



Water Testing

Overview

In his last annual report, the Chief Inspector of Drinking Water explained that the industry figure for public water supply compliance with the EU Drinking Water Directive was 99.95% in England which indicates that the drinking water supply is excellent.

Mains Water

If you have concerns about the quality of your tap water, you should first approach your water supplier and explain the problem to them. If you are unsure who your water supplier is you can find out by entering your postcode on the [Water UK](http://www.water.org.uk/advice-for-customers/find-your-supplier/) website (www.water.org.uk/advice-for-customers/find-your-supplier/). Companies will normally take a sample in response to a complaint from a consumer depending on the nature of it. Additionally, they test water daily in your area and will give you the results free of charge on request. This is also available on many water company websites.

Private Water Supplies

Your local authority will provide advice on any testing and arrange for this to be carried out on your behalf. If you are unsure who your local authority is please visit the [GOV UK](http://www.gov.uk/find-local-council/) website (www.gov.uk/find-local-council).

Private Testing

The last option is to have the water tested privately for which there will be a charge. You can find your nearest approved laboratory by visiting the [UKAS](http://www.ukas.com/find-an-organisation/browse-by-category/?cat=1180) website (www.ukas.com/find-an-organisation/browse-by-category/?cat=1180).

Further Information

The Drinking Water Inspectorate (DWI) is the independent regulator of drinking water quality for public water supplies in England and Wales. Visit www.dwi.gov.uk. Contact us at dwi.enquiries@defra.gov.uk or telephone 0300 068 6400.