

WELL WATER AND PRIVATE WATER ANALYSIS

ANALYSIS OF PRIVATELY GENERATED DRINKING WATER

As an owner of a well, you have an ongoing responsibility to maintain your water quality. Water contamination such as microbes, metals, pesticides and cleaning products can cause stomach cramps, diarrhea and in the worst case scenario, death. Testing is the only way of identifying certain water hazards. Taste, smell and appearance are not good indicators of quality. SGS has expertise in analysing the quality of your private water sources and well water.

WELL WATER

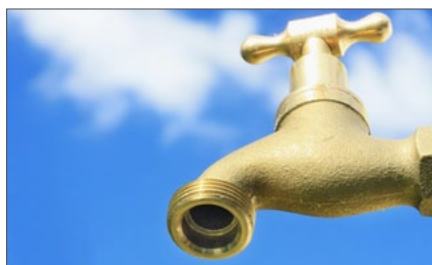
Wells are supplied by underground water that originates from surface water and rain that has infiltrated into the earth and concentrated in an aquifer. The three most common well types in Ontario are sand point wells, dug or bored wells and drilled wells.

Private well owners maintain the responsibility to monitor and regulate the quality of their well water. SGS can help by conducting a comprehensive scope of testing for your unregulated private well. This data will assist you in achieving and maintaining a potable water source.

WHEN TO TEST

It is important to test your well regularly and respond to any contamination problems as quickly as possible. Optimal periods to conduct tests are:

- early spring, summer and fall
- after a heavy rainfall
- during a season of high precipitation or flooding
- when a septic system malfunctions
- after any repair or major plumbing changes have occurred
- when a surface spill of contaminants has occurred



WHY

- Change of seasons: It is recommended by Conservation Ontario to test in every season. In early spring, pollutants can accumulate in the snow and can be flushed into the nearby water sources, potentially contaminating your well water.
- Heavy rainfall, periods of increased precipitation or flooding: The runoff from roads and other sources can seep through the ground and can affect your water source.
- Underground sources: Malfunctioning septic systems can leak and release pathogens that can contaminate your well or private source water.
- Repair or construction: Any repair done to the well or replacement of pipes can introduce microorganisms or other contaminants.
- Spill of contaminants: If any sort of contaminated spill has occurred on your site, you should test your well water for potential contamination.

REGULATIONS

The provincial and federal regulations are very stringent. SGS Environmental Services can assist you in complying with:

- Comprehensive water analysis under the Canadian Drinking Water Quality Guidelines (CDWQG) and the Ontario Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002 (OSDWA)

- Regulatory lead testing (includes Ontario Regulation 243/07)

TESTING CAPABILITIES

While a Health Unit will test your water for bacteria, our accredited and licensed laboratories are able to test for other parameters including:

- Pesticides and herbicides
- Metals (including lead, mercury, arsenic and chromium)
- Hydrocarbons
- Salts
- Taste
- Colour
- Odour

SGS has been a leading provider of water analysis since 1994. As a laboratory licensed by the Ontario Ministry of the Environment (MOE), we are well aware of regulatory requirements. We are also able to conduct other water testing such as:

- Raw water characterization
- Ground and surface water analysis
- Wastewater and effluent characterization
- Microbiological testing

SUMMARY

Our experienced and knowledgeable staff will assist you in determining your testing needs. We understand the importance of accurate water quality analysis and the role it can play on your health. By choosing to use SGS' fit-for-purpose testing, you can be confident that your water source is safe.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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SGS

WHEN YOU NEED TO BE SURE