



Produce Safety Law

Safe Water



Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
VaProduceSafety.com

Is your water safe for growing and harvesting produce?

VaProduceSafety.com

The produce safety law requires that water used for growing, irrigating, harvesting and holding produce must be safe. Depending on the type of agricultural water you use and how you apply it, you may need to test your water.

Requirements

- Production water – water used during growing activities such as overhead irrigation, fertigation, frost protection, crop sprays and dust abatement must be tested.
- Harvest and post-harvest water – water that will contact produce during and after harvest or is used for sprout irrigation, cooling or washing produce, handwashing, ice-making, waxing, produce movement, cleaning and sanitizing must be tested.
- Untreated surface water – cannot be used for harvest and post-harvest activities or for sprouts.
- Testing methods – specific sample requirements apply.

LEARN MORE:

VaProduceSafety.com

CONTACT:

produce.safety@vdacs.virginia.gov

Funding for this statement, publication, press release, etc. was made possible, in part, by the Food and Drug Administration through grant PAR-16-137. The views expressed in written materials or publications and by speakers and moderators do not necessarily reflect the official policies of the Department of Health and Human Services; nor does any mention of trade names, commercial practices, or organization imply endorsement by the United States Government.



102 Governor Street • Richmond, VA 23219
vdacs.virginia.gov