

CENTRAL TESTING LABS LTD. DRINKING WATER QUALITY GUIDELINES

Test	Recommended Maximum Limit	
Total coliform	<1 cfu / 100 ml	
Fecal coliform	<1 cfu / 100 ml	
E. coli	<1 cfu / 100 ml	
E. coli 0157	<1 cfu / 100 ml	
Calcium	500 mg / L	
Magnesium	500 mg / L	
Potassium	500 mg / L	
Sodium	200 mg / L	
Iron	0.3 mg / L	
Copper	1.0 mg / L	
Zinc	5.0 mg / L	
Manganese	0.05 mg / L	
Phosphorus	1.0 mg / L	
Nitrate (Total NO₃)	40 mg / L	
Chloride	250 mg / L	
Sulphate	500 mg / L	
pH	6.5 – 8.5	
Electrical Conductivity	800 µs / cm	
Total Dissolved Solids	500 mg / L	
Hardness (Calcium Carbonate)	500 mg / L	
	0 – 40	very good – soft
	40 – 120	good – mild hardness
	120 – 500	hard
	> 500	very hard
 (note: 17.1 mg/L = 1 grain/gallon)		