

## Community Participation

The Guntersville Water Board's business office is located at 329 Gunter Avenue in the City Municipal Building. Our business hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday. We have monthly Board of Directors meetings that are open to the public the first Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. in the City Municipal Building. Our telephone numbers are: Office (256) 582-5931, Nights-Weekends-Holidays (256) 506-9000, Fax (256) 582-6923.



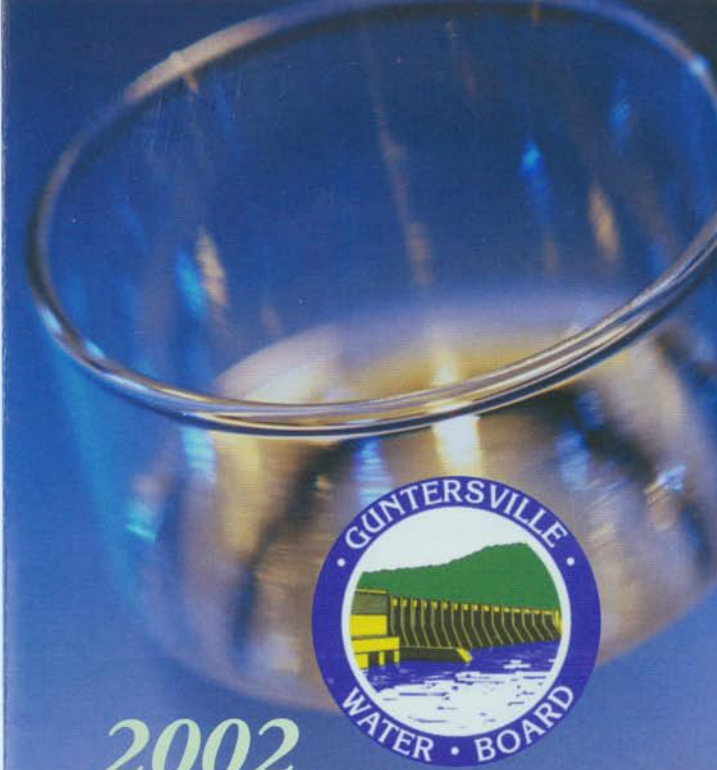
## Special Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. U.S.EPA and CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Guntersville Water Board  
329 Gunter Ave.  
Guntersville, AL 35976



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# 2002 ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

## OUR STAFF

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Brian Norrell	
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PWS ID#: AL0000943

## Continuing Our Commitment

Once again we proudly present our annual water quality report. This edition covers all testing completed from January through December 2002. We are pleased to tell you that our compliance with all state and federal drinking water laws remains exemplary. As in the past, we are committed to delivering the best quality drinking water. To that end, we remain vigilant in meeting the challenges of source water protection, water conservation, and community education while continuing to serve the needs of all of our water users.

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Jack Swann, General Manager, at (256) 582-5931.



## Where Does My Water Come From?

Guntersville relies on surface water drawn from the Tennessee River Brown's Creek embayment on Lake Guntersville at its Sunset Treatment Plant, and a groundwater well for our water supply. Drinking water is also purchased from MUB-Albertville through a surface plant drawing water from Short Creek on Lake Guntersville, which supplies customers on Sand Mountain. Guntersville Water supplies drinking water to the customers of Asbury Water Authority in the Asbury-Martling community.

## Earth Day Celebration

The Guntersville Water Board participated in the Earth Day activities held at the Civitan Park on April 22, 2002. Over 600 students and teachers attended this event.

Earth Day is held every year to observe the necessity for the conservation of the world's natural resources. The students were informed that clean potable water is essential for drinking, bathing, cooking, irrigation, industry, and for plant and animal survival. Through demonstrations, pamphlets, and lectures, we showed them how water is brought to their homes. The students were able to see how each of us plays an important role in conserving and protecting our water supply.



## What is a Source Water Protection Plan?

A source water protection plan (SWPP) is a plan delineating a protection area within our source water reservoir to identify any contaminants within the area that could affect the quality of our drinking water.

