

Contaminant	Source
Biological Organisms bacteria, viruses, cysts	Sewage, animal waste and other sources
Nitrates	Often from agricultural runoff
Heavy Metals mercury, zinc, copper and others	Usually from industrial wastes
Lead	Usually from solder, fixtures and lead pipe in homes and city water lines
Organic Chemicals solvents, petroleum products, pesticides	Industrial and agricultural wastes
Trihalomethanes (THMs)	Byproducts of water chlorination
Radon	Naturally occurring gas in soil
Exotic Toxins arsenic, dioxins and others	Some natural, others from industrial waste
Asbestos	Some natural, some in old water supply pipes