

CANADIAN DRINKING WATER QUALITY TESTING

REGULATED DRINKING WATER TESTING

Generally, Canadian drinking water supplies are of high quality, but testing should still be performed as there is always potential for water contamination. When water comes into contact with silt, vegetation, fertilizers, mineral or industrial waste or agricultural run-off, it can become polluted. Microbiological, chemical, radiological contaminants, taste and odour are all evaluated under the Canadian Drinking Water Quality Guidelines (CDWQG) to ensure our water is safe for human consumption.

You can be confident in SGS' capabilities to conduct competent third party analytical testing as required under the Canadian Drinking Water Quality Guidelines established by the Federal-Provincial-Territorial Committee on Drinking Water.



SGS' SUPERIOR ANALYTICAL CAPABILITIES

SGS conducts water analysis for parameters outlined in the CDWQG plus many more. We use inductively coupled plasma-mass spectroscopy (ICP-MS) to perform metal analysis at the parts per trillion level. The following equipment:

- Gas chromatography (GC)
- GC-electron capture detector (ECD)
- GC-flame ionization detector (FID)
- GC-mass spectrometry (MS) MS/MS

allows us to detect organic compounds such as PCBs, pesticides and hydrocarbons down to the parts per trillion level. In addition, SGS has a number of other techniques such as atomic absorption, ion chromatography and classical chemical techniques for specialty requirements.

GUIDELINE EXPECTATIONS

The regulatory expectations for microbial parameters are the most stringent as microbes may have the most harmful effects on individuals. Viruses, bacteria and protozoa fall into this category. The regularity at which you must sample and test varies with the size and type of the system and your jurisdiction's requirements. SGS is able to test your water for a broad range of microbes to ensure your water is free of these deleterious pathogens.

Chemical and physical parameters are defined using a maximum acceptable concentration (MAC). These values are based on health, aesthetic objectives or operational guidelines.

The CDWQG's radiological parameters are set to reflect natural source radiation. They are not meant to be applied to events such as a large release of radionuclides into the environment. The maximum acceptable concentrations in water are based on information presented by the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP). This guideline documents the natural and artificial radionuclides that are the most commonly detected in Canadian water supplies.

SGS takes drinking water quality testing seriously. We know you do too. For insight to your analytical requirements that only experienced, knowledgeable professionals can provide, choose SGS.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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WHEN YOU NEED TO BE SURE

SGS