



Living with an  
**untreated**  
**water supply**



# Untreated water supply

**It's important that residents and visitors to towns with untreated water supplies are aware of the town's water quality and its fit-for-purpose use.**

Where a town or rural pipeline water supply is not treated, the water is not safe drinking, food preparation, ice making, cleaning of teeth or any other human consumption purposes.

The water is suited for household activities, such as watering gardens, flushing toilets, showering/bathing, irrigation and laundry. Caution should be taken to avoid contact with broken skin or wounds.

*To find out which towns receive an untreated water supply, please visit our website at [gwmwater.org.au/check-your-water-supply](http://gwmwater.org.au/check-your-water-supply) or contact us on 1300 659 961.*



GWMWater works with local councils to remind customers, by placing signage at public taps, that the water is not treated and is not fit for human consumption.

**To ensure public safety, we ask that you:**

- Don't use the town or rural pipeline water supply for drinking, food preparation, ice making, cleaning of teeth or any other human consumption purposes.
- Avoid swallowing the water e.g. while showering or bathing.
- Avoid contact with broken skin or wounds.
- Consider disconnecting the town or rural pipeline water supply from areas which may encourage drinking or accidental swallowing.
- Make sure no cross-connections exist between the town or rural pipeline water supply and your drinking water source.
- Advise visitors to your home and your town not to drink the town water supply.



## For landlords

**Landlords must let tenants know if their water is untreated and not fit for human consumption.**

To assist landlords, we can provide suitable handouts free of charge.

Please contact us on 1300 659 961 during business hours to request copies of the handouts or to talk to a staff member about your water supply.



# For businesses and councils

**GWMWater asks that councils, managers of commercial businesses and community groups (such as hotels, motels, caravan parks, bed and breakfast houses and club houses, etc.) in towns that do not have a drinking water supply to:**

- Mount and maintain signage on or next to taps in public areas e.g. parks, public toilets, schools, caravan parks, club houses, sporting venues and halls.
- Advise guests that the water at your establishment is untreated and is not fit for human consumption.

**Suitable signage and publications are available, free of charge, from GWMWater:**

- Do not drink the water signs and stickers - available in two sizes.
- Untreated water supply poster for placement above sinks in community accessed kitchens and bathrooms.
- Untreated water supply notice listing towns and rural pipelines that do not receive a drinking water supply.
- This brochure, "Living with an untreated water supply".

To order any of the above, please complete our order form at [gwmwater.org.au/uws-order](http://gwmwater.org.au/uws-order) or contact us during business hours on 1300 659 961.



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**GWMWater monitors the water  
quality of untreated water supply  
towns and results are available  
upon request.**

*For further information about your water  
supply, please contact GWMWater on  
1300 659 961 or visit our website at  
[gwmwater.org.au/check-your-water-supply](http://gwmwater.org.au/check-your-water-supply)*



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