



Baseline Water Testing - Surface Water

Baseline water testing to document water quality prior to high-volume horizontal hydraulic fracturing or "hydrofracking" taking place in the vicinity is essential if one wishes to make a case in court in regards to changes in water quality.

The Community Science Institute (CSI) recommends the following tests for surface waters that may be at risk of contamination due to "hydrofracking" operations:

Test	Price	Rationale
<i>pH</i>	\$12	Acid is used to dissolve rock when wells are drilled and hydrofracked.
<i>Alkalinity</i>	\$18	
<i>Acidity</i>	\$18	
<i>Turbidity</i>	\$12	Faulty drilling or poor site management can result in excessive soil particles in water.
<i>Total dissolved solids</i>	\$18	Salt deposits from ancient formations can be brought to the surface through unknown fracture patterns; brine spillage
<i>Conductivity</i>	\$12	
<i>Chloride</i>	\$20	
<i>Bromide</i>	\$25	
<i>Chemical Oxygen Demand</i>	\$20	Biocides and petroleum distillates are used in drilling fluids
<i>Total Hardness</i>	\$18	Flowback fluid is extremely high in metals; drill cuttings
<i>Barium & Strontium</i>	\$36	
<i>Gross alpha & beta radioactivity</i>	\$65	Naturally Occuring Radioactive Materials are present in Marcellus shale and waste products
Total	\$274	

Further tests can be added for an additional expense but will not necessarily increase the likelihood of detecting contamination.

Other Fees:

Site Fee: \$45

Travel: \$0.55/mile and \$35/hour

Total cost to be determined based on location and number of samples. Our policy is to split travel costs among all clients sampling on the same day.

Contact Becky Sims, Outreach Coordinator, at 607-257-6606 to set up an appointment.