

# Protection against new drinking water standards

By Jeff McMahon, Forbes

Millions of Americans have been ingesting them for years—perchlorate, hexavalent chromium, volatile organic compounds—not because they're safe, but because they are among 6,000 toxins the EPA has not gotten around to regulating in municipal drinking water systems.

But after a change in administrations and a scathing review by the General Accounting Office, the EPA has begun to develop regulations to remove these chemicals from tap and bottled water—and industry has begun efforts to delay or prevent their implementation.

While government and industry wrestle over regulations, here are the prime suspects and the best ways to remove them from your water without government help:

Earlier this year the EPA reversed a Bush administration decision to leave perchlorate unregulated and to pursue perchlorate first in a new push for stricter drinking water regulations.

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