

**BAHAMAS NATIONAL STANDARD
CODE OF HYGIENE PRACTICE
FOR PACKAGED WATER**

BNSCP 1:2014

CRCP 1: 2010

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ISBN978-976-8268-01-3

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AMENDMENTS ISSUED SINCE PUBLICATION

AMENDMENT NO.	DATE OF ISSUE	TYPE OF AMENDMENT	NO. OF TEXT AFFECTED	TEXT OF AMENDMENT

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ATTACHMENT PAGE FOR BNSCP AMENDMENT SHEETS

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BBSQ Committee Representation

The preparation of this CARICOM Regional Standard was carried out by the Bahamas Technical Committee for Water (TC1) Code of Hygiene Practice for Packaged Water under the supervision of The Bahamas Bureau of Standards and Quality (BBSQ). The committee was comprised of the following members:

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Comments from stakeholders throughout The Commonwealth of The Bahamas and CARICOM Member states were also solicited.

Acknowledgment

Acknowledgement is made to the CARICOM Regional Organization for Standards and Quality (CROSQ) for permission to adopt CRCP 1: 2010.

CROSQ Committee Representation

The preparation of this CARICOM Regional Code of Practice was carried out under the supervision of the Regional Technical Committee for Foods (RTC 3) by Sub-Committee A – Packaged Water(hosted by the CARICOM Member State, St. Lucia),which at the time comprised the following members:

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St. Lucia Manufacturers Association

Caribbean AgriBusiness Association

Sir Arthur Lewis Community College

Caribbean Research and Development Institute

Ministry of Health, Wellness, Family Affairs, Human Services and Gender Relations

Saint Lucia Industrial and Small Business Association

Caribbean Environmental Health Institute

Contents

National Foreword.....	1
CROSQ Foreword.....	2
1 Scope.....	3
2 Normative references.....	3
3 Terms and definitions.....	3
4 Prescriptions of the resources of mineral and spring water.....	5
4.1 Protection of alimentary reservoirs and aquifers.....	5
4.1.1 Authorization.....	5
4.1.2 Perimeter of protection.....	5
4.1.3 Protective measures.....	5
4.2 Hygiene prescriptions for the collection of spring and mineral and ground water.....	6
4.2.1 Extraction.....	6
4.2.2 Materials.....	6
4.2.3 Protection of the extraction area.....	6
4.2.4 The exploitation of spring, mineral and ground water.....	7
4.3 Maintenance of extraction facilities.....	7
4.3.1 Technical aspects.....	7
4.3.2 Equipment and reservoirs.....	7
4.3.3 Storage at the point of extraction.....	7
4.4 Transport of packaged water.....	7
4.4.1 Means of transport, piping and reservoirs.....	7
4.4.2 Maintenance of vehicles and reservoirs.....	7
5 Establishment for processing mineral waters design and facilities.....	8
5.1 Location.....	8
5.2 Roadways and areas used by wheeled traffic.....	8
5.3 Buildings and facilities.....	8
5.3.1 Type of construction.....	8
5.3.2 Disposition of holding facilities.....	8
5.3.3 Packaged water handling, storing and bottling areas.....	9
5.3.4 Canalization, drainage lines.....	10
5.3.5 Fuel storage area.....	10
5.4 Hygienic facilities.....	10
5.4.1 Water supply.....	10
5.4.2 Effluent and waste disposal.....	10
5.4.3 Changing facilities and toilets.....	10
5.4.4 Hand washing facilities in packaged water processing areas.....	11
5.4.5 Disinfection facilities.....	11
5.4.6 Lighting.....	11
5.4.7 Ventilation.....	11
5.4.8 Facilities for storage of waste and inedible material.....	11
5.5 Equipment andutensils.....	12
5.5.1 Materials.....	12
5.5.2 Hygienic design, construction and installation.....	12
6 Establishment: hygiene requirements.....	12
6.1 Maintenance.....	12
6.2 Cleaning and disinfection.....	12
6.3 Hygiene control programme.....	13
6.4 Storage and disposal of waste.....	13
6.5 Exclusion of animals.....	13
6.6 Pest control.....	13
6.7 Storage of hazardous substances.....	13
6.8 Personal effects and clothing.....	13

