Well water in Aroostook County, Maine

26% of 50 Wells High in Iron

High Risk Wells here often exceed a health limit. Based on 110 wells tested. Confidence: High. Top concerns: PFAS, PFAS (6 Added Together), Arsenic.

What tests found

SUBSTANCE	TESTED	OVER THE LIMIT	RISK
Health concerns			
PFOS	110 wells	14%	**High risk**
PFOA	110 wells	13%	**High risk**
PFAS (6 Added Together)	110 wells	9%	**Moderate risk**
Arsenic	854 wells	3%	**Moderate risk**
Nitrate	1,100 wells	3%	**Moderate risk**
Everyday water problems			
Hardness	54 wells	41%	**Very common**
Iron	50 wells	26%	**Very common**

Low risk here: PFHxS, Uranium, Fluoride, Nitrite, PFBS, GenX.

Rarely over the taste level here: Manganese.

Tested in too few wells to rate: Sodium, Chloride, Sulfate, pH. The county page has every result.

What this means

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.

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.

Nitrate: Nitrate is most dangerous for babies under 6 months. It can keep their blood from carrying enough oxygen. Use other water for baby formula if your well is high.

What to test for

Make sure the test covers PFAS, PFAS (6 Added Together), arsenic, nitrate 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

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 Aroostook County:

- Mi'Kmaq Environmental Laboratory, Presque Isle · 207-764-4001 · about 29 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