



# Suburban Property Inspections

Know what to expect - INSPECT<sup>sm</sup>  
Family owned and operated since 1988

## TURBIDITY FACT SHEET

### Brief Overview:

<b>Category:</b>	Inorganics
<b>Acceptable Level:</b>	Varies according to circumstances
<b>Source:</b>	Soil runoff
<b>Effect:</b>	Short and Long-term Health Effects
<b>Follow up:</b>	Test for Turbidity and disease causing organisms
<b>Treatment:</b>	Disinfection and filtration

### Details:

**Source:** Turbidity is a measure of cloudiness of water. It is used to indicate water quality and filtration effectiveness. Since turbidity can interfere with the effectiveness of disinfection, higher turbidity levels are often associated with higher levels of disease-causing microorganisms such as viruses, parasites, and some bacteria.

Indicators are physical, chemical, or other parameters whose presence at a level outside of specified limits may reflect a problem in the treatment process or in the integrity of the distribution system.

Public water systems are required to monitor turbidity in order to assess the effectiveness of filtration processes.

**Effect:** Short-term: If disease-causing microorganisms such as viruses, parasites, and bacteria are present symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches may occur.

**Follow up:** Treat and re-test for turbidity and disease causing organisms.

**Treatment:** Disinfection and filtration

Following installation of this system, the consumer should have the treated water tested for turbidity to verify turbidity reduction is being achieved and the system is functioning properly.

For more information visit the USEPA web site:

For further technical assistance, call Suburban Property Inspections at 1-866-866-6700, or call the

U. S. Environmental Protection Agency Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.



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