

2024 Annual Water Quality Report

Testing performed January through December 2024



PWSID # AL0000933
 210 West Main Street
 Albertville, AL 35950
 256-878-3761



This publication is our commitment to keep you, our customer, informed on issues related to water service. A key component of this communication is the Annual Water Quality Report, also called the “Consumer Confidence Report”, which is required by the Safe Drinking Water Act. This report provides information concerning the source of water, treatment techniques, testing results, and other important information about water and health.

We are committed to providing a quality drinking water that meets or exceeds all state and federal drinking water standards. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations that limit the levels of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems to ensure that tap water is safe to drink.

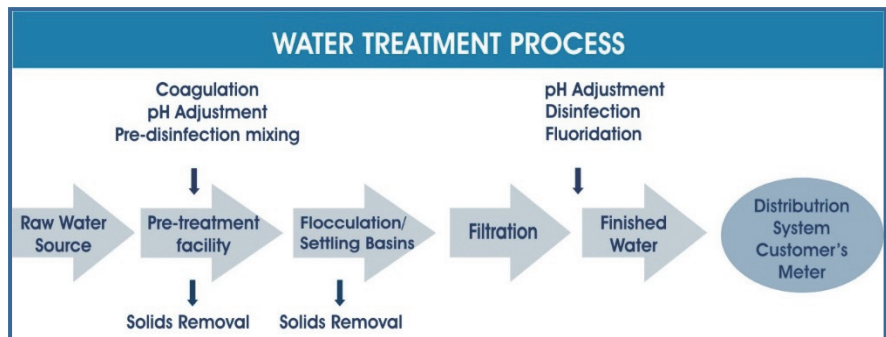
Safe Drinking Water Act

The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) was signed into law on December 16, 1974. The purpose of the law is to assure that the nation’s water supply systems serving the public meet minimum national standards for the protection of public health. The SDWA directed the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to establish national drinking water standards. The 1996 Amendments to the SDWA created a need for Consumer Confidence Reports (Annual Water Quality Reports) to reveal to consumers the detected amounts of contaminants in their drinking water.

Water Source	Surface water from the Short Creek portion of Lake Guntersville
Treatment Plants	One 12-MGD and one 9-MGD (million gallons/day)
Other Water Systems Served	Albertville, Boaz, Collinsville, Sardis, Guntersville, Asbury, and Northeast Alabama (Other systems may receive our water from one of these systems)
Distribution System	≈ 400 miles of water mains
Number of Customers	≈ 10,000
General Manager/CEO	Elden Chumley
Water Superintendent	Ronnie McCullars
Storage Capacity	9 tanks, total capacity of 11.6 million gallons
Public Fire Hydrants	≈ 700
Municipal Utility Board	Paul McAbee - Chairman Kasey Crochet Culbert - Board member Keith McGee - Board member
Board Meetings	3 rd Tuesday of each month at 8:30 a.m. at the MUB office
Office Hours	7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Mon. through Fri.

If you have any questions about this report or your water utility, please call Ronnie McCullars at our office at 256-878-3761. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled board meetings. They are held on the third Tuesday of the month at 8:30 a.m. at the office at 210 West Main Street.

More information about contaminants to drinking water and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (1-800-426-4791).



Source Water Assessment

In compliance with the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM), the Municipal Utilities Board of Albertville completed a Source Water Assessment plan that assists in protecting our water sources. This plan provides information such as potential sources of contamination. It includes a susceptibility analysis, which classifies potential contaminants as high, moderate, or non-susceptible to contaminating the water source. A copy of the report is available in our office for review during normal business hours, or you may purchase a copy upon request for a nominal reproduction fee. For further information regarding the Source Water Assessment, please call or come by our office. Please help us make these efforts worthwhile by doing your part to protect our source water. Carefully follow instructions on pesticides and herbicides you use for your lawn and garden, and properly dispose of household chemicals, paints and waste oil.

