

Domestic Wells: Chemicals and Test Methods

<i>Compound</i>	<i>Drinking Water Standard</i>	<i>DLR¹</i>	<i>Typical Test Method(s)</i>
BACTERIA INDICATORS			
Total Coliform	Present ⁴		EPA ² Method 1604, SM ³ 9223B, SM ³ 9221B; IDEXX Labs Methods (Colilert, Colisure, Quanti-tray)
Fecal Coliform	Present ³		EPA Method 1680; IDEXX Labs Methods (Colilert, Colisure, Quanti-tray); others
GENERAL MINERALS & IONS			
Nitrate	45 mg/L ⁴	2.0 mg/L	EPA 353.2, EPA Method 9210; Anions by EPA Method 300
Nitrite	1 mg/L ⁴	0.4 mg/L	EPA Method 300
Perchlorate	6 µg/L ⁴	4.0 µg/L	EPA Method 314.0
Chloride	500 mg/L ⁵	1 mg/L	Anions by EPA Method 300
Fluoride	2 mg/L ⁴	0.1 mg/L	Anions by EPA Method 300
Sulfate	500 mg/L ⁵	0.5 mg/L	Anions by EPA Method 300
Total Dissolved Solids	1,000 mg/L ⁵	10 mg/L	EPA General Methods
METALS⁸			
Aluminum	1,000 µg/L ⁴	50 µg/L	EPA Methods 200.7, 200.8, or 200.9
Antimony	6 µg/L ⁴	6 µg/L	EPA Methods 200.7, 200.8, or 200.9
Arsenic	10 µg/L ⁴	2 µg/L	EPA Methods 200.7, 200.8, or 200.9
Beryllium	4 µg/L ⁴	1 µg/L	EPA Methods 200.7, 200.8, or 200.9
Cadmium	5 µg/L ⁴	1 µg/L	EPA Methods 200.7, 200.8, or 200.9
Chromium	50 µg/L ³	10 µg/L	EPA Methods 200.7, 200.8, or 200.9
Hexavalent Chromium	n/a	1 µg/L	EPA Method 218.6
Iron	300 µg/L ⁵	100 µg/L	EPA Methods 200.7, 200.8, or 200.9
Manganese	50 µg/L ⁵	20 µg/L	EPA Methods 200.7, 200.8, or 200.9
Mercury	2 µg/L ⁴	1 µg/L	EPA Method 245.1
Selenium	50 µg/L ⁴	5 µg/L	EPA Methods 200.8, or 200.9
Thallium	2 µg/L ⁴	1 µg/L	EPA Methods 200.7, 200.8, or 200.9
Vanadium	50 µg/L ⁶	3 µg/L	EPA Methods 200.7, 200.8, or 200.9
Zinc	5,000 µg/L ⁵	50 µg/L	EPA Methods 200.7, 200.8, or 200.9

ORGANICS			
Volatile Organic Compounds	Varies by compound	Varies by compound	EPA Method 524.2 or 524.3
DBCP ⁷	0.2 µg/L ⁴	0.2 µg/L ⁴	EPA Method 524.2 or 504.1
RADIONUCLIDES			
Gross Alpha	15 pCi/L ⁴	3 pCi/L	EPA Methods 9310, 900; SMWW 7110
Gross Beta	50 pCi/L or 4 millirem/yr ⁴	4 pCi/L	EPA Methods 9310, 900
Radium 226+228	5 pCi/L ⁴	1 pCi/L	Radium 226: EPA Methods 9315, 903.0; Radium 228: EPA Methods 9320, 904.0
Tritium	20,000 pCi/L ⁴	1,000 pCi/L	EPA Method 906
Uranium	20 pCi/L ⁴	1 pCi/L	EPA Methods 908.0, 908.1
Notes:			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. DLR = Detection Limit for Reporting. The testing procedure must be able to resolve concentrations of a particular chemical at this level in order for the Division of Drinking Water and/or the US EPA to accept the results. 2. EPA - US Environmental Protection Agency 3. SM = Standard Method 4. MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level 5. SMCL = Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level 6. NL = Notification Level 7. Other names for this chemical include: Dibromochloropropane and 1,2-Dibromo-3-chloropropane 8. For other metals not specifically listed, generally use EPA Method 200.7 or 200.8, 200.9 9. For additional questions, please contact gama@waterboards.ca.gov 			