



Aluminum

If the level of aluminum in your water is over **200 µg/L**, you should find a different source of water for drinking and preparing foods that take up a lot of water.*

What is aluminum?

Aluminum is a naturally occurring metal that is common in the environment.

- ▶ Aluminum and aluminum alloys are used in a variety of industrial and commercial applications including cookware, food containers, and water treatment.
- ▶ People can be exposed to aluminum from air, food, water, and cookware.

Can aluminum affect our health?

Some people are at a higher risk for aluminum toxicity.

- ▶ High levels of aluminum can affect kidney function in people with pre-existing kidney damage and infants.
- ▶ Studies in research animals have shown that exposure to large amounts of aluminum for long periods of time may also affect fertility, body weight, and memory.

What can you do to protect your health?

Wisconsin has a groundwater standard of **200 micrograms per liter (µg/L)** for aluminum.

If the level of aluminum in your drinking water is above this, you should find a way to obtain safe water. Options include:

- ▶ Installing a certified treatment device.
- ▶ Drilling a new well.
- ▶ Connecting to a public water system or community well.

*Examples of foods that take up a lot of water include soup, rice, jello, and oatmeal.

Looking for more information?

- ▶ Visit the [DHS website](#) for more information on aluminum
- ▶ Visit the [DHS website](#) for more information on Wisconsin's groundwater standards.