General Information about Drinking Water

All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. MCL's, defined in a List of Definitions in this report, are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and radioactive material, and it can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water run-off, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, storm water run-off, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the levels of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water. Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. People at risk should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

Radon can move up through the ground into a home through cracks and holes in the foundation. It may also get into indoor air when released from tap water. Compared to radon entering the home through soil, radon entering the home through tap water will, in most cases, be a small source of radon in indoor air. Breathing air containing radon can lead to lung cancer. Drinking water containing radon may also cause increased risk of stomach cancer. If you are concerned about radon in your home consider having the home tested. Testing is easy and inexpensive. For more information call EPA's Radon Hotline at (800-SOS-RADON).

Health Information about Lead

As required by ADEM, we conducted a Lead Service Line Inventory during 2024, and it was confirmed that our distribution system contains no Lead service lines or galvanized materials. The Lead Service Line Inventory report and results from our latest Lead results are available for review in our office upon request. Lead is rarely found in source water but is primarily from corrosion of materials and components associated with home plumbing. Your water system is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. If present, elevated levels of Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. If you are concerned about Lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on Lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from www.epa.gov/safewater or by calling the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Center for Disease Control (CDC) make the following recommendations:

- Before using any tap water for drinking or cooking, flush your water system by running the kitchen tap (or any other tap you take drinking or cooking water from) on COLD for 1–2 minutes. Flushing can minimize the potential for lead exposure, especially if the water has been sitting undisturbed for several hours, as in overnight.
- In all situations, *especially for making baby formula*, drink or cook only with water that comes out of the cold tap. Warm or hot tap water is more likely to cause lead to leach from plumbing materials. Boiling will NOT reduce the amount of lead in your water.
- Also, periodically remove the aerator on the tip of the faucet and wash out any debris such as metal particles.

The actions recommended above are very important to the health of your family. They are likely to be effective in reducing Lead levels because most of the Lead in household water usually comes from the plumbing in your house, not from the local water supply.

Pathogen Analysis

Your source water is also monitored for pathogens, such as *Cryptosporidium* and *Giardia*. These pathogens can enter the water from animal or human waste. For people who may be immunocompromised, a guidance document developed jointly by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Center for Disease Control is available online at www.epa.gov/safewater/crypto.html or from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791. All raw source water test results were well within State and Federal standards. *Cryptosporidium* and *Giardia* have not been detected in our finished drinking water.

Cryptosporidium and Giardia (in Cysts/10L)	
	Raw Source Water
Cryptosporidium	ND
Giardia	ND-3

Monitoring Schedule and Monitoring Results

This report contains test results from the most recent monitoring which was performed in accordance with the regulatory schedule set forth by the EPA and ADEM. The regulations allow monitoring of some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. We are pleased to report that our drinking water quality meets or exceeds federal and state requirements. Based on a study conducted by ADEM with the approval of the EPA a statewide waiver for the monitoring of asbestos and dioxin was issued. Thus, monitoring for these contaminants was not required.

Constituent Monitored	Date Monitored
Inorganic Contaminants	2024
Lead/Copper	2022
Microbiological Contaminants	current
Nitrates	2024
Radioactive Contaminants	2024
Synthetic Organic Contaminants (including pesticides and herbicides)	2024 Partial
Volatile Organic Contaminants	2024
Disinfection By-products	2024
Cryptosporidium (LT2)	2024
Unregulated Contaminants Monitoring Rule 5 (UCMR5) Contaminants	2024
PFAS Contaminants	2024

