

A Consumer Tool for Identifying Point of Use (POU) Drinking Water Filters Certified to Reduce Lead

POINT OF USE FILTERS

Point of use, or POU, drinking water filters are used to remove impurities from 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, inserted into refrigerators for water dispensers and ice makers, or inserted into water pitchers and bottles.









How do I know if a POU filter has been certified to reduce lead?

There are several American National Standards Institute (ANSI) accredited third-party certification bodies that evaluate POU drinking water filters for lead reduction. Each has a registered trademark that is 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.

We recommend that you also look for filters tested against NSF/ANSI Standard 42 for particulate reduction (Class I)*.

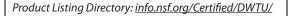
The table below provides the certification bodies' approved marks and the text that indicates a filter has been certified for lead reduction capabilities. Some filters can be certified by more than one certification body and have multiple certification marks.

Certification Mark(s)













Product Listing Directory: <u>wqa.org/Find-Products#/</u>







Product Listing Directory: pld.iapmo.org/



Note: For UL, text must be located underneath the mark. The File No. is a unique product identification number.

Product Listing Directory: <u>database.</u> <u>ul.com/cgi-bin/XYV/template/</u> <u>LISEXT/1FRAME/index.html</u>



C US

NSF/ANSI 42

Drinking Water NSF/ANSI 53

Product Listing Directory: <u>csagroup.org/testing-certification/product-listing/</u>

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

- Example text on packaging: Tested and Certified by (name of 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 might simply state NSF/ANSI 53 or NSF/ANSI 42 above or below the mark.

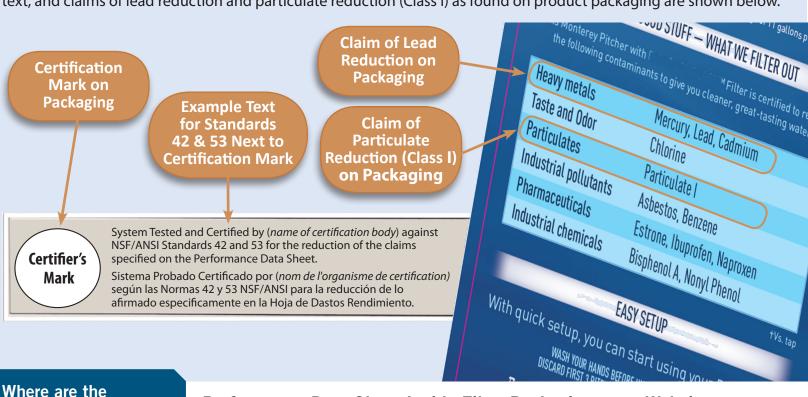
Is certification required for POU drinking water filters?

There is no mandatory federal requirement for the use of POU drinking water filters or for testing or third-party certification under the Safe Drinking Water Act. However, consumers can increase their level of confidence by purchasing filters that have been tested by an accredited third-party certification body or bodies for lead reduction and particulate reduction (Class I) capabilities against both NSF/ANSI Standards 42 and 53.

*Although particulate reduction (Class I) is for aesthetic effects, it is being suggested since some particulates can contain lead.

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

Certification marks are detailed in the Table on Page 1. 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.

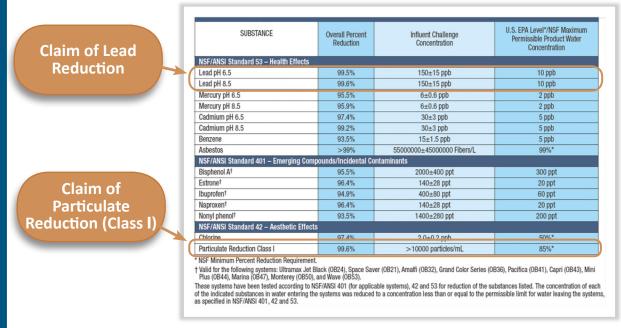


Where are the certification marks and Standards text located?

The certification marks can be found on the filter or on the smallest container in which the filter is packaged. NSF/ANSI Standards 42 and 53 text will be located under or near a certification mark. If lead reduction and particulate reduction (Class I) are not specifically mentioned in the text, information can be found in a table on the packaging, on the performance data sheet located inside the filter packaging or on the manufacturer's website, or in the certifier's online product listing directory (see links in the table on Page 1).

Performance Data Sheet Inside Filter Packaging or on Websites

Claims of lead reduction and particulate reduction (Class I) not included on the filter packaging can typically be found on the performance data sheet located inside the filter box or other packaging (example below), or on the manufacturer's website.



Additional Information

- EPA's Lead in Drinking Water Website: epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water
- Understanding NSF/ANSI Standard 53: workingpressuremag.com/understanding-nsf-ansi-53/

Questions?

- For questions about a filter: Contact the product manufacturer or see the product listing directories listed on the first page.
- For questions about this document: Send an email to latham.michelle@epa.gov or shah.manthan@epa.gov.