The Guntersville Water Board completed a source water assessment, required by the U.S. EPA, of its surface water source in February 2000.

The Engineering Firm of Perry, Pyron, McCown (PPM) conducted a contaminant inventory of the Guntersville source water protection area (SWPA). The Guntersville SWPA includes a 500-ft. buffer from the water's edge surrounding all of Brown's Creek upstream of the intake and downstream on the Tennessee River to 15 aggregate miles. Where known or suspected contaminants exist, within 1,500 ft. of the water's edge, the buffer is extended to include such areas.

PPM assisted the ADEM and the Guntersville Water Board in conducting a susceptibility analysis of the Guntersville SWPA in which known or potential contaminants were assigned a high, moderate, or low ranking for their susceptibility to contaminate the Sunset Water Plant intake located in Lake Guntersville. The analysis will allow the Guntersville Water Board to determine which sources of contaminants are the highest priority to control, monitor, evaluate, or possibly eradicate.

PPM identified 116 potential sources of contamination. Of the 116 sites, only 13 were assigned a ranking of moderate, and no site was assigned a high ranking. The Highway 69 bridge over Brown's Creek received a moderate ranking because of its close proximity to the Guntersville intake.

A susceptibility analysis for Well #1 was performed in August 2002. Thirty-five potential contaminant sites were identified, with one site receiving a moderate ranking and all other sites receiving a low ranking for contaminants. Kilpatrick Concrete received a ranking of moderate because of its close proximity to the Guntersville Well #1 site.

Maps with site listings and rankings are available in the Guntersville Water Board office at 329 Gunter Avenue.

## What's in My Water?

We are pleased to report that during the past year, the water delivered to your home or business complied with, or did better than, all state and federal drinking water requirements. For your information, we have compiled a list in the tables below showing what substances were detected in our drinking water during 2002. Although all of the substances listed are under the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) set by the U.S. EPA, we feel it is important that you know exactly what was detected and how much of the substance was present in the water. The state requires us to monitor for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

### REGULATED SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNITS)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL	Amount Detected		Typical Source
			Low-High	High	
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	2002	15	0	1.2	ND
D(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (ppb)	2001	6	0	NA	No
Fluoride (ppm)	2002	4	4	0.51	1.16'
Halacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	2002	60	NA	21-122	43
Nitrate (ppm)	2002	10	10	0.13	NA
THMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	2002	100	0	30	21-69
Total Organic Carbon (Units)	2002	TT	NA	3.1	NA
Tetrahydroethylene (ppb)	2002	5	0	NA	0.57
Turbidity (NTU) <sup>1</sup>	2002	TT	NA	0.192	NA

**Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from homes throughout the service area (Lead was not detected at the 9th percentile)**

SUBSTANCE (UNITS)	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	MCLG	Amount Detected		No. of Homes Above AL	Violation	Typical Source
				Low-High	High			
Copper (ppm)	2001	1.3	1.3	0.034	0	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

### UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNITS)	YEAR SAMPLED	Sunset Water Plant		Well #1		Typical Source
		Amount Detected	Range	Amount Detected	Range	
Chloroform (ppb)	2002	NA	NA	1.53	NA	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Sulfate (ppm)	2002	22.1	NA	1.43'	NA	Naturally occurring

### SECONDARY & PHYSICAL CONTAMINANTS TABLE

SUBSTANCE	Average		SUBSTANCE	Average	
	Groundwater	Surface Water		Groundwater	Surface Water
Aluminum	ND	ND	Total Alkalinity	85	39
Calcium	30.2	21.9	Chloride	8.12	10.1
Magnesium	4.57	4.19	Sulfate	1.43	2.21
Manganese	0.09	ND	Total Dissolved Solids	124	99
Nickel	ND	ND	pH	6.6	6.8
Silver	ND	ND	Odor	ND	ND
Zinc	ND	ND	Iron	ND	ND
Hardness	94.2	71.8	Sodium	3.14	5.13
Color	ND	ND	Potassium	ND	ND
Copper	0.34	ND	Carbon Dioxide	35.2	11.4