Detected Drinking Water Contaminants							
Primary Contaminants	Violation Y/N	Range of Detections		Unit Msmt	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
		12 MGD WTP	9 MGD WTP				
Chlorine	NO	1.3-2.6	1.1-2.5	ppm	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4	Water additive used to control microbes
Turbidity (filtered)	NO	Highest 0.13	Highest 0.13	NTU	n/a	TT	Soil runoff
Total Organic Carbon	NO	1.1-2.0	1.1-1.9	ppm	n/a	TT	Soil runoff
Barium	NO	0.041	0.040	ppm	2	2	Drilling wastes; metal refineries discharge; erosion
Copper	NO	0.100* (0.006-0.27)		ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Plumbing corrosion; erosion; preservative leaching
Fluoride	NO	ND	0.82	ppm	4	4	Erosion; water additive; factory discharge
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	NO	1.0	1.1	ppm	10	10	Fertilizer runoff; septic & sewage leach; erosion
2,4-D	NO	0.34	0.38	ppb	70	70	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
Pentachlorophenol	NO	ND-0.062	ND-0.047	ppb	0	1	Discharge from wood preserving factories
Picloram	NO	ND-0.17	ND-0.18	ppb	500	500	Herbicide runoff
TTHM -Total trihalomethanes	NO	Highest LRAA 39.0 (21.0-52.0)		ppb	0	80.0	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 -Total haloacetic acids	NO	Highest LRAA 36.0 (24.0-42.0)		ppb	0	60.0	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Unregulated Contaminants							
Chloroform	NO	7.70	18.0	ppb	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring; industrial discharge: runoff
Bromodichloromethane	NO	2.30	4.20	ppb	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring; industrial discharge: runoff
Secondary Contaminants							
Aluminum	NO	0.031	0.034	ppm	n/a	0.2	Erosion: treatment with water additives
Chloride	NO	13.5	13.6	ppm	n/a	250	Naturally occurring; industrial discharge: runoff
Hardness	NO	39.5	40.3	ppm	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring; treatment with water additives
Manganese	NO	ND	0.006	ppm	n/a	0.05	Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from pipes
pH	NO	7.0	6.9	S.U.	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring; treatment with water additives
Sodium	NO	9.4	10.1	ppm	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring
Sulfate	NO	9.5	9.4	ppm	n/a	250	Naturally occurring; industrial discharge: runoff
Total Dissolved Solids	NO	77.0	76.0	ppm	n/a	500	Naturally occurring; industrial discharge: runoff

*Figure shown is 90th percentile and number of sample sites above the Action Level (AL) = 0

UCMR5 Contaminants

The Fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5) requires monitoring by certain water systems for 30 unregulated contaminants during 2022 - 2026 on assigned schedules. UCMR 5 specifies monitoring for 29 PFAS contaminants and one metal (lithium). The table below contains the detected results of our monitoring during 2024. For more information, including the full list of UCMR5 contaminants we monitored, see www.epa.gov/dwucmr.

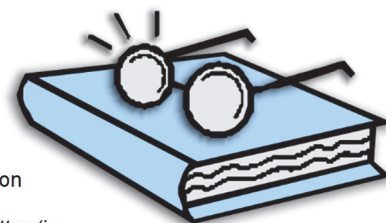
ALBERTVILLE: Detected UCMR5 Contaminants (in ppb)			
Contaminants	Range of Detection	Contaminants	Range of Detection
Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid (PFBS)	0.0017 - 0.0029	Perfluoroheptanoic acid (PFHpA)	0.0010 - 0.0030
Perfluorohexanoic acid (PFHxA)	0.0026 - 0.0058	Perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA)	0.0013 - 0.0018
Perfluorobutanoic acid (PFBA)	0.0038 - 0.0096	Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS)	0.0020 - 0.0048
Perfluoropentanoic Acid (PFPeA)	0.0026 - 0.0053	Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)	0.0025 - 0.0073

PFAS Contaminants

Separate from the UCMR5 monitoring (above), we monitored for a list of PFAS contaminants during 2024 as required. The results of that monitoring are listed in the table below. For more information on PFAS contaminants, please refer to www.epa.gov/pfas.

ALBERTVILLE: PFAS Contaminants (in ppb)					
Contaminant	Detected	Contaminant	Detected	Contaminant	Detected
11-chloroicosafauro-3-oxaundecane-1-sulfonic acid	ND	Perfluorodecanoic acid	ND	Perfluorooctanoic acid	ND-0.011
9-chlorohexadecafluoro-3-oxanone-1-sulfonic acid	ND	Perfluorohexanoic acid	0.0018-0.0055	Perfluorotetradecanoic acid	ND
4,8-dioxa-3H-perfluorononanoic acid	ND	Perfluorododecanoic acid	ND	Perfluorotridecanoic acid	ND
Hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acidA	ND	Perfluoroheptanoic acid	ND-0.0061	Perfluoroundecanoic acid	ND
N-ethylperfluorooctanesulfonamidoacetic acid	ND	Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid	ND	Total PFAS	0.0047-0.033
N-methylperfluorooctanesulfonamidoacetic acid	ND	Perfluorononanoic acid	ND-0.0034		
Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid	ND	Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid	ND-0.0082		

Plain Language Definitions



Action Level: the concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements.

