Well water in Marion County, Illinois

Test for Manganese & Iron

Risk Unknown Too few health tests to rate. Based on a USGS estimate. Confidence: Low. Top concerns: Manganese, Iron.

What tests found

SUBSTANCE	TESTED	OVER THE LIMIT	RISK
Everyday water problems			
Manganese	5 samples	80%	**Very common**
Iron	11 samples	73%	**Very common**

Low risk here: Arsenic, Nitrate.

Tested in too few wells to rate: pH, Fluoride, Nitrite. The county page has every result.

What this means

Manganese: Manganese leaves black or brown stains and can make water taste bitter or metallic. At high levels it can also affect health, especially for babies, so use other water for baby formula if your well is high. An oxidizing filter or a water softener can remove it.

Iron: Iron leaves orange or brown stains on sinks, toilets and laundry, can make water taste metallic, and can clog pipes and fixtures. It is not a health risk. A water softener handles small amounts; an iron filter handles more.

What to test for

Make sure the test covers manganese and iron. Test for bacteria and nitrate every year.

Only a test can tell you what is in your own well. A well next door can be different.

Where to get a test

Certified labs near Marion County:

- Precision Water Lab, Centralia · 618-533-0758 · about 12 miles

Local help

Marion County Health Department · 618-548-3878
marioncountyhealthdept.org

Illinois has no statewide rule that makes you test your own well, even when a home is sold. Your well driller must give you the state's information on testing.

YourWaterReport is a free guide for private well owners. Results are for the county as a whole and come from Illinois State Water Survey, U.S. Geological Survey and National Water Quality Monitoring Council. Want copies with your organization's name for your office or clients? Email hello@yourwaterreport.com. Free web card for your site: yourwaterreport.com/share