



# County of San Diego

## DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND QUALITY

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## POTABLE WATER REQUIREMENTS FOR HOME KITCHEN OPERATIONS

An approved source of potable water is required for all home kitchen operations. If the water will be provided by a regulated water district or small water system where water quality analysis is performed on a routine basis to ensure the water supply meets minimum bacterial and chemical standards, no further action is necessary.

If the water for the home kitchen operation will be obtained from a private water well, the water source must meet the primary water quality standards for a transient, non-community water system. Analytical data results will be required to be submitted to the Department of Environmental Health and Quality prior to approval of a Cottage Food Operation or Microenterprise Home Kitchen Operation. In addition, on an annual basis, home kitchen operations must demonstrate at permit renewal that the water system meets the bacterial water standard. The analysis must be performed for the constituents listed below and must be completed by a California state certified laboratory. Should the water supply not meet the minimum "potable" water quality standards required by law, the home kitchen operation will not be approved until proof of a complying water supply is submitted.

### Initial Analysis

The initial analysis shall include a total coliform bacteria test which shows the absence of coliform bacteria, and sample results shall include bicarbonate, carbonate, hydroxide alkalinity, calcium, iron, magnesium, manganese, pH, specific conductance, sodium, and total hardness. Additionally, an inorganic chemicals test is required to demonstrate all required constituents tested are at or below the maximum contaminant levels (MCL) shown in the following table.

Inorganic Chemicals	MCL
Aluminum	1.0 mg/L
Antimony	0.006 mg/L
Arsenic	0.010 mg/L
Asbestos	7 MFL*
Barium	1.0 mg/L
Beryllium	0.004 mg/L
Cadmium	0.005 mg/L
Chromium (hexavalent)	0.010 mg/L
Chromium (Total)	0.05 mg/L
Cyanide	0.15 mg/L
Fluoride	2.0 mg/L
Mercury	0.002 mg/L
Nickel	0.1 mg/L
Nitrate (as N)	10.0 mg/L
Nitrate+Nitrite (sum as nitrogen)	10.0 mg/L
Nitrite (as N)	1.0 mg/L
Perchlorate	0.006 mg/L
Selenium	0.05 mg/L
Thallium	0.002 mg/L

\*MFL = million fibers per liter; MCL for fibers exceeding 10 µm in length.

### Annual Analysis

The annual analysis shall consist of nitrate, nitrite, and a total coliform bacteria test which shows the absence of coliform bacteria.

*"Environmental and public health through leadership, partnership and science"*

# STATE APPROVED LABORATORIES FOR WATER QUALITY ANALYSIS

For a list of state approved laboratories for drinking water and/or wastewater analysis, click on the following link:  
<https://waterboards.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=bd0bd8b42b1944058244337bd2a4ebfa>

## **Fields of Testing (FOT):**

101 – Microbiology of Drinking Water  
102 – Inorganic Chemistry of Drinking Water  
103 – Toxic Chemical Elements of Drinking Water  
104 – Volatile Organic Chemistry of Drinking Water  
105 – Semi-volatile Organic Chemistry of Drinking Water  
106 – Radiochemistry of Drinking Water

107 - Microbiology of Wastewater  
108 - Inorganic Chemistry of Wastewater  
109 - Toxic Chemical Elements of Wastewater  
110 - Volatile Organic Chemistry of Wastewater  
111 - Semi-volatile Organic Chemistry of Wastewater  
112 - Radiochemistry of Wastewater  
113 – Whole Effluent Toxicity of Wastewater