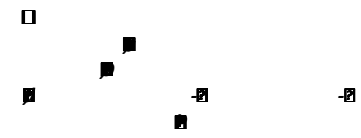


FACT SHEET

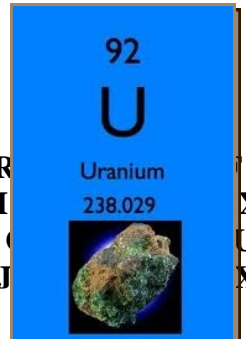


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How Can Uranium Affect My Health?

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How Can I Ensure That My Well Water Is Safe For Drinking?



list of [State-certified laboratories](#). Search the list for labs testing “radiochemicals” in drinking water (code R).

If you have uranium in your well water at a concentration greater than the EPA standard of 30 micrograms per liter (ug/l), you will need to treat your water to remove the uranium. See the section below for information on treatment.

Radium is another naturally-occurring metal that can contaminate well water and is sometimes associated with uranium. Testing for radium is an option you can consider if test results indicate that you do not have a uranium problem. You do not need a radium test if you have already decided to install a uranium treatment system, provided the uranium treatment system will remove radium in addition to uranium. For more information about radium, refer to the DPH Factsheet: [What You Need To Know About Radium in Private Well Water](#).

When Should I Test My Well For Uranium?

You should test for uranium when you buy a house with a well or at the time a new well is drilled. It is possible for uranium levels in well water to fluctuate so even if one uranium test shows no uranium problem, it is a good idea to test for uranium every 5 years. If you have a treatment system to remove uranium from your water, you should test every year to be sure your treatment system is working properly.

Water Treatment for Uranium

Point-of-use (POU) water treatment devices treat water at just one faucet. They differ from point-of-entry (POE), or whole house devices, which are installed on the water line and treat all the water that enters the home. Because uranium gets into your body primarily through ingestion (and not through the skin or through inhalation), it is not usually necessary to treat all the water in your home, but only the water you drink. However, if uranium levels in your water exceed 900 ug/l (30 times greater than the EPA standard of 30 ug/l), you should contact the Connecticut Department of Public Health or your local health department about options for a safe water supply to your home.



Reverse osmosis (RO) treatment systems are the most common type of treatment used for uranium removal and are very effective. Decisions about treatment systems depend on many factors, including other water quality constituents in your water, water usage, installation costs, and maintenance costs. You should consult a water treatment expert to help you decide what treatment system is best for your situation. Other sources of information are [NSF International](#), which certifies many water treatment devices and Publication No. 19: Questions to Ask when Purchasing Water Treatment Equipment for Your Home.

You should also think about whether the uranium treatment system you are considering will also remove radium. If you need to treat your water because of high uranium and the system you select will also remove radium, then you do not need to test your water for radium. However, if your uranium treatment system is not effective for radium, we recommend that you test your water for radium. For more information on radium, refer to the Fact Sheet: [What You Need To Know About Radium in Private Well Water](#). If you have elevated radium in addition to uranium, you will need to select a system that will effectively remove both contaminants.

For More Information

Health Questions:

DPH, [Environmental & Occupational Health Assessment Program](#), (860) 509-7740

Treatment Questions:

DPH, [Private Well Program](#), 860-509-7296.



If you require aid/accommodation to fully and fairly enjoy this publication, please contact 860 - 509 -7740.