

## SULFATES IN YOUR WELL

Minnesota Valley  
Testing Laboratories

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### Safe Drinking Water Testing Fees

<b>Colilert</b>	<b>\$16.00</b>
<b>Coliform</b>	<b>\$16.00</b>
<b>E-coli</b>	<b>\$16.00</b>
<b>Nitrates</b>	<b>\$14.00</b>
<b>Lead</b>	<b>\$23.00</b>
<b>Arsenic</b>	<b>\$23.00</b>
<b>Sulfate</b>	<b>\$14.00</b>

**We also provide  
sampling services.**

**Please call or email our  
Customer Service  
Department for further  
information.**



### Sulfate

Some individuals can taste unpleasant sulfate concentrations as low as 200 mg/L, although the threshold for most people is 300-400 mg/L. Concentrations of sulfate over 960 mg/L, is believed to make water toxic to plants and therefore, unsuitable for irrigation. Sulfates are found in water supplies combined with calcium and magnesium in the form of salts. These salts, commonly called Epsom Salts, can cause diarrhea in humans and livestock (scours). This problem generally occurs with sulfate concentrations above 500mg/L, although some reports indicate young pigs are susceptible to scouring when consuming water containing sulfates in the 250-500 mg/L range.

Other than diarrhea, no health problems have been associated with high sulfate concentrations. As humans and animals drink water containing high sulfate concentrations, they usually build a tolerance with resulting decrease in diarrhea or scouring. Certain areas of the country have groundwater which is naturally high in sulfate concentrations, southwestern Minnesota being one of those areas.

*For water treatment, contact a water treatment professional.*