

EPA Primary (Health-related) Microbial and Turbidity Contaminants

Contaminants	MCLG+	MCL+	Treatment Methods
Turbidity		0.5 to 1 NTU in 95% of samples; maximum of 5 NTU under certain circumstances	Coagulation/Filtration Sediment Reduction Reverse Osmosis Cartridge Filtration matched to turbidity particle size Submicron Filtration Ultrafiltration Distillation
Coliform bacteria	zero	zero in 95% of samples	Turbidity or sediment reduction to 1 NTU, then: Disinfection Ozonelodine (Polyiodide Resins) Ultraviolet Radiation Submicron (absolute) Filtration (<0.45 micron) Chlorination Distillation
Viruses	zero	99.99% reduction or inactivation	Turbidity reduction to 1 NTU, disinfection: Chemical Oxidation/Disinfection Chlorination Ozone Iodine Ultraviolet Radiation Distillation
Giardia lamblia and Cryptosporidium cysts	zero	99.9% reduction or inactivation	Turbidity or sediment reduction to 1 NTU, then: Disinfection Ozone Absolute Filtration of less than 3 micron-sized particles Ultraviolet Light Distillation
Legionella	zero	TT	Sediment reduction to one NTU turbidity, then: disinfection Ultraviolet Light Ozone Chlorination Iodine
Heterotrophic Pate Count (HPC)	zero	TT	Sediment reduction to one NTU turbidity, then: disinfection Ultraviolet Light Ozone Chlorination Iodine

Primary (Health-related) Radionuclide Contaminants

Contaminants	MCLG+	MCL+	Treatment Methods
Beta particle and photon activity (formerly man made radionuclides)	none	4 mrem/year	Ion Exchange (mixed bed) Reverse Osmosis Distillation Electrodialysis
Gross alpha particle activity	none	15 pCi/L*	Treatment method depends on the specific radionuclide-e.g., radium, radon or uranium. See below.
Radium 226 and Radium 228	none	5 pCi/L	Cation Exchange Distillation Reverse Osmosis Electrodialysis
Radon	zero (P)*	300 pCi/L (P)*	Activated Carbon Air Stripping
Uranium	zero (P)*	0.03 mg/L (P)*	Coagulation/Filtration Anion Exchange Reverse Osmosis Electrodialysis Submicron Filtration Activated Alumina Distillation

(P)* = Proposed Standard

MCLG+=Maximum Contaminant Level Goal established at the level at which no known or anticipated adverse effects on the health of per-sons occur and which allows an adequate margin of safety; expressed in milligrams per liter unless otherwise specified.

MCL+=Maximum Contaminant Level established as close to the MCLG as feasible taking into consideration costs and treatment techniques applicable at public water systems; expressed in milligrams per liter unless otherwise specified.

* = 1 pCi = 2.2 atom disintegrations per minute

TT = Treatment Technique



Have questions? Call us at 888-600-5427 and speak with one of our WQA Certified Master Water Specialists.

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