



**American Water Works
Association**

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(First Edition)

The Authoritative Resource on Safe Water®

AWWA Standard

Source Water Protection



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Foreword

This foreword is for information only and is not a part of ANSI/AWWA G300

I. Introduction.

I.A. *Background.* The AWWA Utility Quality Programs are designed to serve water and wastewater utilities and their customers, owners, and government regulators. The programs are intended to improve a utility's service quality and management efficiency by establishing formal standards and performing independent audits to verify conformance. The use of standards establishes uniform performance measures and promotes industry self-regulation.

AWWA's standards process has been used for more than ninety years to produce approved standards for materials and processes that are used by the water and wastewater utility industries. These standards are recognized worldwide and have been adopted by many utilities and organizations. Volunteer standards committees establish standard practices in a uniform and appropriate format. Formal approval procedures are used to develop recognized standards.

Formal standards committees have been and continue to be formed to address the individual standard practices for the diverse areas of water and wastewater utility operation. A formal standards committee was formed during the first quarter of 2002 to approve standards for Source Water Protection. This standard is the outcome from this committee.

The objective of source water protection is to maintain, safeguard, and/or improve the quality of source water. All water agencies strive to consistently supply their customers with sufficient quantities of high-quality water at affordable rates. The drinking water industry uses a multiple-barrier approach to achieve this goal. The multiple-barrier approach involves several consecutive steps, including selection of high-quality source water(s), source water protection, optimized water treatment as necessary, distribution system management, and water quality monitoring. Optimization of each step in this process is a logical and prudent approach in responding to higher customer drinking water quality expectations, more stringent regulatory requirements, and the uncertainties represented by the growing number of microbiological and chemical drinking water contaminants of concern.

I.B. *History.* This is the first edition of this standard. It was approved by the AWWA Board of Directors on Jan. 21, 2007.

I.C. *Acceptance.* In May 1985, the US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) entered into a cooperative agreement with a consortium led by NSF International (NSF) to develop voluntary third-party consensus standards and a certification program for all direct and indirect drinking water additives. Other members of the original consortium included the American Water Works Association Research Foundation (AwwaRF) and the Conference of State Health and Environmental Managers (COSHEM). The American Water Works Association (AWWA) and the Association of State Drinking Water Administrators (ASDWA) joined later.

In the United States, authority to regulate products for use in, or in contact with, drinking water rests with individual states.* Local agencies may choose to impose requirements more stringent than those required by the state or province. To evaluate the health effects of products and drinking water additives from such products, state, provincial, and local agencies may use various references, including

1. An advisory program formerly administered by USEPA, Office of Drinking Water, discontinued on April 7, 1990.
2. Specific policies of the state or local agency.
3. Two standards developed under the direction of NSF, NSF[†]/ANSI[‡] 60, Drinking Water Treatment Chemicals—Health Effects, and NSF/ANSI 61, Drinking Water System Components—Health Effects.
4. Other references, including AWWA standards, *Food Chemicals Codex*, *Water Chemicals Codex*,[§] and other standards considered appropriate by the state or local agency.

Various certification organizations may be involved in certifying products in accordance with NSF/ANSI 60 and 61. Individual states, provinces, or local agencies have authority to accept or accredit certification organizations within their jurisdiction. Accreditation of certification organizations may vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction.

*Persons outside the United States should contact the appropriate authority having jurisdiction.

†NSF International, 789 N. Dixboro Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48113.

‡American National Standards Institute, 25 West 43rd Street, Fourth Floor, New York, NY 10036.

§Both publications available from National Academy of Sciences, 500 Fifth N.W., Washington, DC 20001.