

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.

Continuing Our Commitment

Guntersville Water Board is proud to present to you our Annual Water Quality Report for drinking water monitoring completed from January through December 2004. We are pleased to tell you that our compliance with all state and federal drinking water laws remains exemplary. As always, we are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

Source Water Assessment

In compliance with the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM), Guntersville Water Board has completed a Source Water Assessment plan that will assist in protecting our water sources. This plan provides additional information such as potential contaminants as high, moderate, or non-susceptible to contamination the water source.

Public notification has been completed and the plan has been approved by ADEM. 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.

Guntersville Water Board
329 Gunter Ave.
Guntersville, AL 35976

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OUR STAFF

Board of Directors Jerry A. Nabors Frank J. Richter, Jr. L. Dwain Elder	Water Treatment John Banks Rickey Chamblee James Conn Mike Esslinger Scott Martin Coy Starnes
Office Nancy McCoy Debbie Sutton Betty Ratchford Jack Swann Anita Brown	Wastewater Mark Bevill Dave Hall Mark Helton Jim Murphee Mike Spurgeon
Meter Readers James Kenamer Allen Walker	
Maintenance Bill Carr Jeff Davis Josh Hill Brian Norrell Mitchell Redington	



2004 ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Help Us Protect Our Water Supply
Lake Guntersville is one of Marshall County's most valuable resources. Each of us can play a role in protecting and preserving the quality and quantity of this precious resource. If you live along the lake, you especially have a responsibility to use your land in such a manner that protects our water supply. Carefully follow instructions on pesticides and herbicides you use for your lawn and garden, and properly dispose of household chemicals, paints and waste oil.

The Guntersville Water Board of Directors meets on the first Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at the City Municipal Building. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. For more information regarding this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Mr. Jack Swann, General Manager, at 256-582-5931.

Number of Customers:	Approximately 4100
Storage Capacity:	7 tanks (3,255,000 gals) 120 miles of water mains
Board of Directors:	Jerry A. Nabors Frank J. Richter, Jr. L. Dwain Elder
Treatment Techniques:	Chlorination, flocculation, fluoridation, filtration, and corrosion control

Water Notes
Guntersville relies on surface water from the Tennessee River Browns Creek embayment on Lake Guntersville at Sunset Treatment Plant and one groundwater well for our drinking water supply. We also purchase water from MUB-Albertville (surface water from Short Creek) to supply to our customers on Sand Mountain. Guntersville Water Board supplies drinking water to the customers of Asbury Water Authority in the Asbury-Martling community.



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.

Your water supply comes from one source Short Creek. It originates approximately 2 miles south-east of Hwy 227 near Lake Guntersville State Park, and travels to the Tennessee River. Water is pumped from this location to The Albertville Water Treatment Plant for purification and distribution.



WATER TREATMENT PROCESS

Water Conservation Tips
Water conservation measures not only save the supply of our water source, but can also cut the cost of water treatment by saving energy. Here are some conservation measures you can take:
At Home:
Fix leaking faucets, pipes, toilets, etc. Install water-saving devices in faucets, toilets and appliances.
Wash only full loads of laundry.
Don't use the toilet for trash disposal. Don't let the water run while shaving, washing, or brushing teeth.
Run the dishwasher only when full.
Outdoors:
Water the lawn and garden as little as possible.
Choose plants that don't need much water.
Repair leaks in faucets and hoses.
Use water from a bucket to wash your car, and save the hose for rinsing.
Obey any and all water bans or regulations.
"Water Fact": You can fill an 8 oz. Glass of water approximately 15,000 times for the same cost of a soft drink six pack.

The Municipal Utilities Board of Albertville routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This report contains results from the most recent monitoring which was performed in accordance with the regulatory schedule.

Definitions

In this report you may find many terms and abbreviations with which you might not be familiar. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Non-Detects (ND) - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

Not Required (NR) - laboratory analysis not required due to waiver granted by the Environmental Protection Agency for the State of Alabama.

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

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

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

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

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

Millirems per year (mrem/yr) - 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.

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

Action Level - the concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Treatment Technique (TT) - (mandatory language) A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level - (mandatory language) The Maximum Allowed (MCL) is 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.

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

Coliform Absent (ca) -

Laboratory analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present.



TABLE OF DETECTED DRINKING WATER CONTAMINANTS

Contaminants	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Turbidity	Not Required	0.09* 100%**	NTU	N/A	TT	Soil Runoff
Total Organic Carbon	No	2.6***	ppm			Soil Runoff
Copper	No	0.176*** 0 Above Action Level	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservative
Fluoride	No	0.97 Range ND- 0.97	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	No	2.14 Range 0.29-3.14	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
TTHM [Total trihalomethanes]	No	Avg. 42.5 Range 10.5-96.4	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 {Total haloacetic acids}	No	37.1 Range 15.7-139	ppb	0	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Unregulated Contaminants

Chloroform	No	Avg.38.2 Range 9.67-66.8	ppb	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of industrial discharge or agricultural run-off
Bromodichloromethane	No	Avg. 6.81 3.76-9.85	ppb	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of industrial discharge or agricultural run-off
Bromoform	No	Avg. 0.94 Range 0.65-1.23	ppb	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of industrial discharge or agricultural run-off

Secondary Contaminants

Aluminum	No	Avg. 0.03 Range ND-0.05	ppm	N/A	0.2	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of industrial discharge or agricultural run-off
Chloride	No	Avg. 10.8 Range 9.94-11.7	ppm	N/A	250	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of industrial discharge or agricultural run-off
Iron	No	Avg. 0.04 Range ND-0.07	ppm	N/A	0.03	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of industrial discharge or agricultural run-off
Sulfate	No	Avg. 20.6 Range 19.2-21.9	ppm	N/A	250	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of industrial discharge or agricultural run-off
Total Dissolved Solids	No	Avg. 124 Range 112-136	ppm	N/A	500	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of industrial discharge or agricultural run-off

*Highest single measurement

**Percentage of samples <0.5NTU

***Highest monthly measurement, range 1.5-2.6

****90th percentile=0.167 ppb and # of sites above action level (1.3 ppm)=0

As you can see by the above table, our system had no violations. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels. We are pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets federal and state requirements. This report shows our water quality and what it means.

Water Quality Information

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. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk.

MCLs, defined in a table on page three, 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 waste water 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.

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. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). 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).

CONSTITUENT MONITORED

DATE MONITORED

Inorganic Contaminants

2004

Lead/Copper

2004

Microbiological Contaminants

2004

Nitrates

2004

Radioactive Contaminants

2003

Synthetic Organic Contaminants
(including pesticides and herbicides)

2002

Volatile Organic Contaminants

2004

Disinfection By-products

2004