Well water in Androscoggin County, Maine

15% of 1,293 Wells High in Arsenic

High Risk Wells here often exceed a health limit. Based on 1,293 wells tested. Confidence: High. Top concerns: Arsenic, Uranium, PFAS.

What tests found

SUBSTANCE	TESTED	OVER THE LIMIT	RISK
Health concerns			
Arsenic	1,293 wells	15%	**High risk**
Uranium	1,016 wells	14%	**High risk**
PFOS	215 wells	6%	**Moderate risk**
PFOA	215 wells	5%	**Moderate risk**
Fluoride	1,582 wells	2%	**Moderate risk**
PFAS (6 Added Together)	215 wells	2%	**Moderate risk**
Everyday water problems			
pH	10 wells	10%	**Common**

Low risk here: PFHxS, Nitrate, Lead, Nitrite, PFBS, GenX.

Rarely over the taste level here: Manganese, Iron, Hardness, Sodium, Chloride, Sulfate.

Tested in too few wells to rate: Radon. The county page has every result.

What this means

Arsenic: Drinking water with arsenic for many years can cause skin problems and raises the risk of some cancers, including skin, bladder and lung cancer.

Uranium: Drinking water with uranium for many years can harm the kidneys and raises the risk of cancer.

PFAS: PFAS are man-made chemicals that do not break down. Drinking them for years is linked to some cancers, a weaker immune system, high cholesterol and lower birth weight.

What to test for

Make sure the test covers arsenic, uranium, PFAS, fluoride and PFAS (6 Added Together). 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

Free or low-cost testing:

- If you get MaineCare, SNAP, TANF or other benefits, Maine CDC will send you a free well water test kit from the state lab. Ask for it on Maine CDC's online well water request form.

Certified labs near Androscoggin County:

- Eurofins Auburn, Auburn · 207-784-5354 · about 6 miles
- Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory, Augusta · 207-287-2727 · about 26 miles

Local help

Maine does not require a water test when a home is sold, but the seller must tell the buyer the date of the last water test and about any bad test or test that found PFAS.

YourWaterReport is a free guide for private well owners. Results are for the county as a whole and come from Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Maine Department of Environmental Protection, U.S. Geological Survey and others. 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