

Carmen Ruggles

*Is All This Pollution Really Worth It?*

This project tested the difference between the water quality in bottled water, municipal water, filtered water, and well water. I found that all water bottles are major pollutants; most bottled water is just filtered tap water and is no better than tap water. The filtered and the tap water had a hardness level above the EPA guideline as did one of the bottled waters. Two bottled waters were at 250 ppm, well above the 50 ppm guideline. None of the samples had detectable levels of chlorine. All of the samples were within the EPA guideline levels. All of the samples had a pH level within the EPA guideline standards. None of the samples had detectable amounts of nitrite. All samples were within the EPA guideline levels. While the tap and filtered water had levels slightly above that of most of the bottled water, all samples were within the EPA maximum contaminant levels. None of the samples had any detectable amounts of lead. All samples were within the EPA maximum contaminant level. None of the samples had any detectable amounts of pesticides. All samples were within the EPA maximum contaminant levels.