



Understanding the Taste and Odor of my Tap Water

Tap water tastes different, depending on where you are, and that is both natural and safe!

Drinking water is not odorless or tasteless! Its flavor (taste & odor) depends on its unique chemical composition, enriched by dissolved compounds and minerals from its source and long journey to our tap. Your water supplier makes sure that drinking water reaches your tap fresh and in excellent quality.

What do we sense when drinking tap water?

We experience, with both our tongue and nose, water's freshness and special "flavor". Taste and odor sensitivity varies widely among individuals and is also affected by our physical condition, age, water temperature, etc. As a result, slight changes in water flavor are not easily detected by all consumers.

What if I feel that the taste of my tap water changed

Changes in the flavor of water can be noticed when the water supplier switches to a different water source; this does not mean that the quality and safety of water is compromised. Switching of the water source may be necessary to ensure the quantity or improve the quality of distributed water.

Is a Chlorinous or "swimming pool" flavor OK?

In many water supplies, disinfectants are added to the water as one of the steps of standard practice, to keep harmful organisms out of the water. The levels of disinfectants in your tap may vary over time; if your home is very close to the water treatment works where the disinfectant is added, this can make the taste stronger.

Can natural compounds cause unpleasant taste or odor?

Some natural compounds can give strong smells to water, even when present at extremely low amounts. For example, "geosmin", produced naturally by some seasonal water organisms, has an earthy-muddy odor, but is harmless.

What if my water has unpleasant taste or odor?

Unpleasant flavor should require investigation by water suppliers, considering location and duration. Natural compounds of algal origin, works on distribution pipes, recent plumbing at our home, may be some reasons.

Your feedback to your local water supplier is precious!

If you are concerned about your tap water taste or smell, contact your water supplier, who is the trusted source of information about your water. Your feedback is valuable as it may help your water supplier to detect potential problems and to assess tap water acceptability in your area.

Why should I prefer Tap Water?

Remember! tap water is safe, convenient, sustainable, and cost effective. By choosing tap water you reduce plastic waste and positively impact the environment. As mandated by the EU Drinking Water Directive, your tap water quality is consistently monitored by your Water Supplier and Public Health Authorities, in order to ensure its safety and consumers acceptability.

