

Water: Clean, Safe and Healthy

The City of Vaughan is committed to ensuring the City's drinking water is of the highest quality. This safeguard is met by consistently achieving all water quality standards set out by Ontario's Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (*Ontario Regulation 170/03*).

The City's water operators collect close to 2,000 microbiological samples each year, which is more than the 1,596 required by the Ministry. Samples are also analyzed for physical, chemical and inorganic parameters, and are representative of the City's entire distribution system. They are collected from across the city.

You can be confident that your drinking water is safe for you and your family to enjoy.

For more information, visit vaughan.ca/water.



To learn more about the quality of drinking water in the City of Vaughan, you can read the annual water quality reports online at vaughan.ca/water.



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WISE**

VAUGHAN DRINKING WATER

Answers to some of the most commonly asked questions about drinking water.



Your drinking water is safe and clean. The City of Vaughan complies with all applicable legislation and regulations, such as the Safe Drinking Water Act, to ensure a healthy and sustainable community for residents now and in the years to come. Here are answers to some of the most commonly asked questions about your drinking water.

Where does my water come from?

- Sourced from Lake Ontario
- Treated by the City of Toronto and Peel Region
- York Region supplies the clean treated water to the City of Vaughan

Is Vaughan's drinking water "hard"?

- Hardness describes the amount of naturally occurring calcium and magnesium carbonate dissolved in water

- Vaughan's drinking water hardness is currently measured at 125 mg/L or 7.26 grains per gallon

- Is not a health concern but it may cause scale deposits on toilets and appliances

Why does my water occasionally look cloudy?

- Cloudy water is a result of air bubbles trapped in the water
- As you run the tap, the air bubbles will dissolve and the water will clear



Why does it seem that my water has an odour?

- A foul or sewer-like odour is most likely the result of hair, dirt and food waste in your drain
- Confirm by filling a glass with water from the affected tap and take the glass into another room
- If the water in the glass has no odour, then the odour is coming from the drain
- Run one to two litres of water down each drain in your home and an additional one to two litres down the floor drain in the basement
- A musty or earthy smell during the summer or fall is caused by plants or algae in Lake Ontario

Why is my water sometimes discoloured?

- May happen when construction activities are undertaken in the area or a watermain or fire hydrant is flushed
- Flushing disturbs and distributes existing scale and accumulated sediment buildup
- Run a cold tap until the water clears



Why is there occasionally pink film in my bathroom sink, toilet or shower?

- Caused by a naturally occurring bacteria called *serratia marcescens* which is not harmful to your health
- Often appears during and after new construction or remodeling as dirt and dust is stirred up
- Remove using a chlorine or bleach-based cleaning solution.