

Cook County has a moderate risk profile. Manganese is the primary concern, driven by geological sources. Contamination is often invisible — testing is the only way to confirm your well's safety.

N/A

HOUSEHOLDS ON  
PRIVATE WELLS

Varies

PRIMARY  
AQUIFER TYPE

MODERATE

OVERALL  
RISK LEVEL

## YOUR TOP WATER QUALITY RISKS

| CONTAMINANT | HOW COMMON                 | RISK LEVEL   | SOURCE & CONTEXT                                                                |
|-------------|----------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Manganese*  | ~25% above aesthetic limit | Moderate     | Geological — Found in reducing aquifer zones alongside iron                     |
| Sulfate*    | ~14% above aesthetic limit | Moderate     | Geological — Natural dissolution from gypsum and sulfate minerals               |
| Iron*       | ~5% above aesthetic limit  | Moderate     | Geological — Common in glacial and alluvial aquifers; staining and taste        |
| Nitrate     | ~2% above limit            | Low–Moderate | Agricultural — Fertilizer, manure, and septic systems leaching into groundwater |
| Fluoride    | ~88% of wells              | Low–Moderate | Geological — Naturally elevated in some deep or volcanic aquifers               |

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

## WHAT TO DO NEXT

- Order a water test.**  
Test for Manganese, Sulfate, Iron, Nitrate, coliform bacteria. Bacteria annually; others every 3–5 years.
- Get your free county report.**  
See full data, treatment options, and certified labs at <https://yourwaterreport.com/states/ga/cook-county/>
- 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                                |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Bacteria detected     | Immediate concern                         | Shock chlorination; add UV system       |
| Manganese > 0.05 mg/L | Aesthetic + health concern at high levels | Oxidation + filtration system           |
| Iron > 0.3 mg/L       | Staining, taste — aesthetic issue         | Oxidizing iron filter                   |
| Nitrate > 10 mg/L     | EPA limit exceeded — risk for infants     | RO filter; avoid for bottle-fed infants |
| Fluoride > 4 mg/L     | EPA limit exceeded — skeletal risk        | RO filter or activated alumina          |

## 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

## Private Wells - Cumming Utilities

<https://cummingutilities.com/our-system/water-lab/private-well-water/>

## Full county report

<https://yourwaterreport.com/states/ga/cook-county/>

Free personalized well water report at  
<https://yourwaterreport.com/states/ga/cook-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.