



Safe clean water, past & present

Safe, Clean Water Past and Present

In many countries, people are amazed to find out that all the water that comes into our houses, including the water we use for flushing the loo, is ok to drink.

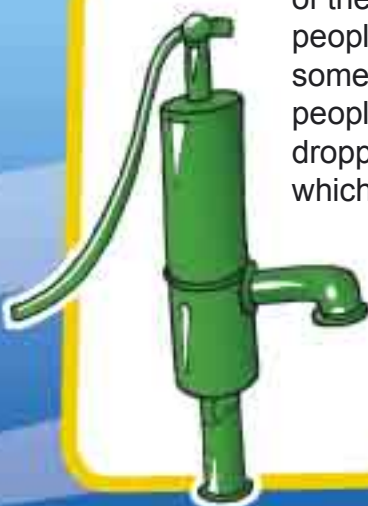
More than **1.3 million** tests are carried out each year.

Anglian Water makes sure that its water is completely safe to drink and use by taking samples of water every day from customers' homes, **water treatment works**, **reservoirs** and **water towers**.



In 1854 a doctor called John Snow suspected that an outbreak of **cholera** in London was linked to **polluted** water. His investigation led him to a water pump which was connected to a well in Broad Street which was at the centre of the outbreak.

Dr Snow removed the handle of the pump and as a result the local people had to get their water from somewhere else. The number of people developing cholera suddenly dropped. It was the water in that well which had been polluted with **sewage**!



Today cholera is very rare in this country. However, in the developing world there are often serious outbreaks of diseases caused by drinking dirty water.

27 Number of Deaths
★ PUMP



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The use of **fertilisers** and **pesticides** by farmers and gardeners may also cause the water company problems if they soak into the ground and find their way into **groundwater**. This underground water is treated to make sure it is completely safe to drink.

In 2006 more than
99%
of all samples tested meet legal quality standards.



Anglian Water has very good water quality.

How do we clean water?

HOW DO WE CLEAN WATER?

When water is taken from rivers, lakes or reservoirs, it travels along pipes to the **water treatment works**.

It is treated to:

Remove solid particles and make it clean.

Remove any unpleasant taste or smell.

Make it safe to drink.



The type of treatment depends on the quality of the 'raw' water. In the Anglian Water region 50% of supplies are very good quality **groundwater**. They only need simple treatment and **disinfecting** with **chlorine** to make the water safe to drink.