7	Personnel hygiene and health requirements.....	14
7.1	Hygiene training.....	14
7.2	Medical examination.....	14
7.3	Communicable diseases.....	14
7.4	Injuries.....	14
7.5	Washing of hands.....	14
7.6	Personal cleanliness.....	14
7.7	Personal behaviour.....	15
7.8	Visitors.....	15
7.9	Supervision.....	15
8	Establishment: Hygiene processing requirements.....	15
8.1	Raw material requirements.....	15
8.2	Treatment.....	15
8.3	Packaging material and containers.....	16
8.4	Filling and sealing of containers.....	16
8.5	Packaging of containers.....	16
8.6	Lot identification.....	16
8.7	Processing and production records.....	16
8.8	Storage and transport of the end-product.....	16

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National Foreword

This standard is an adoption of CRCP 1: 2010 CARICOM Regional Code of Practice for Packaged water. It was developed by the CARICOM Regional Organization for Standards and Quality (CROSQ) in order to outline requirements for the quality and safety of packaged water offered for sale in CARICOM Member States.

Regional territories are mandated to adopt approved CARICOM Standards.

It was approved for adoption by the BBSQ's Standards Council December 2014.

This Code of Practice is intended to be voluntary.

NOTE the addition of the ground water to the document wherever reference is made to mineral or spring water was done by the BBSQ's Technical committee for water.

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CROSQ Foreword

This CARICOM Regional Code of Practice has been prepared to set levels of quality and safety for packaged water produced and traded in CARICOM Member States.

In several CARICOM Member States, water from springs or other natural sources is packaged and sold. There are many underground reservoirs which have not been exposed to any pollution and can be exploited to satisfy a growing demand for natural pure water or water containing certain minerals. Purified waters from other sources are also entering the trade and it is now desirable to set guidelines for the production and promotion of such products.

It was approved by the Thirtieth Meeting of the Council for Trade and Economic Development on 3 – 4 May 2011.

In the development of this Code of Practice, assistance was derived from the following:

- a) Codex Alimentarius Commission, CAC/RCP 33-1995, Vol. 11-1995, Code of Hygienic Practice for the Collecting, Processing and Marketing of Natural Mineral Waters;
- b) Codex Alimentarius Commission, CAC/RCP 48: 2001, Code of Hygiene Practice for packaged/packageg drinking waters (other than Natural Mineral Waters);
- c) Code of Federal Regulations, Part 129, Title 21, Vol. 2, Parts 100-1691, Processing and Bottling of Packaged drinking Water.

1 Scope

This Code of Practice recommends appropriate general techniques for collecting, processing, packaging, storing, transporting, distributing and offering for sale, all bottled or packaged drinking water for direct consumption.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. The latest edition of the referenced documents (including any amendments) applies.

Bahamas National Standard, BNSS 1, Specification for packaged water

Bahamas National Standard Code of Practice, BNS CRCP5, General Principles of Food Hygiene

World Health Organization, Guidelines for Drinking-Water Quality

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this Code of Practice, the following terms and definitions shall apply.

3.1

adequate

sufficient to accomplish the intended purpose of this code

3.2

aquifer

any solid permeable mass of rocks

3.3

packaged drinking water

water filled into hermetically sealed containers of various compositions, forms and capacities and suitable for direct consumption without any further treatment

3.4

cleaning

removal of soil, food residues, dirt, grease or other objectionable matter

3.5

container

any bottle, carton, can or other container to be filled with purified, spring or mineral water, properly labelled and intended for sale

3.6

contamination

occurrence of any objectionable matter in the product

3.7

disinfection

reduction of the number of microorganisms, by means of hygienically, satisfactory chemical agents and or physical methods, to a level that will not lead to contamination of packaged water