Seek professional advice to make pumped water safe for drinking and cooking by having an effective pump, filter, and disinfection system

Ask a professional to advise you when installing or maintaining your home’s pump, filter, or disinfection system because local conditions can vary.

- Rural Community Assistance Corporation – Call (916) 447-2854 and ask for the “specialist in small water filtration systems.”
- California Rural Water – Call (916) 553-4900 and ask for technical assistance.

Confirm treatment works by taking your water to a lab for testing four times a year. Ask your local health department for a list of certified labs.

Consider getting four or more neighbors to share equipment and the cost of taking Steps 1 and 2. To talk with a professional or find out about a loan, contact:

- Rural Community Assistance Corporation – Call (530) 692-9625 and ask for a loan officer.
- California Rural Water – Call (916) 553-4900 and request training.
- If there are 5 connections to 14 connections, please contact the Lake County Environmental Health Division for a State Small Water Permit at (707) 263-1164.

For more information contact:
Public Health (707) 263-1090
Special Districts (707) 263-0119

**KEEP BABIES SAFE:**
Always use store-bought water to make infant formula
**Pumping Water**

Homes that pump water directly from lakes, rivers, or streams must also be **filtered** and **disinfected** to make it safe for drinking and cooking.

- **Filtering** removes dirt from the water.
- **Disinfecting** cleans the water, killing almost anything that can make you sick.
- Water pitcher Filters and/or boiling water does not always make water safe for drinking and cooking.
- A whole house system, with an in-line **filter** and **disinfection** component for pumped water be your best solution for long-term water use (image below).

**Sickness**

Drinking pumped water that is not filtered and disinfected may cause:

- Nausea and vomiting, abdominal pain, diarrhea, headache, sore throat, dry cough, blistering around the mouth, pneumonia, yellow color of the skin or eyes

If you experience any of these symptoms, see your health care provider.

**Safer Water**

Only cook and drink with water that is:

- Pumped through a filtering and disinfection system; and
- You confirm treatment works by taking your water to a lab for testing; and
- You pump water from a place far from harmful algal blooms (described below).

**Harmful Algal Blooms**

Cyanobacteria or Blue-Green Algae, can produce toxins that can make you sick or pets sick when drinking contaminated water. These are sometimes called Harmful Algal Blooms or HABs.

Specialized **filtration** and **disinfection** systems are needed to protect against things that can cause disease, including toxins from cyanobacteria and harmful algal blooms. Its best to consult with a professional that is familiar with local conditions.

For more information about cyanobacteria and Clear Lake, you can contact the County of Lake Water Resources Department at (707) 263-1164.

Drink and cook with water bought in a store if your pumped water is not safe.

To find out more about drinking water, please visit: My Water Quality Website ([http://www.mywaterquality.ca.gov/habs/resources/index.html#drinking](http://www.mywaterquality.ca.gov/habs/resources/index.html#drinking))