



*NSF International Standard /  
American National Standard*

## NSF/ANSI 53 - 2011a

### Drinking Water Treatment Units - Health Effects



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**NSF/ANSI 53 – 2011a**

NSF International Standard/  
American National Standard  
for Drinking Water Treatment Units —

**Drinking water treatment units –  
Health effects**

Standard Developer  
NSF International

**NSF International Board of Directors**

**Designated as an ANSI Standard**  
April 1, 2012

**American National Standards Institute**

Prepared by  
**The NSF Joint Committee on Drinking Water Treatment Units**

Recommended for adoption by  
**The NSF Council of Public Health Consultants**

Adopted by  
**The NSF Board of Directors**  
December 1981

Revised June 1982	Addendum 1.0 – 2002, June 2002
Revised June 1988	Addendum 2.0 – 2002, October 2002
Revised May 1990	Editorial Revision – November 2003
Revised November 1992	Revised July 2004
Revised September 1993	Addendum 1.0 – 2002e, August 2004
Revised March 1994	Revised February 2005
Revised March 1996	Revised January 2006
Revised September 1996	Addendum 1.0 – 2006, March 2006
Revised September 1997	Revised February 2007
Revised November 1998	Revised July 2007
Revised March 1999	Addendum 1.0 – 2007, March 2008
Revised September 1999	Revised August 2009
Revised May 2000	Revised August 2010
Revised November 2000	Revised April 2011
Revised January 2001	Revised April 2012
Revised January 2002	

Published by

NSF International  
P. O. Box 130140, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48113-0140, USA

For ordering copies or for making inquiries with regard to this Standard, please reference the designation "NSF/ANSI 53 – 2011a."

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## Foreword<sup>2</sup>

The purpose of this Standard is to establish minimum requirements for materials, design and construction, and performance of drinking water treatment systems that are designed to reduce specific health-related contaminants in public or private water supplies. NSF/ANSI 53 specifies minimum product literature requirements that manufacturers must provide to authorized representatives and owners.

This edition of the Standard contains the following revisions:

### Issue 80

This revision removed the filter media test from the minimum performance requirements under section 6.

### Issue 83

The component burst pressure test requirement under section 5 was removed from the family of DWTU standards.

### Issue 84

This revision removed the retesting requirement for contaminants that exceed the non-health based advisory concentration under section 4.2.3.6.

### Issue 86

This revision clarified the syringe filtration method used in the determination of particulate lead in pH 8.5 testing under section 7.4.3.3.2. A corrosion warning note under the test equipment cleaning and conditioning instructions for that analysis was also added under section 7.4.3.5.2.2.

This Standard was developed by the NSF Joint Committee on Drinking Water Treatment Units using the consensus process described by the American National Standards Institute.

Suggestions for improvement of this Standard are welcome. Comments should be sent to Chair, Joint Committee on Drinking Water Treatment Units at [standards@nsf.org](mailto:standards@nsf.org), or c/o NSF International, Standards Department, P.O. Box 130140, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48113-0140, USA.

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## NSF/ANSI Standard for Drinking Water Treatment Units —

# Drinking water treatment units — Health effects

## 1 General

### 1.1 Purpose

It is the purpose of this Standard to establish minimum requirements for materials, design and construction, and performance of point-of-use and point-of-entry drinking water treatment systems that are designed to reduce specific health-related contaminants in public or private water supplies. Such systems include point-of-entry drinking water treatment systems used to treat all or part of the water at the inlet to a residential facility or a bottled water production facility, and includes the material and components used in these systems. This Standard also specifies the minimum product literature and labeling information that a manufacturer shall supply to authorized representatives and system owners, as well as the minimum service-related obligations that the manufacturer shall extend to system owners.

### 1.2 Scope

The point-of-use and point-of-entry systems addressed by this Standard are designed to be used for the reduction of specific substances that may be present in drinking water (public or private). These substances are considered established or potential health hazards. They may be microbiological, chemical, or particulate (including filterable cysts) in nature. It is recognized that a system may be effective in controlling one or more of these contaminants, but systems are not required to control all. Activated carbon filter systems covered by this Standard are not intended to be used with water that is microbiologically unsafe or of unknown quality without adequate disinfection before or after the system.

### 1.3 Minimum requirements

A system as defined in this standard shall meet the applicable requirements of 4, 5, 6, and 8, plus at least one performance claim as described in 7.

A component as defined in this standard shall meet the requirements of 4 and 8. If the component is pressure-bearing, it shall also meet the applicable requirements of 5.

A commercial modular system as defined in this standard shall meet the applicable requirements of 4, 5, 6, and 8, plus at least one performance claim as described in 7. Manifolds of commercial modular systems shall meet the requirements of 4, 5 (if pressure bearing), and 8, and shall be evaluated as stand-alone components. Manifolds shall have a minimum internal diameter such that the water velocity in the manifold will not exceed 3 m (10 ft) per second (which can be calculated based upon the system flow rate and the manifold internal diameter). Individual modular elements evaluated as a manifold and modular element combination shall meet the applicable requirements of 4, 5, 6, and 8, plus at least one performance claim as described in 7.