



## Chromium Found In Drinking Water

Recent reports show that potentially unsafe levels of hexavalent chromium (chromium-6) have been found in drinking water in 31 American cities. Madison, Wisconsin was found to have the fourth highest level of the cities tested. 25 of the 35 cities tested exceeded a "public health goal" level being considered for hexavalent chromium in the state of California. The Environmental Working Group (EWG), a Washington-based research and advocacy organization published an independent study that tested water supplies across the country and measured the results against a 0.06 parts per billion limit proposed by the State of California as safe.

Scientists at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the National Toxicology Program have linked the ingestion of hexavalent chromium to stomach cancer and classified inhaled hexavalent chromium as a human carcinogen. There is an ongoing study of these and other health risks associated with this type of chromium. The EPA currently regulates total chromium in public water supplies and the Maximum Contaminant Level is 100 ppb or ug/L. The level can also be expressed as 0.1 ppm or mg/L.

Chromium 6, also known as hexavalent chromium, is classified as a heavy metal and can occur naturally in rocks and soil. It is odorless and tasteless. Various industrial sources using chromium in metal alloys such as stainless steel, protective coatings on metal, magnetic tapes and pigments for paint, cement paper and rubber all contribute to chromium found in drinking water. Chromium can also be found in water supplies as trivalent Chromium or Chromium 3 and is generally considered less toxic.

### ***Here's how Hellenbrand can help:***

According to the Water Quality Association and the Environmental Working Group, reverse osmosis (RO) is a certified method to reduce both forms of chromium. Hellenbrand's Millennium Reverse Osmosis System has been tested by an independent international testing organization called the National Sanitation Foundation or NSF. This organization certifies the Millennium RO significantly reduces both forms of chromium.

To order, call Hellenbrand today at (608) 849-3050.

*Other independent information on chromium can be found at:*

**EPA** - <http://water.epa.gov/drink/info/chromium/index.cfm>

**OEHHA** - <http://www.oehha.ca.gov/water/phg/chr6draft082009.html>

**Madison Water Utility** - <http://www.cityofmadison.com/water/water-Quality/documents/Chromium20110112.pdf>



**Hellenbrand's Millennium  
Reverse Osmosis System**

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