

July 11, 2025

# **Update Well Notice for Oak Vista Subdivision Residents**

Central Texas Groundwater Conservation District (CTGCD)

Following the July 5<sup>th</sup> flooding event, the groundwater in the Oak Vista Subdivision is presumed contaminated with Coliform and, in some cases, E. coli bacteria. Due to the number of positive results already received from this area, CTGCD is no longer accepting individual well sample requests from Oak Vista residents at this time.

Instead, CTGCD personnel will conduct a targeted round of representative samples throughout the subdivision on Wednesday, July 16, 2025. These samples will help establish a baseline understanding of current bacteria levels in the area.

### What You Should Know:

- Your well water is currently presumed unsafe to consume, regardless of whether your wellhead or property was visibly flooded or not. This contamination risk applies to **all wells** in the Oak Vista Subdivision—not just those in low-lying areas. In karst aquifers like ours, bacteria can travel rapidly underground through fractured rock.
- It is recommended to not drink, brush teeth with, cook with, or wash produce with your well water until it has been disinfected and confirmed safe.
- Use bottled water or boil your well water for at least 3 minutes before any use involving consumption.
- CTGCD will notify residents once a majority of the neighborhood samples come back negative for bacteria.

# **Why Monitoring Comes First:**

While we expect bacteria levels in the aquifer to naturally stabilize and diminish over the next 2 to 4 weeks, early chlorination will only provide temporary disinfection if the aquifer source remains contaminated. That's why CTGCD is leading this initial round of monitoring—so we can identify when recovery begins and advise residents accordingly.

#### **Once results indicate improvement:**

- 1. Residents will be advised to chlorinate their well and plumbing systems using approved procedures.
- 2. After 48 hours, CTGCD will accept individual well samples to confirm the water is safe before resuming regular use.

## **Reminder:**

Karst aquifers are extremely vulnerable to surface contamination during flood events. CTGCD's step-by-step approach is designed to protect your household and ensure that any disinfection is timed effectively for long-term safety.

For chlorination procedures and disinfection guidance, visit: www.centraltexasgcd.org

Questions? Contact CTGCD at 512-756-4900