### TVA HERBICIDE TESTING RESULTS<sup>2</sup>

CONTAMINANT	Year Sampled	Results
2,4-D	2002	ND
Copper	2002	0.007
Diquat	2002	ND

### Substances Expected to be in Drinking Water

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA prescribes regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

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 can acquire naturally occurring minerals, in some cases, radioactive material, and substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Substances 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, or wildlife;

**Inorganic Contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or may result from urban stormwater runoff, 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, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses;

**Organic Chemical Contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and may also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems;

**Radioactive Contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring or may be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

### Table Definitions

**AL (Action Level):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

**MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level):** The 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.

**MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal):** 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.

**NA:** Not applicable

**NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units):** Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of water.

**pCi/L (picocuries per liter):** A measure of radioactivity.

**ppb (parts per billion):** One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

**ppm (parts per million):** One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

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



### Non-detected Contaminants

These contaminants were tested for and not detected in our water supply: Glyphosate, Atrazine, Chlorfenvinphos, DBCP, 2,4-D, Endrin, EDB/Ethylene Dibromide, Heptachlor, Heptachlor Epoxide, Lindane, Methoxychlor, PCB, 1016, PCB 1221, PCB 1232, PCB 1242, PCB 1248, PCB 1254, PCB 1260, Pentachlorophenol, Toxaphene, 2,4,5-TP/Slitox, Benzo(a)pyrene, Daldapon, Di(2-ethylhexyl)adipate, Di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate, Dinoseb, Diquat, Endothal, Hexachlorobenzene, Hexachlorocyclopentadiene, Pictorlan, Simazine, Aldicarb, Aldicarb Sulfone, Aldicarb Sulfoxide, Carbofuran, Oxamyl, Carbaryl, 3-Hydroxy-carbofuran, Methomyl, Aldrin, Butachlor, Dicamba, Dieldrin, Metolachlor, Metribuzin, Propachlor, 1,1,1-Trichloroethane, 1,1,2-Trichloroethane, 1,1-Dichloroethylene, 1,2,4-Trichloroethane, 1,2-Dichloroethane, 1,2-Dichloropropane, Benzene, Carbon Tetrachloride, Cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene, Ethylenebenzene, Methylene Chloride (Dichloromethane), Monochlorobenzene, O-Dichlorobenzene, P-Dichlorobenzene, Styrene, TCE/Trichloroethylene, Toluene, Trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene, Vinyl Chloride, Xylenes, 1,1-Dichloroethane, 1,1,1,2-Tetrachloroethane, 1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane, 1,1-Dichloroethane, 1,2,3-Trichlorobenzene, 1,2,3-Trichloropropane, 1,2,4-Trimethylbenzene, 1,3-Dichloropropane, 1,3-Dichloroethane, 1,3,5-Trimethylbenzene, 2,2-Dichloropropane, Bromobenzene, Bromochloromethane, Bromodichloromethane, Bromoform, Bromomethane, Chloroethane, Chloromethane, Dibromochloromethane, Dibromomethane, Dichlorodifluoromethane, Hexachlorobutadiene, Isopropylbenzene, M-Dichlorobenzene, Methyl-Tertiary Butyl Ether (MTBE), N-Butylbenzene, Naphthalene, N-Propylbenzene, O-Chlorotoluene, P-Chlorotoluene, P-Isopropyltoluene, Sec-Butylbenzene, Tert-Butylbenzene, Trichlorofluoromethane, 2,4-Dinitrotoluene, 2,6-Dinitrotoluene, Acetochlor, DCPA di-acid degradate, DCPA mono-acid degradate, 4,4'-DDE, EPTC, (s-ethyl-diisopropylthio-carbamate), Molinate, MTBE/methyl tertiary-butyl ether), Nitrobenzene, Perchlorate, Terbacol.

