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| Hardness (excess calcium and magnesium carbonate in groundwater) | No. Although hardness is a nuisance because it causes decreased efficiency of water heaters and can shorten the life of water using appliances. | Is there scum or scale deposited on tubs or showers? Are there white or off-white flakes in your water, especially after ice cubes melt? | Test your water alkalinity and hardness. Contact a laboratory certified by DNR to test for calcium and magnesium. | Install a Dept. of Safety and Professional Services approved water treatment device - from the search dropdown, select products; then choose plumbing products and then choose water treatment device. Devices are listed under contaminants they will remove. Water softeners are the best option. | 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. | No | UWSP Well Water Quality Viewer  
Center for Watershed Science and Education, UW-Stevens Point  
United States Geological Survey  
National Ground Water Association  
Water Systems Council  
National Sanitation Foundation |