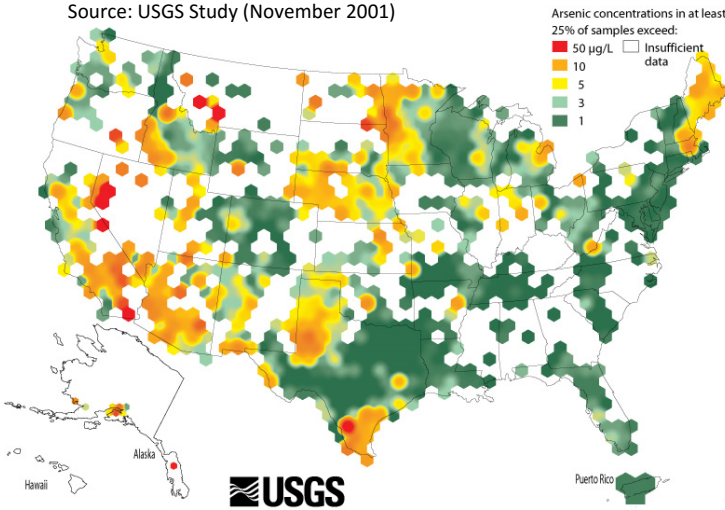


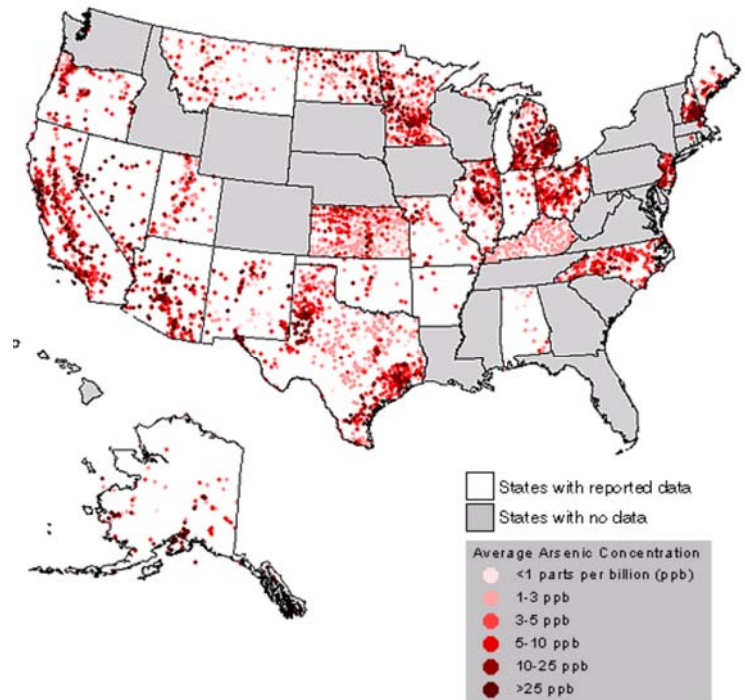
Contaminants in the Water Supply

The Challenge:

A National Look at Arsenic Contamination of **Ground Water** (2001)
 Source: USGS Study (November 2001)



A National Look at Arsenic Contamination of **Public Water Systems** (2001)
 Source: USEPA Study (February 2000)



Our Industry's Solutions:

Meeting Maximum Contaminant Levels

This allowable concentration of a health contaminant is determined by the treatment and cost feasibility. The Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health, however MCLGs are non-enforceable public health goals. The water treatment industry provides solutions for homes to meet these goals.

Treating Aesthetic and Health Contaminants.

Point-of-Use (POU) and Point-of-Entry (POE) - whole house or at the tap water treatment - technologies can be used to treat aesthetic contaminants that might cause poor taste and odor and health contaminants, such as arsenic that can potentially harm the resident.

Product Certification.

The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) accredits certification bodies (ex. WQA Gold Seal and WQA Sustainability Programs) to test and certify products to the material safety requirement and contaminant reduction claim(s) as specified by the standard. Products that display the certification body's seal provides assurance that they have been rigorously tested and meet the requirements of the standard, program policies, and plant inspection policies. Visit WQA.org for a full list of WQA certified products.

Professional Certification.

Professional certification allows consumers to reach professionals that have an expertise in water chemistry and POU/POE water quality improvement. Visit WQA.org to find a water treatment provider and certified professional in your area.

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Point-of-Use & Point-of-Entry Technologies Provide Feasible Solutions

Pollutants can appear in the water supply by natural and man-made occurrences, such as arsenic. To monitor these pollutants, the EPA sets allowable concentrations of health contaminants. The procedure for receiving a Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) is broken into tiers and many contaminants are still moving through the process. Unregulated contaminants do not require testing and monitoring.

Fortunately, the help control the pollutants that enter the water after leaving the municipal treatment facility or private well, the use of POU/POE systems - whole house or at the tap water treatment - can ensure that everyone has water that is up to standard. By helping everyone receive the treatment they need exactly where they need it, the United States can realize its goals of public health in a cost-effective and reliable way.

Contaminated Water Supply Effects Around the Country

New York Times (Aug. 26, 2013) reported that there are millions of individual cases of waterborne diseases occurring yearly and the related hospitalization costs approach \$1 billion each year. In Texas, *Texas Public Radio* (March 15, 2016) reported for over a decade, 50,000 Texans have suffered exposure to unsafe arsenic. The Environmental Integrity Project has found, 64 communities in Texas with water systems serving 80,000 people have exceeded the health-based standard for the last two years.

Arsenic

Potential Health Effects:

- Serious skin problems, endocrine disruptor
- Harms cardiovascular & nervous systems
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- Causes Cancer—skin, bladder, lung, kidney, liver, prostate

Treatment Methods (POU/POE):

- Iron oxide/hydroxides
- Activated alumina
- Iron based specialty media impregnated or coated with iron oxide/hydroxides
- Distillation
- Titanium oxy/hydroxide
- Anion Exchange (strong base anion exchange resins)
- Manganese greensand
- Reverse osmosis (RO)

About WQA:

The Water Quality Association (WQA) has thousands of members nationwide and internationally, including major corporations as well as family-owned businesses that are involved in the water treatment industry.

Dedicated to consumer education and public awareness, the Water Quality Association is a not-for-profit trade group of businesses that provide treatment solutions for safe, clean water throughout the world – in homes, schools, commercial and industrial settings, and more. WQA promotes best practices for superior products and environmental sustainability with the guidance of respected, independent standards. Its labs conduct rigorous testing and certification, and training programs promote professionalism and ethics. Learn more: wqa.org