

GUIDELINE SUMMARY TABLE

Table 1. B.C. water quality guidelines for primary contact recreational uses.

Parameter	Recreational Water Quality Guidelines	Guideline Source	2019 Update
Chlorophenols:			
<i>Monochlorophenol</i>	0.0001 mg/L	ENV 1997a	No change
<i>Total Dichlorophenols</i>	0.0003 mg/L	ENV 1997a	No change
<i>Total Trichlorophenols</i>	0.002 mg/L	ENV 1997a	No change
<i>Total Tetrachlorophenols</i>	0.001 mg/L	ENV 1997a	No change
<i>Pentachlorophenol</i>	0.03 mg/L	ENV 1997a	No change
Chlorophyll <i>a</i>	50 mg/m ² (streams)	ENV 1985	No change
Colour, True	15 TCU (Aesthetic Objective); mean (minimum of 5 samples in 30 days)	ENV 1997b	No change
Cyanobacterial Toxins: Total Cyanobacteria or Total Microcystins	100 000 cells/mL or, 0.02 mg/L (expressed as microcystin-LR)	Health Canada 2012	No change
Methyl Tertiary-Butyl Ether (MTBE)	0.02 mg/L	ENV 2001	No change
Microbiological Indicators:			
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	≤ 200 <i>E. coli</i> /100 mL; geometric mean concentration (minimum of 5 samples*) or, ≤ 400 <i>E. coli</i> /100 mL; single sample maximum concentration (units will depend on whether the multiple-tube fermentation method (MPN/100 mL) or the membrane filtration method (<i>E. coli</i> /100 mL) is used).	Health Canada 2012	No change
Enterococci	≤ 35 Enterococci /100 mL; geometric mean concentration (minimum of 5 samples*), or, ≤ 70 Enterococci /100 mL; single sample maximum concentration (units will depend on whether the multiple-tube fermentation method or the membrane filtration method is used).	Health Canada 2012	No change
Nitrate	45 mg/L (nitrate) 10 mg/L (nitrate-N)	ENV 2009	No change
Nitrite	3.0 mg/L (nitrite) 1.0 mg/L (nitrite-N)	ENV 2009	No change

Parameter	Recreational Water Quality Guidelines	Guideline Source	2019 Update
pH	5.0 - 9.0	Health Canada 2012	No change
Phosphorus	0.01 mg/L (lakes)	ENV 1985	No change
Temperature	Should not cause an appreciable increase or decrease in the deep body temperature of swimmers.	Health Canada 2012	No change
Turbidity	50 NTU (Aesthetic Objective)	Health Canada 2012	No change

*The 5 samples should be collected at times and sites to provide representative information on the water quality likely to be encountered by users (Health Canada 2012).