Coliform Absent (ca): laboratory analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present.

Detected contaminant: any regulated or unregulated contaminant detected at or above its method detection limit (or reportable limit)

Disinfection byproducts (DBPs): formed when disinfectants react with bromide and/or natural organic matter (i.e., decaying vegetation) present in the source water.

Hazard Index (HI): used to determine health concerns associated with mixtures of certain PFAS in finished drinking water. An HI greater than 1 requires a system to take action.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Micrograms per liter (ug/L): equivalent to parts per billion (ppb) since one liter of water is equal in weight to one billion micrograms.

Microsiemens per centimeter (us/cm): unit of measurement for Specific Conductance.

Milligrams per liter (mg/L): equivalent to parts per million

Millirems per year (mrem/yr): a measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU): a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

90th Percentile: The values reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of the lead and copper values detected at your water system.

Not Detected (ND): laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present above detection limits of lab equipment.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (ug/l): corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l): corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per quadrillion (ppq) or Picograms per liter (picograms/l): corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000,000.

Parts per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (nanograms/l): corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L): a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Regulated Contaminants: contaminants for which the EPA has established drinking water standards.

Running Annual Average (RAA): running average of results during a specific sampling period, often a year.

Standard Units (S.U.): pH measures the water's balances of acids and bases. Water < 6.5 could be acidic, soft, and corrosive. A pH > 8.5 could indicate that the water is hard.

Treatment Technique (TT): a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Unregulated Contaminants: contaminants for which the EPA has not established drinking water standards.

Variations & Exemptions (V&E): State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

Below is a table of contaminants for which we monitor as required on a schedule set by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Alabama Department of Environmental Management.

