

# 1 Information for fish keepers



The water we provide is heavily regulated to ensure it is clean, wholesome and fit for human consumption. Tap water may however need some further treatment before it used for other purposes such as fish keeping.

## Chlorine and fish

The chlorine in our water supplies is present in the form of monochloramine.

The low levels of chlorine used to disinfect public water supplies are harmless to humans but can be detrimental to fish.

Before adding tap water to fish tanks or ponds, it is recommended that the water is left to stand for a while. This allows the chlorine to naturally dissipate and helps to increase the temperature of the generally cooler tap water.

Chlorine can also be removed from the water by adding treatment chemicals prior to introducing fish.

## Nitrate and fish

The Standard, or allowable limit, for nitrate in drinking water is 50 mg/l. The naturally occurring nitrate level in all SES Water's drinking water supplies is below this limit.

Due the levels of nitrate being measured and the sensitivities of the methods used, some home water tests kits can give artificially high nitrate readings.

## Other parameters

Fish can be sensitive to plumbing metal levels picked up from pipework in the home. To minimise the presence of these metals, it is recommended the cold kitchen tap is flushed before water is drawn for a fish tank or pond. This water need not be wasted and could be used to water plants or the garden.

## Need more information?

If you would like more technical information about the make-up of the water in your area of supply, including chlorine and nitrate levels, please visit our website

[www.seswater.co.uk/WQ](http://www.seswater.co.uk/WQ) and use the postcode search facility within the 'Your water quality report' section on the water quality page. Alternatively contact our Customer Services team.

**For specialist advice on fish husbandry, we suggest you contact a local pet shop or aquarium supplier.**