

A17.1 System XYZ WATER ANALYSIS DEFINITIONS (CCR Style)

[HOME to MAIN Menu](#)

| | | |
|----|---|--|
| 1 | Action Level (AL) | The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow. |
| 2 | Colony forming units (Cfu) | A live bacterial cell that forms a colony that can be seen in laboratory incubation conditions. |
| 3 | Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) | The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology. |
| 4 | Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) | The "Goal"(MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety. |
| 5 | Million Fibers per Liter (MFL) | Million fibers per liter is a measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers. |
| 6 | MRDL | Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level |
| 7 | MRDLG | Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal |
| 8 | Millirems per year (mrem/yr) | Measure of radiation absorbed by the body. |
| 9 | Not Applicable (NA) | Not applicable, not analyzed, or not a testing requirement at this time. |
| 10 | Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) | Nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person. |
| 11 | Non-Detects (ND) | Laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present or below detection limits. |
| 12 | Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) | Picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water. |
| 13 | Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) | One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000. |
| 14 | Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter | One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000. |
| 15 | Parts per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (nanograms/l) | One part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000. |
| 16 | Parts per quadrillion (ppq) or Picograms per liter (picograms/l) | One part per quadrillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000,000 years or one penny in \$10,000,000,000,000. |
| 17 | State Waiver (SW) | The contaminant was never used or has never been detected. In some instances the state may grant a waiver for a definite or indefinite period. |
| 18 | Treatment Technique (TT) | A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water. |
| 19 | Unregulated (UR) | No EPA standard is set for these constituents. |
| 20 | Variances & Exemptions (V&E) | State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions. |