be taken every 15 months, to establish water quality trend data.

- Rationale: This can be used to make decisions to reduce groundwater contamination.
- Note: The Green County Land and Water Conservation Department, Green County Health Department, and Green County UW-Extension were all identified as lead stakeholders for this recommendation.

UPDATE AS OF JUNE 2023

Health Committee reviewed #3 and recommended postponing recommendation #3 indefinitely until data is available, and that department strongly recommends private well owners test their wells every 15 months. A review of recommendation #2 on conducting outreach when a private well e-coli contamination is detected was postponed until more information is collected.

5. Direct the Green County Health Department to monitor trends in asthma and respiratory diseases in areas of Green County.

- Rationale: Better understand potential risks related to air quality and particulate matter.

UPDATE AS OF JUNE 2023

Review of DHS Environmental Public Health Tracking Data for Green County show a declining rate & overall count of ER visits and hospitalizations attributed to Asthma from 2002 to 2021.

BEST PRACTICES & OUTREACH (page 27)

OUTREACH (page 27)

2. If e. coli contamination is detected, send letters to nearby households that are potentially impacted.

- Rationale: Disclosure of potential contamination risk to nearby private well owners.

UPDATE AS OF JUNE 2023

One private water system tested positive for e.Coli in 2020. Working with the owner of the impacted well, followup testing showed it was free of e.Coli/coliform bacteria after well treatment. The well was located

in a barn for animal watering and the home water system showed no bacterial contamination so notifying nearby well owners was not warranted. The owner continues to test their wells annually. Letters are also issued by the HD for systems producing water with Nitrate exceeding 10 mg/L and any coliform bacteria detected.

3. Encourage the State Veterinarian and local veterinarians to report to local health officials any known zoonotic (disease) outbreaks.

- Rationale: Disclosure of possible disease outbreaks that would impact humans.

UPDATE AS OF JUNE 2023

Health Officer receives regular DTCAP communications, including identified zoonotic outbreaks for surveillance and risk toward human impact.

RULES & REGULATIONS (page 29)

IMPLEMENTATION & STAFFING (page 34)

25. Create an environmental health position in the Green County Health Department.

- Rationale: Expertise needed in investigation, outreach, education, and monitoring recommendations.

UPDATE AS OF JUNE 2023

The Environmental Health Specialist position was approved and the position filled in February 2019. Aside from other environmental health programs, the position supports outreach/education & locating resources for private well owners to test/investigate/improve their water quality, as well as supporting the monitoring requirements/inspection of TNC public water systems (transient non-community) across the county as an agent of the WIDNR. Currently available ARPA grant funding is being promoted to well owners that have/are experiencing exceeding nitrates or other qualified contaminants under the grant, to repair/replace their wells and prevent further health impacts & groundwater contamination.