<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LIKELY PROBLEM</th>
<th>HEALTH CONCERN?</th>
<th>OTHER CLUES &amp; CONSIDERATIONS</th>
<th>CONFIRM IT</th>
<th>POSSIBLE FIXES</th>
<th>LICENSE NEEDED FOR FIX?</th>
<th>STATE FUNDS?</th>
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<td>Iron</td>
<td>No, iron is a necessary mineral for human health. There is a nuisance standard for iron that is based on staining, appearance, taste and odor problems.</td>
<td>Is there staining of laundry, tubs or sinks? Slowly run water into a bucket without aerating the water. If the water is clear at first then changes color after sitting awhile, then the problem is likely iron. There are two types of iron in water: clear water or soluble iron; or red water or insoluble iron. Treatment methods depend on which type of iron is present and at what level. Iron Bacteria can be associated with iron problems. If iron is present, often manganese is, too.</td>
<td>Test your water for iron, manganese, iron bacteria, pH, alkalinity and hardness. Contact a laboratory certified by DNR to perform iron and manganese analyses.</td>
<td>Install Dept. of Safety and Professional Services approved water treatment device from search dropdown, select products; then from type of product, choose plumbing products and then water treatment device. Devices are listed under contaminants they will remove. Be sure the chosen treatment device is capable of removing the amount and type of iron you have in your water. Also make sure it is capable of removing any manganese present.</td>
<td>Yes, treatment devices must be installed by licensed plumbers; or in some cases may be installed by the owner/occupant of a single family private residence. See plumbing license laws.</td>
<td>Water softeners will remove iron in some cases.</td>
<td>Yes, licensed Well Drillers.</td>
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### MY WATER APPEARS YELLOW, CONTINUED

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| **Tannins** *(chemicals released from decaying plants)* | No | Is your well shallow? Is your property located close to a swamp, bog, wetland, lake or river?  
Slowly run water into a bucket without aerating the water. If the water is brown as it leaves the faucet, then tannins are the likely problem. | Test your water for tannins. Use a [laboratory certified by DNR to perform tannin analyses.](https://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/waterquality/index.shtm) Test for iron, too, if you are considering treatment as a solution. | **Change the well casing pipe depth in your well to obtain water above or below the depth where tannins occur.** Consider the geology in the area and talk to a licensed [Well Driller](https://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/waterquality/index.shtm) or [Pump Installer](https://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/waterquality/index.shtm) to discuss options. | Yes for drilled wells. Contact a licensed [Well Driller](https://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/waterquality/index.shtm) for drilled wells.  
No for [driven point wells](https://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/waterquality/index.shtm), although only licensed [Pump Installers](https://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/waterquality/index.shtm) are the most qualified. | No | See [Iron Bacteria brochure](https://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/waterquality/index.s.htm)  
[United States Geological Survey](https://www.usgs.gov)  
[National Ground Water Association](https://www.ngwa.org)  
[Water Systems Council](https://www.watersystemscouncil.org)  
[National Sanitation Foundation](https://www.nsfinternational.org)  
[Center for Watershed Science and Education, UW-Stevens Point](https://cwsed.uwstevenspoint.edu) |
| **Iron** | | | | | | | |