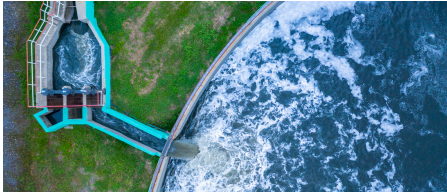


Water regulations in 2024



Use of wastewater

Decree of July 8, 2024 on water reused for the preparation, processing and conservation of all foodstuffs and goods intended for human consumption in food businesses.

This decree concerns operators involved in the preparation, processing and preservation of foodstuffs. It defines the categories of use and the declaration and authorization procedures for the production and use of water unsuitable for human consumption reused for the preparation, processing and preservation of all foodstuffs intended for human consumption, as well as the quality requirements applicable to such water. Under certain conditions, companies can use recycled water from raw materials and recycled process water as an ingredient in the composition of final foodstuffs.

At the end of the wastewater treatment plant, the operator must characterize the quality of the raw water used to produce recycled treated wastewater, and in particular identify the pollutants by referring to the regulated parameters for EDCH that are subject to a quality limit in the decree of January 11, 2007, to the microbiological criteria defined in regulation (EC) N°2073/2005 and to the regulated contaminants defined in regulation (EU) 2023/915.

This order is directly applicable.

Order of 12 July 2024 on health conditions for the use of water unfit for human consumption for domestic purposes, in application of article R. 1322-94 of the public health code.

Water unsuitable for human consumption for this type of use includes raw water, grey water (from showers, baths and washbasins) and water from communal swimming pools.

Raw water may be used for : Washing clothes, washing indoor floors, excreta disposal, supplying decorative fountains not intended for human consumption, cleaning outdoor surfaces, including washing vehicles when done at home, watering vegetable gardens, watering green spaces in buildings,

The use of grey water and water from communal swimming pools is permitted for excreta disposal, the supply of decorative fountains not intended for human consumption, the cleaning of outdoor surfaces, including vehicle washing when carried out at home, and the watering of green spaces in buildings.

Possible domestic uses for water unsuitable for human consumption are defined according to the water quality level: A+ or A.

Quality criteria used to classify water quality are defined for the following parameters:

Escherichia Coli, Intestinal Enterococci, Legionella pneumophila, Turbidity, TOC, Free chlorine residual in case of system water chlorination, pH.

This order applies from September 1, 2024.

Water regulations in 2024

Urban wastewater

Directive (EU) 2024/3019 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of November 27, 2024 concerning urban waste water treatment

This directive brings several advances in the management of micropollutants in urban wastewater treatment. Member States shall establish a national system of cooperation and coordination between the authorities responsible for public health and the authorities responsible for water treatment.

in determining the relevant public health parameters to be monitored as a minimum at the inlet to urban wastewater treatment plants.

With regard to per- and polyfluoroalkylated substances (PFAS), known for their persistence, the directive introduces specific measures to monitor and reduce their presence in wastewater.

Member States are required to set up monitoring systems to detect the presence of microplastics in urban wastewater. This regular monitoring will make it possible to assess microplastic concentrations and identify potential sources of pollution.

Member States have a period of time in which to transpose this directive into their national legislation and put in place the necessary measures to comply with the new requirements.

Decree of December 24, 2024 amending the decree of July 21, 2015 on collective sanitation systems and non-collective sanitation installations, with the exception of non-collective sanitation installations receiving a gross organic pollution load less than or equal to 1.2 kg/d of BOD5

This decree reinforces requirements for the design, sizing and purification performance of collective wastewater treatment systems. It updates plant inspection procedures to ensure greater oversight, and lays down additional obligations in terms of maintenance and regular monitoring for owners and operators.

The roles and responsibilities of owners and operators have been clarified, particularly with regard to the management and maintenance of wastewater systems.

The new provisions came into force on January 1^{er}, 2025.

ANSES REFERENTIAL

Référentiel d'analyses du contrôle sanitaire des eaux - Méthode d'analyse en sécurité sanitaire des aliments et eaux de consommation REFERENCE: ANSES/LHN/REF-CSE - Version 4 November 2024

The aim of this reference guide is to specify the terms and conditions for applying the amended Order of October 19, 2017 on the methods used to carry out health checks on water, and to provide technical details for implementing sampling and analysis.

Water regulations in 2024

This revision introduced the following changes:

- Definitions added for swimming pool water.
- Deletion of details originally included in the standard and now incorporated in standard guides (FD T 90 520, FD T 90 525).
- Update on the rounding rules that apply to counts obtained by MPN methods used in microbiology.
- Added clarification of standards for phytoplankton sampling and enumeration.
- Analytical methods for cyanobacteria enumeration updated. Deletion of the appendix concerning laboratory approval rules.
- Clarification of new parameters in application of directive 2020/2184 and its transposition into French law.
- Details on certain parameters: cyanotoxins, pesticides.
- Reminder of the rules for producing results under accreditation.
- Updated list of unstable pesticides and clarification on the sum of pesticides.
- Addition of an appendix concerning the wording of index parameters.
- Addition of an appendix describing the different ways of expressing results for quantitative microbiological analyses, and clarification of the relevant paragraph (§ 4.2.8 - Expression of results).

Microplastics

Delegated Decision (EU) 2024/1441 of March 11, 2024 supplementing Directive (EU) 2020/2184 of the European Parliament and of the Council by establishing a method for measuring microplastics in water intended for human consumption

This decision complements Directive (EU) 2020/2184 by establishing a standardized method for measuring microplastics in water intended for human consumption.

It introduces a uniform methodology for measuring microplastics in drinking water, to ensure consistent and reliable monitoring of their presence.

The decision specifies the characteristics of the particles to be analyzed, in particular their size, shape and chemical composition, as well as sampling procedures, analytical techniques, quality criteria and monitoring frequency.

Member States must incorporate this methodology into their national drinking water quality monitoring programs.

Water regulations in 2024

Pesticides

Chlorothalonil metabolite R471811 classified as irrelevant by ANSES

ANSES opinion on the review of the relevance classification for the chlorothalonil metabolite R417888 and the review of the relevance classification for the chlorothalonil metabolite R471811 in water intended for human consumption (ANSES opinion on the review of the relevance classification for the chlorothalonil metabolite R417888 and the review of the relevance classification for the chlorothalonil metabolite R471811 in water intended for human consumption).

ANSES was asked to assess the relevance of these two chlorothalonil metabolites for EDCH.

For the metabolite **R417888**, available data did not rule out its genotoxic potential, and it was classified as **"relevant for EDCH"**.

With regard to the metabolite R471811, an initial assessment by ANSES led to it being considered "relevant for EDCH" (Anses opinion of January 26, 2022) at the carcinogenicity assessment stage. In the absence of available data on this metabolite, the possible carcinogenic effects of its parent substance, chlorothalonil, were taken into account. Based on EFSA's proposal to classify the active substance as a category 1B carcinogen, and in the absence of data demonstrating that the metabolite R471811 did not share chlorothalonil's mode of action, the relevance of the latter was proposed.

The analysis of new knowledge, incorporating data provided by the registrant and bibliographic research carried out by the experts, led to the conclusion that this metabolite most probably does not share chlorothalonil's nephrotoxic mode of action.

As a result, it has been reclassified as **"not relevant for EDCH"**.

As a reminder, the regulatory values that apply within the framework of sanitary control and monitoring of EDCH are :

- a quality limit of 0.1 µg/L for relevant metabolites ;
- an indicative value of 0.9 µg/L for irrelevant metabolites.