

**SECTION 923  
WATER FOR CONCRETE**

**923-1 General Requirements.**

Water for use with cement shall be clear and free from oil, and injurious amounts of acid, alkali, chlorides, organic matter, and other deleterious substances. It shall not be salty or brackish. If it contains quantities of substances which discolor it or make it smell or taste unusual or objectionable or cause suspicion, it shall not be used unless approved by the Department. Water sources permitted include potable water supplies that are approved by a public health department, open bodies of water, well water, reclaimed water, and recycled water. Reclaimed water shall be as defined in Chapter 62-610, F.A.C. Open bodies of water are defined as naturally occurring rivers, lakes, and ponds. Recycled water includes wash water from mixer washout operations (stored in a lined settling pond). All other sources of water not listed above shall be considered recycled and reclaimed water. Recycled and reclaimed may be used only to sprinkle the coarse aggregate stockpiles and for batching concrete meeting the requirements of Section 347.

**923-2 Evaluation of Water for Concrete.**

**923-2.1 General:** Water from potable water supplies approved by a public health department may be used without additional testing. The concrete producer shall submit test data of water samples from other sources. To determine chemical properties, use a laboratory accredited by the National Environmental Laboratory or Construction Materials Engineering Council Accreditation Program. To determine physical properties, use a laboratory accredited by the Construction Materials Engineering Council Accreditation Program or Cement and Concrete Reference Laboratory.

**923-2.2 Initial Sampling and Testing Frequency:** Open bodies of water and well water shall be initially sampled once prior to use. Recycled and reclaimed water shall be tested once per week for four weeks initially, and thereafter once per month for four months prior to its use, provided that the results of the test samples comply with all the applicable limits. Failing test results will result in restarting initial sampling and testing.

**923-2.3 Production Sampling and Testing Frequency:** Open bodies of water and recycled water shall be tested monthly. Well water and reclaimed water shall be tested once every three months. If the last eight consecutive well water and reclaimed water samples meet the requirements, then the sample frequency may be reduced to one sample every six months, as approved by the Department. If a well water or reclaimed water sample fails once the frequency has been reduced, then the sampling frequency shall revert back to once every three months.

**923-3 Chemical Requirements.**

**923-3.1 Testing:** All chemical analysis or tests shall be performed in accordance with the test methods listed in Tables 1 and 2 or Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater (SM).

**923-3.2 Recycled and Reclaimed Water:** Recycled and reclaimed water shall be tested before use and shall not exceed the limits in Table 1:

Table 1		
Chemical Test	Test Method	Maximum (%)

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Chemical Test	Test Method	Maximum (%)
Total Solids	SM 2540 B	5.00
Total Chlorides as Cl <sup>-</sup>	ASTM D 512	0.05
Total Sulfates as SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	ASTM D 516	0.30

**923-3.3 Open Bodies of Water and Well Water:** Open bodies of water and well water shall be tested before use and shall not exceed the limits of Table 2:

Table 2		
Chemical Test	Test Method	Maximum (%)
Alkalinity Calculated in terms of Calcium Carbonate	SM 2320 B	0.05
Total Organic Solids	SM 2540 E	0.05
Total Inorganic Solids	SM 2540 E	0.08
Total Chlorides as Cl <sup>-</sup>	ASTM D 512	0.05

**923-4 Physical Requirements for Mortar.**

Mortar shall be tested in accordance with ASTM C 109 with the following exception: the mortar shall not be tested for flow. The mortar, composed of the sampled water, shall have a compressive strength of not less than 90% when compared to a mortar prepared using distilled water and tested at seven days.

Water of a questionable quality, as determined by the Department, shall be subject to the acceptance criteria for time of set as required by ASTM C 1602, Table 1.