

Thursday 1 June - The importance of a water analysis

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Do you question the quality of your water ? Then have it tested! We can't necessarily detect water hardness or the presence of contaminants. The only way you can really know whether or not your water should be softened, treated or decontaminated is to have it analyzed by professional technicians and, for bacteriological analyses, by an accredited laboratory. Protect your health and your investment: your quality of life depends on it.

While your water may be clear, it can hold bacteria or microorganisms that are hazardous to your health and cause illnesses like gastroenteritis and diarrhea.

If you have your own well, you should have your water tested by a laboratory accredited by the ministère de l'Environnement et de la Faune at least twice a year, and disinfect the well (after the spring thaw and following the fall rains, in October or November). It should also be noted that every well owner is responsible for controlling the quality of his drinking water. The bacteriological quality of the water should be subjected to strict testing, as it can have a direct impact on health, as we saw in the case of the Walkerton disaster. This analysis should be in addition to testing for nitrates, which can also be harmful.

We cannot take the quality of our water for granted. Each pollutant found in our environment can make its way into our drinking water. This makes it imperative for us to protect our sources of drinking water against contaminants and ensure that those in charge of public systems as well as the owners of private wells are well informed.