

The background of the slide is split. The top half features a blue-tinted image of a laboratory microscope on the left and rippling water on the right. A large, light-blue speech bubble with a dark-blue border is centered over the water. The text 'MICROBIOLOGICAL ANALYSES OF DRINKING WATER' is written in dark blue, bold, sans-serif capital letters inside the speech bubble. The bottom half of the slide is a solid white background.

MICROBIOLOGICAL ANALYSES OF DRINKING WATER

MICROBIOLOGICAL ANALYSES OF DRINKING WATER



Are you the owner of a residence not served by a municipal water system?

If so, Health Canada recommends that you have your drinking water microbiologically analyzed at least twice a year.



What time of year?

The best time to collect a water sample from your well is when the possibility of contamination is highest. This occurs in early spring just after the snow melts, after a

prolonged drought, during heavy rains, or after long periods of non-use of your well.



Should new wells be disinfected?

Yes, they should be disinfected by the well driller at the time of construction, in order to eliminate any possibility of microbiological contamination that may have occurred during drilling. This step should be completed before collecting a sample for microbiological analysis.



What parameters should be tested?

Fecal coliforms or *Escherichia coli* and other bacteria of fecal origin, such as enterococci, which are potentially harmful to human health.

Total coliforms, which can cause significant discomfort such as nausea, stomach aches, and diarrhea in the most vulnerable individuals, including young children, the elderly, and those with weakened immune systems.

Atypical colonies, which are part of HPC bacteria (heterotrophic aerobic and facultative anaerobic bacteria), are indicator bacteria for drinking water quality.



What containers should be used for sampling?

Our laboratory and/or regional office staff will provide you with the appropriate containers and necessary instructions. Samples collected in other containers will not be accepted.



Our laboratories are accredited by PALA (Laboratory Analysis Accreditation Program).

Sources :

Santé Canada, Votre Santé et vous-2002 : http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ewh-semt/pubs/water-eau/2010-sum_guide-res_recom/index-fra.php
Règlement sur la qualité de l'eau potable au Québec : http://www2.publicationsduquebec.gouv.qc.ca/dynamicSearch/telecharge.php?type=2&file=/Q_2/Q2R40.htm



EnvironeX



Environment Testing



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