

Marin County has an elevated risk profile. Manganese is detected in ~88% of wells, driven by geological sources. Contamination is often invisible — testing is the only way to confirm your well's safety.

**1%**HOUSEHOLDS ON  
PRIVATE WELLS**Varies**PRIMARY  
AQUIFER TYPE**ELEVATED**OVERALL  
RISK LEVEL**YOUR TOP WATER QUALITY RISKS**

| CONTAMINANT       | HOW COMMON     | RISK LEVEL   | SOURCE & CONTEXT                                                                       |
|-------------------|----------------|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Manganese*</b> | ~88% of wells  | Low–Moderate | <b>Geological</b> — Found in reducing aquifer zones alongside iron                     |
| <b>Nitrate</b>    | ~38% of wells  | Low          | <b>Agricultural</b> — Fertilizer, manure, and septic systems leaching into groundwater |
| <b>Lead</b>       | ~50% of wells  | Low–Moderate | <b>Infrastructure</b> — Older well casing materials and household plumbing             |
| <b>Sulfate*</b>   | ~100% of wells | Low–Moderate | <b>Geological</b> — Natural dissolution from gypsum and sulfate minerals               |
| <b>Iron*</b>      | ~75% of wells  | Low–Moderate | <b>Geological</b> — Common in glacial and alluvial aquifers; staining and taste        |

\* Secondary standard — an aesthetic limit for taste, odor, or staining. Not a health-based EPA limit.

**WHAT TO DO NEXT**

- 1 Order a water test.**  
Test for Manganese, Nitrate, Lead, Sulfate, coliform bacteria. Bacteria annually; others every 3–5 years.
- 2 Get your free county report.**  
See full data, treatment options, and certified labs at <https://yourwaterreport.com/states/ca/marin-county/>
- 3 Upload your lab results.**  
We'll interpret them, flag anything above limits, and recommend next steps — free.

**KNOW YOUR WELL**

Well age / year drilled

Last water test date

Treatment systems installed

Well driller / service contact

**WHAT YOUR RESULTS MEAN**

Use this to interpret your lab report — match the contaminant to your result.

| IF YOUR TEST SHOWS              | WHAT IT MEANS                                    | CONSIDER                                |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>Bacteria detected</b>        | <b>Immediate concern</b>                         | Shock chlorination; add UV system       |
| <b>Manganese &gt; 0.05 mg/L</b> | <b>Aesthetic + health concern at high levels</b> | Oxidation + filtration system           |
| <b>Nitrate &gt; 10 mg/L</b>     | <b>EPA limit exceeded — risk for infants</b>     | RO filter; avoid for bottle-fed infants |
| <b>Lead &gt; 15 µg/L</b>        | <b>EPA action level exceeded</b>                 | RO filter; inspect well casing          |
| <b>Iron &gt; 0.3 mg/L</b>       | <b>Staining, taste — aesthetic issue</b>         | Oxidizing iron filter                   |

**WHO SHOULD USE THIS**

- Homeowners on private wells — not covered by public water testing
- Home buyers doing due diligence before closing
- Families with infants, elderly, or immunocompromised members
- Anyone who hasn't tested their well in the past 3 years

**LOCAL RESOURCES**

**Los Angeles County Public Health Laboratory**  
12750 Erickson Avenue, Downey 90242 · (562) 658-1300

**Full county report**  
<https://yourwaterreport.com/states/ca/marin-county/>

Free personalized well water report at  
<https://yourwaterreport.com/states/ca/marin-county/>

Data: EPA ECHO · USGS NWIS · Water Quality Portal · U.S. Census ACS  
For informational purposes only. Contact a licensed professional for testing and treatment.