

Collector.” The rule also includes the requirements for Certified CWD Veterinarians. To view details of the adopted rule visit <http://www.tahc.texas.gov/regs/code.html>

The following rule amendments were proposed:

Chapter 38, Trichomoniasis, Certification Period and Sample Submission Timeframe: The proposed rule will extend the certification period of veterinarians certified to perform Trichomoniasis program activities from 3 years to 5 years. The proposed definition of “cattle” will exclude bison, which eliminates the requirement to test bison for Trichomoniasis. Lastly, the proposed rule decreases the time frame in which a veterinarian must submit and the lab must receive a test sample from 120 hours to 96 hours after collection.

Chapter 40, Chronic Wasting Disease, Repeal and Propose Movement Restriction Zones and Carcass Entry Requirements: The proposed rules will create new movement restriction zones in areas of the state where animals have been disclosed as CWD positive. Also being proposed are new requirements for CWD susceptible species carcasses entering the state from areas where CWD has been detected in free-ranging or captive herds. The TAHC began accepting public comments for the proposals on September 9, 2016. The deadline for comment submissions on the proposed amendments is October 10, 2016. Complete details of the rule proposals are available on the TAHC website at <http://www.tahc.texas.gov/regs/proposals.html> The TAHC encourages and appreciates all comments. Comments on the proposals must be submitted in writing to Amanda Bernhard, Texas Animal Health Commission, 2105 Kramer Lane, Austin, Texas 78758, by fax at (512) 719-0719, or by email to [comments@tahc.texas.gov](mailto:comments@tahc.texas.gov).

### **Tip of the Week: Treating Iron and Manganese In Well Water**

As I informed you last week Zavala county will participate in a regional well water screening program for private well water owners in Zavala and neighboring counties. This event will be held in November with more details to follow in the coming weeks. What if you participate in this water screening and your water samples show high iron and manganese levels in your well water? What can you do about it? What levels are too high?? Well let me share a few tips for you.

Both iron and manganese are metals found naturally in the environment. Iron makes up about 5 percent of the earth’s crust while manganese comprises about 0.1 percent of the earth’s crust. In a 2009 study of principal aquifers across the country, the U.S. Geological Survey found iron and manganese in about half the wells sampled. Manganese is an essential nutrient at low doses. Recent research indicates (1) a possible link to cancer from over-exposure to manganese, and (2) lower performance on tests measuring intellectual functioning among children exposed to high manganese levels in groundwater-supplied drinking water.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has not established a Maximum Contaminant Level for iron and manganese as a human health risk. The agency has established a Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL) for these metals—the level at which iron and manganese tend to cause taste and staining problems. For iron, the SMCL is 300 micrograms per liter, which is the same as 300 parts per billion. For manganese, the SMCL is 50 micrograms per liter, the same as 50 parts per billion. At the SMCL level or above, iron can cause an unpleasant metallic taste and cause rusty colored stains in laundry, toilet bowls, sinks, and other surfaces.