

Ground Water Risk Factor Table

From: E.P.A. Consensus Method for Determining Groundwaters Under the Direct Influence of Surface Water Using Microscopic Particulate Analysis (MPA)

Table 1. Numerical range of each primary bio-indicator (Particulate) counted per 100 gallons water.

Indicators of surface water ¹	EH ³	H	M	R	NS
Giardia ²	>30	16-30	6-15	1-5	<1
Coccidia ²	>30	16-30	6-15	1-5	<1
Diatoms ⁴	>150	41-149	11-40	1-10	<1
Other Algae ⁴	>300	96-299	21-95	1-20	<1
Insects/Larvae	>100	31-99	16-30	1-15	<1
Rotifers	>150	61-149	21-60	1-20	<1
Plant Debris ⁴	>200	71-200	26-70	1-25	<1

1. According to EPA “Guidance Manual for Compliance with the Filtration and Disinfection Requirements for Public Water Systems Using Surface Water Sources”, March, 1991 ed.
2. If Giardia cysts or coccidian are found in any sample, irrespective of volume, score as above.
3. Key= EH – extremely heavy M – moderate NS – not significant
 H – heavy R – rare
4. Chlorophyll containing

Table 2. Relative surface water risk factors associated with scoring of primary bio-indicators (particulate) present during MPA of subsurface water sources.

Indicators of surface water ¹	Relative Risk Factor ³				
	EH ²	H	M	R	NS
Giardia	40	30	25	20	0
Coccidia	35	30	25	20	0
Diatoms	16	13	11	6	0
Other Algae	14	12	9	4	0
Insects/Larvae	9	7	5	3	0
Rotifers	4	3	2	1	0
Plant Debris	3	2	1	0	0

1. According to EPA “Guidance Manual for Compliance with the Filtration and Disinfection Requirements for Public Water Systems Using Surface Water Sources”, March, 1991 ed.
2. Refer to Table 1 for range of indicators counted per 100 gallons.
 Key= EH – extremely heavy M – moderate NS – not significant
 H – heavy R – rare
3. Risk of surface water contamination
 ≥20 – high risk
 10-19 – moderate risk
 ≤9 – low risk