

## MY WATER SMELLS MUSTY

POSSIBLE PROBLEM	HEALTH CONCERN?	OTHER CLUES & CONSIDERATIONS	CONFIRM IT	POSSIBLE FIXES	LICENSE REQUIRED FOR FIX?	STATE FUNDS?	MORE INFO
<b>Iron Bacteria</b> See <a href="#">Iron Bacteria</a> brochure.	No, iron bacteria live off iron in the water. They are a nuisance, but not a threat to your health. There is no drinking water standard for iron bacteria.	Is there slime in your toilet tank? Is there evidence of iron in your water; for example, red stains on fixtures or on laundry? Has there been a period of no or little water use?	Request a lab test for iron bacteria. <a href="#">Laboratories certified to test for coliform bacteria</a> may also test for iron bacteria. Ask the lab.	<b>Flush system and use more water</b>	No	No	<a href="#">Bacteriological Contamination of Drinking Water Wells</a> brochure.
				<b>Periodic shock chlorination</b>	No, but licensed <a href="#">Well Drillers</a> or <a href="#">Pump Installers</a> have the knowledge and equipment.	No	<a href="#">United States Geological Survey</a>
				<b>Well cleaning</b>	No, but licensed <a href="#">Well Drillers</a> or <a href="#">Pump Installers</a> have the knowledge and equipment.	No	<a href="#">National Ground Water Association</a>  <a href="#">Water Systems Council</a>
				<b>Continuous pellet chlorination</b>	Licensed <a href="#">Pump Installers</a> or well owners must install. DNR recommends that license holders install. Requires advance DNR approval. See <a href="#">Pellet Chlorination application</a> .	No	<a href="#">National Sanitation Foundation</a>  <a href="#">Center for Watershed Science and Education, UW-Stevens Point</a>

## MY WATER SMELLS MUSTY, CONTINUED

POSSIBLE PROBLEM	HEALTH CONCERN?	OTHER CLUES & CONSIDERATIONS	CONFIRM IT	POSSIBLE FIXES	LICENSE REQUIRED FOR FIX?	STATE FUNDS?	MORE INFO
<b>Sulfur Bacteria</b> See <a href="#">Sulfur Bacteria</a> brochure.	No, sulfur bacteria are not a threat to human health and there is no drinking water standard. <a href="#">Hydrogen Sulfide Gas</a> can be harmful to humans, but not at the levels produced by bacteria in wells.	Sometimes odors are more noticeable after a period of low water use. There are two types of bacteria: sulfur-oxidizing and sulfur-reducing. Hydrogen sulfide gas (produced by sulfur-reducing bacteria) is highly corrosive and can damage plumbing connections, metal piping and well casing. Some sulfur bacteria form deposits that can clog a well screen and pump piping.	Sulfur bacteria samples are difficult to collect and take a long time to analyze. You may wish to have your water tested for iron bacteria instead. <a href="#">Laboratories certified to test for coliform bacteria</a> may also test for iron bacteria. Ask the lab.	<b>Periodic shock chlorination</b>	No, but licensed <i>Well Drillers</i> or <a href="#">Pump Installers</a> have the knowledge and equipment.	No	See above
				<b>Increase water heater temperature temporarily and drain tank</b>	No, but do not attempt unless water heater has a pressure relief valve.	No	See above. This will reduce, but not eliminate sulfur bacteria.
				<b>Replace magnesium anode rods in heater with zinc or aluminum rods if the problem appears to be only with the hot water</b>	No, but recommend a <a href="#">licensed plumbers</a> .	No	See above. This will reduce, but not eliminate sulfur bacteria.
				<b>Continuous pellet chlorination</b>	Licensed <a href="#">Pump Installers</a> or well owners must install. DNR recommends that license holders install.	No	See above. Requires advance DNR approval. See <a href="#">Pellet Chlorination application</a> .