STANDARD LIST OF PRIMARY DRINKING WATER CONTAMINANTS							
Contaminant	MCL	Unit of Msmt	Detections	Contaminant	MCL	Unit of Msmt	Detections
Bacteriological Contaminants				1,1-Dichloroethylene	7	ppb	ND
Total Coliform Bacteria	<5%	Present or absent	ND	cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene	70	ppb	ND
Fecal Coliform and E. coli	0	Present or absent	ND	trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene	100	ppb	ND
Turbidity	TT	NTU	0.13	Dichloromethane	5	ppb	ND
Cryptosporidium	TT	Calc.organisms/l	ND	1,2-Dichloropropane	5	ppb	ND
Radiological Contaminants				Di (2-ethylhexyl)adipate	400	ppb	ND
Beta/phon emitters	4	mrem/yr	ND	Di (2-ethylhexyl)phthalate	6	ppb	ND
Alpha emitters	15	pCi/l	ND	Dinoseb	7	ppb	ND
Combined radium	5	pCi/l	ND	Dioxin [2,3,7,8-TCDD]	30	ppq	ND
Uranium	30	pCi/l	ND	Diquat	20	ppb	ND
Inorganic Chemicals				Endothall	100	ppb	ND
Antimony	6	ppb	ND	Endrin	2	ppb	ND
Arsenic	10	ppb	ND	Epichlorohydrin	TT	TT	ND
Asbestos	7	MFL	ND	Ethylbenzene	700	ppb	ND
Barium	2	ppm	0.041	Ethylene dibromide	50	ppt	ND
Beryllium	4	ppb	ND	Glyphosate	700	ppb	ND
Cadmium	5	ppb	ND	Heptachlor	400	ppt	ND
Chromium	100	ppb	ND	Heptachlor epoxide	200	ppt	ND
Copper	AL=1.3	ppm	0.100	Hexachlorobenzene	1	ppb	ND
Cyanide	200	ppb	ND	Hexachlorocyclopentadiene	50	ppb	ND
Fluoride	4	ppm	0.82	Lindane	200	ppt	ND
Lead	AL=15	ppb	ND	Methoxychlor	40	ppb	ND
Mercury	2	ppb	ND	Oxamyl [Vydate]	200	ppb	ND
Nitrate	10	ppm	1.1	Polychlorinated biphenyls	0.5	ppb	ND
Nitrite	1	ppm	ND	Pentachlorophenol	1	ppb	0.062
Selenium	.05	ppm	ND	Picloram	500	ppb	0.18
Thallium	.002	ppm	ND	Simazine	4	ppb	ND
Organic Contaminants				Styrene	100	ppb	ND
2,4-D	70	ppb	ND	Tetrachloroethylene	5	ppb	ND
Acrylamide	TT	TT	ND	Toluene	1	ppm	ND
Alachlor	2	ppb	ND	Toxaphene	3	ppb	ND
Benzene	5	ppb	ND	2,4,5-TP(Silvex)	50	ppb	ND
Benzo(a)pyrene [PAHs]	200	ppt	ND	1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene	.07	ppm	ND
Carbofuran	40	ppb	ND	1,1,1-Trichloroethane	200	ppb	ND
Carbon tetrachloride	5	ppb	ND	1,1,2-Trichloroethane	5	ppb	ND
Chlordane	2	ppb	ND	Trichloroethylene	5	ppb	ND
Chlorobenzene	100	ppb	ND	Vinyl Chloride	2	ppb	ND
Dalapon	200	ppb	ND	Xylenes	10	ppm	ND
Dibromochloropropane	200	ppt	ND	Disinfectants & Disinfection Byproducts			
1,2-Dichlorobenzene	1000	ppb	ND	Chlorine	4	ppm	1.3-2.6
1,4-Dichlorobenzene (para)	75	ppb	ND	Chlorite	1	ppm	ND
o-Dichlorobenzene	600	ppb	ND	TTHM [Total trihalomethanes]	80	ppb	39.0
1,2-Dichloroethane	5	ppb	ND	HAA5 [Total haloacetic acids]	60	ppb	36.0
LIST OF SECONDARY CONTAMINANTS							
Alkalinity, Total (as CA, CO ₃)	Copper			Manganese			Specific Conductance
Aluminum	Corrosivity			Odor			Sulfate
Calcium, as Ca	Foaming agents (MBAS)			Nickel			Total Dissolved Solids
Carbon Dioxide	Hardness			pH			Zinc
Chloride	Iron			Silver			
Color	Magnesium			Sodium			
LIST OF UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS							
Aldicarb	Chloroethane			Hexachlorobutadiene			Propachlor
Aldicarb Sulfone	Chloroform			3-Hydroxycarbofuran			N-Propylbenzene
Aldicarb Sulfoxide	Chloromethane			Isopropylbenzene			Propachlor
Aldrin	O-Chlorotoluene			p-Isopropyltoluene			1,1,1,2-Tetrachloroethane
Bromoacetic Acid	P-Chlorotoluene			M-Dichlorobenzene			1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane
Bromobenzene	Dibromochloromethane			Methomyl			Tetrachloroethene
Bromochloromethane	Dibromomethane			Methomyl			Trichloroacetic Acid
Bromodichloromethane	1,1-Dichloroethane			Methylene chloride			1,2,3-Trichlorobenzene
Bromoform	1,3-Dichloropropane			Methyl tert-butyl ether			Trichloroethene
Bromomethane	2,2-Dichloropropane			Metolachlor			Trichlorofluoromethane
Butachlor	1,1-Dichloropropene			Metribuzin			1,2,3-Trichloropropane
N-Butylbenzene	1,3-Dichloropropene			MTBE			1,2,4-Trimethylbenzene
Sec-Butylbenzene	Dicamba			Naphthalene			1,3,5-Trimethylbenzene
Tert - Butylbenzene	Dichlorodifluoromethane			1-Naphthol			
Carbaryl	Dieldrin			Paraquat			