

Drinking Water and Water Treatment

PRINT CARD

Clear water is not automatically safe water:

BEST
OPTION

1



STORED OR CONFIRMED SAFE WATER

- ✓ Use stored sealed water first.
- ✓ Check expiry dates and container seals.
- ✓ Keep containers clean and covered.

NEXT
OPTION

2



OFFICIAL SUPPLY POINT

- ✓ Use water from official taps or stations.
- ✓ Follow any posted instructions.
- ✓ Report damaged or unsafe points.

LAST
RESORT

3



NATURAL WATER ONLY AS A LAST RESORT

- ✓ Collect from streams, lakes, or rainwater.
- ✓ Treat all natural water before drinking.
- ✓ Use boiling, filtration, or approved tablets.



DO THIS

- ▶ Protect stored drinking water.
- ▶ Use official guidance for treatment.
- ▶ Keep drinking water separate from cleaning water.



AVOID THIS

- ▶ Do not drink unknown surface water.
- ▶ Do not assume a clear stream is safe.
- ▶ Do not mix dirty containers with drinking water.



CLEAR DOES NOT MEAN SAFE



Germs, chemicals, and other hazards cannot be seen. Unsafe water can make you and your whānau very sick.



Follow local public-health guidance for boiling or treatment.



WATER THAT LOOKS CLEAN CAN STILL MAKE YOU SICK.



NATURAL WATER: PLENTY IN NEW ZEALAND, NOT AUTOMATICALLY SAFE

PRINT CARD

Looks clear. That does not mean it is safe to drink.

NATURAL WATER CAN LOOK CLEAN BUT STILL CARRY HIDDEN RISKS



MICROBES / GERMS

Bacteria, viruses, and parasites can make you sick.



FARM RUNOFF

Rain can wash animal waste, fertiliser, and chemicals into water.



FLOOD CONTAMINATION

Floodwater mixes sewage, waste, and chemicals into rivers and streams.



DIRTY CONTAINERS

Dirty or unclean containers can re-contaminate clean water.



FLOOD WATER = HIGH RISK

Avoid rivers and streams after heavy rain or flooding.



FARM AREAS NEED EXTRA CAUTION

Water near farms can pick up waste and chemicals.



**CLEAR IS NOT THE SAME AS SAFE.
LOOKS CLEAN. MIGHT STILL BE UNSAFE.**



CLEAR DOES NOT MEAN CLEAN. TREAT WATER BEFORE YOU TRUST IT.

SAFER OPTIONS



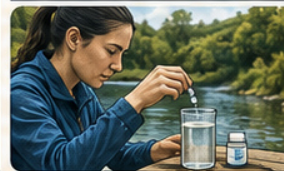
STORED WATER FIRST

Use clean, stored water before other options.



OFFICIAL WATER POINT

Use official or community water points if available.



TREAT BEFORE DRINKING

Follow official guidance to treat the water.



DO THIS



Use stored water first.



Use official water points if available.



Treat natural water by official guidance.



Keep containers clean.



AVOID THIS



Do not drink untreated river or stream water.



Do not assume mountain water is safe.



Do not use dirty containers.



NZWAR
PREPARE. PROTECT. GET HOME.