

The Health Department recommends testing your private well water for certain inorganic chemicals every five years. If your test report shows the **final result** is higher than the **limit**, consider treatment to lower or remove the chemical from your water.

**Arsenic** has been linked to increased lifetime risk for bladder, lung or skin cancer. The limit in drinking water is 0.010 milligrams per liter (mg/L).

**Chloride** does not cause health problems, but high levels can be a sign of other problems. High levels of chloride – around 250 mg/L - can also give water an unpleasant taste.

**Copper** is an important mineral for the formation of red blood cells. But high levels in water can cause stomachaches, vomiting, or diarrhea, especially in young children. Copper can stain plumbing fixtures and give water a metallic taste. The limit in drinking water is 1.3 mg/L.

**Fluoride** is a mineral found in nature that helps the body resist tooth decay. Knowing the level of fluoride in your well water will help you adjust infant formula or children's supplements. The limit in drinking water is 4.0 mg/L.

**Hardness** causes no known health risks but can reduce lathering of soap and form buildup in water heaters, cookware and plumbing. There are no health limits for water hardness.

**Iron** is an essential element and does not generally cause health effects. However, high amounts can cause a metallic taste and stain clothing, sinks, toilets and bathtubs. The limit in water is 0.3 mg/L.

**Lead** is a toxic metal that can come from older plumbing. It can hurt the brain, kidneys and nervous system, especially in children and pregnant women. The limit in drinking water is 0.015 mg/L. Because there is no safe level of lead in the body, Vermont has set a health advisory level of 0.001 mg/L.

**Manganese** is an essential element, but high amounts could affect the nervous system. It can discolor water and stain clothing and bathroom fixtures grey/black – usually when levels are higher than 0.050 mg/L. Vermont has set a health advisory level of 0.300 mg/L.

**Nitrate** found at high levels can cause an oxygen deficiency in young infants' blood, resulting in a bluish skin tone. In adults, nitrate can form chemicals called nitrosamines, which are linked to cancer. The limit for nitrate in water is 10.0 mg/L.

**Sodium** can occur naturally in water. High levels of sodium can make water taste salty, corrode metal piping. Salt from road de-icing can cause high sodium levels in wells near roads. The limit in drinking water is 250 mg/L.

**Uranium** is a radioactive element. Most uranium that enters your body is eliminated, but a small amount is absorbed and can go through the bloodstream and kidneys. Elevated levels can increase a person's risk of kidney damage or lifetime risk of cancer. The limit in drinking water is 0.020 mg/L.

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

For more information, visit [healthvermont.gov/water-contaminants](https://healthvermont.gov/water-contaminants) or contact the Drinking Water program at 800-439-8550 or 802-863-7220.

# How to Read Your Water Test Results



359 SOUTH PARK DR  
COLCHESTER, VT 05430  
(802) 338-4724 or (800) 660-9933  
www.healthvermont.gov

This unique number is used to identify your sample results.

## Results Report

State Health Dept # : 18-IC-03319  
Report Status : Final  
Date Report Released : 07/13/2018

Report To  
ATTN OF  
Address



WSID  
Account Name  
Date Received 07/09/2018  
Time Received 10:15  
Approved Date 07/13/2018

Sample Desc.	KIT C	Sample	
Collection Date	07/09/2018	Collection	
Collection Time	06:30	Free	
Sample		Total	
Sample		Chloride	
Street		Field	
Town		Field	
Sample		Temp	
On			

The final result is how much of a chemical is in your drinking water.

Units are measured in milligrams per liter (mg/L).

The limit is the maximum amount of a chemical that is allowed in your drinking water based on federal or state standards. The unit of measure is the same as for the final result (mg/L). If the final result is above the limit, consider treating your water to reduce or remove the chemical.

Analyte	Final Result	Units	Limit
Fluoride	4.37	mg/L	4.0 MCL
Chloride	28	mg/L	250 SMCL
Nitrite as N	<0.10	mg/L	1.0 MCL
Nitrate as N	<0.50	mg/L	10.0 MCL

\*\* See below for Nitrate and/or Nitrite.

<b>Test</b>	<b>Hardness (EDTA)</b>	<b>Date/Time of Analysis</b>	07/09/2018 10:45
		<b>Test Method</b>	SM 2340 C
<b>Analyte</b>	Hardness	<b>Units</b>	mg/L
<b>Final Result</b>	< 5 mg/L	<b>Limit</b>	*

The symbol "<" means "less than." Here, the nitrate level is less than 0.50.

<b>Test</b>	<b>Iron by Flame AA</b>	<b>Date/Time of Analysis</b>	07/10/2018 11:50
		<b>Test Method</b>	SM 3111 (B)
<b>Analyte</b>	Iron	<b>Units</b>	mg/L
<b>Final Result</b>	<0.10	<b>Limit</b>	0.3 SMCL