

The maximum contaminant level goal (MCLG) for a contaminant in drinking water is the level that would not produce harmful health effects if used for a lifetime. In 1986, the MCLG for fluoride was set at 4 mg/L. However, in 2006 a panel of 11 of the top experts in fluoride **unanimously** concluded that the current MCLG was too high: “After reviewing the collective evidence, including studies conducted since the early 1990’s, the committee concluded unanimously that the present MCLG of 4 mg/L for fluoride should be lowered. Exposure at the MCLG clearly puts children at risk of developing severe enamel fluorosis, a condition that is associated with enamel loss and pitting. In addition, the majority of the committee concluded that the MCLG is not likely to be protective against bone fractures.” *Fluoride in Drinking Water: A Scientific Review of EPA’s Standards*, National Research Council, 2006, p. 2.