

Secondary water safety

Secondary water is different from drinking water and should be used only for watering lawns and plants.

Drinking or playing in secondary water can make you sick.

Drinking water is treated water in your home and is safe to drink.



Secondary water is untreated water outside and should be used only for watering lawns and plants.



Frequently asked questions

Is my water safe to drink?	\odot
Yes, if it's from a tap in your home.	No, if it's from a hose, spigot, or sprinkler outside.

Is my water safe for play?	⊙
Yes, if it's drinking water.	No, if it's secondary water.

What can happen if I drink or play in secondary water?

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Secondary water is not treated, so it may have harmful germs. These germs could make you sick when you drink the water or get it in your mouth.

If you get sick with these germs, you may experience symptoms such as diarrhea, stomach cramps, and vomiting. In some cases, you might become severely ill and need to go to the hospital. These germs are especially dangerous for children, older adults, and people with weakened immune systems. If you experience these symptoms, visit your healthcare provider.

Do I have secondary water?



Some Utah communities have secondary water, and others do not. Check with your city or water provider to find out if you have secondary water. Click here to see a map of secondary water boundaries to see who your secondary water provider might be.

What are some examples of secondary water sources?



Images of different secondary water sources (spigots, hoses, sprinklers...) will go here

Is secondary water safe for pets?



Pets should not drink or play in secondary water because it can make them sick. If your pet gets sick, contact your veterinarian.