

# **Consumer Tool for Identifying Point-of-Use and Pitcher Filters Certified** to Reduce Lead in Drinking Water

## **Point-of-Use Filters**

Point-of-use, or POU, water filters remove impurities from drinking water at the point that it is actually being used. Although there are others, the POU filters covered in this document are those used in filtration systems that are attached directly to water faucets or those inserted into refrigerators for water and ice dispensers.

#### **Faucet Filter Device**



**Refrigerator Filter** 



### **Pitcher Filters**

Pitcher water filters remove impurities from drinking water and are those that are inserted into water pitchers and bottles.



**Bottle With Filter** 



# Why is certification important for water filters?

Consumers can increase their level of confidence by purchasing POU and pitcher filters that have been evaluated by an accredited third-party certification body or bodies for drinking water lead reduction to 5 parts per billion (ppb) or less and particulate reduction (Class I) capabilities.

# How do I know if a filter is certified to reduce lead?

There are several American National Standards Institute (ANSI) accredited third-party certification bodies that evaluate POU and pitcher filters for lead reduction in drinking water. They each have unique certification marks (registered trademarks) that are used on certified products.

Certification bodies require their mark and a statement indicating testing against NSF/ANSI Standard 53 along with a claim of lead reduction. It is recommended that you also look for filters tested against NSF/ANSI Standard 42 for particulate reduction (Class I).

#### **Certification Marks**

Below are the ANSI accredited third-party certification bodies' approved certification marks and the text that indicates a filter has been evaluated for lead reduction capabilities. Some filters can be certified by more than one certification body and have multiple certification marks.

See page 2 for information on where to find marks and claims of reduction.



NSF product

listing directory

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IAPMO R&T

product listing

directory

CSA product

listing directory



PMOR

pld.iapmo.org

Drinking Water

NSF/ANSI 53



info.nsf.org/Certified/DWTU/

С

IAPMO

JS C

csagroup.org/testing-

certification/product-listing

R

Drinking Water NSF/ANSI 42



WQA product

listing directory find.wqa.org/find-products#/







CERTIFIED

productig.ulprospector.com/en

#### Text for NSF/ANSI Standards 42 & 53 next to certification marks:

- Example text on packaging: Tested and Certified by (certification body) against NSF/ANSI Standards 42 and 53 for the claims specified on the Performance Data Sheet.
- Some companies may indicate lead removal in the text or may simply state NSF/ANSI 53 or NSF/ANSI 42 above or below the mark.

Disclaimer: This document is for informational purposes only. Any mention of trade names or commercial products does not constitute EPA endorsement or recommendation for use.

# Certification Marks, Standards Text, and Claims of Reduction on Filter Packaging

Certification marks (page 1) can be found on the filter packaging, the filter, or on the smallest container in which the filter is packaged. Examples of certification marks, NSF/ANSI Standards 42 and 53 text, and claims of lead reduction and particulate reduction (Class I) as found on product packaging are shown below.



### **Claims of Reduction on Performance Data Sheets**

Claims of lead reduction to 5 parts per billion (ppb) or less and particulate reduction (Class I) not included on the filter packaging can typically be found on the performance data sheet (example below) located inside the filter packaging, in the certifier's online product listing directory (see page 1), or on the manufacturer's website.

	SUBSTANCE	Overall Percent Reduction	Influent Challenge Concentration	U.S. EPA Level*/NSF Maximum Permissible Product Water Concentration
	NSF/ANSI Standard 53 – Health Effects			
NSF/ANSI Standard 53 claim of lead reduction	Lead pH 6.5	99.5%	150±15 ppb	5 ppb
	Lead pH 8.5	99.6%	150±15 ppb	5 ppb
	Mercury pH 6.5	95.5%	6±0.6 ppb	2 ppb
	Mercury pH 8.5	95.9%	6±0.6 ppb	2 ppb
	Cadmium pH 6.5	97.4%	30±3 ppb	5 ppb
	Cadmium pH 8.5	99.2%	30±3 ppb	5 ppb
	Benzene	93.5%	15±1.5 ppb	5 ppb
	Asbestos	>99%	55000000±45000000 Fibers/L	99%*
	NSF/ANSI Standard 401 – Emerging Compounds/Incidental Contaminants			
NSF/ANSI Standard 42	Bisphenol A <sup>†</sup>	95.5%	2000±400 ppt	300 ppt
	Estrone <sup>†</sup>	96.4%	140±28 ppt	20 ppt
claim of particulate	Ibuprofen <sup>†</sup>	94.9%	400±80 ppt	60 ppt
	Naproxen <sup>†</sup>	96.4%	140±28 ppt	20 ppt
reduction (Class I)	Nonyl phenol <sup>†</sup>	93.5%	1400±280 ppt	200 ppt
	NSF/ANSI Standard 42 – Aesthetic Effects			
	Chlorine	97.4%	2.0±0.2 ppb	50%*
	Particulate Reduction Class I	99.6%	>10000 particles/mL	85%*



#### EPA's Lead in Drinking Water Website

#### **Questions?**

- About a filter: Refer to the certifier's product listing directory on page 1 or contact the manufacturer.
- About this document: Send an email to latham.michelle@epa.gov and tully.jennifer@epa.gov.

epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basicinformation-about-lead-drinking-water

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