

East Alabama Water, Sewer and Fire Protection District



2011 WATER QUALITY REPORT

East Alabama Water, Sewer and Fire Protection District

2011 Annual Water-Quality Report

We are pleased to present a summary of the quality of the water provided to you during the past year. The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) requires that utilities issue an annual "Consumer Confidence" report to customers in addition to other notices that may be required by law. This report details where our water comes from, what it contains, and the risks our water testing and treatment are designed to prevent. East Alabama Water, Sewer and Fire Protection District is committed to providing you with the safest and most reliable water supply. Informed consumers are our best allies in maintaining safe drinking water.

East Alabama Water, Sewer and Fire Protection District's drinking water meets or surpasses all federal and state drinking-water standards.

Call us for information about the next opportunity for public participation in decisions about our drinking water. The Board of Directors meets every month on the third Thursday of the month at 5:30 PM EST at the District's offices at 150 Fob James Drive Valley, Alabama. The current Board of Directors consists of the following persons: Mr. Terrell Bishop, Mr. Marshall Lane, Mr. Jerry Cook, Mrs. Yvonne Stanford, Mr. Chuck Goodwin, Mr. Kim Williams and Mr. Jerry Thrower. For further information concerning this water quality report or any District business, feel free to call the District Manager, Tony Segrest, at (334) 756-7150. You can find us on line [@www.eawsfd.com](http://www.eawsfd.com).

Water Source:

East Alabama Water, Sewer and Fire Protection District receives its drinking water from the Chattahoochee Valley Water Supply District, which draws the water from the Chattahoochee River in Lanett, Alabama. The treatment plant is a surface water treatment plant, which uses oxidation, chemical coagulation, chlorination, fluoridation, pH adjustment and filtration to produce potable water for this area, and is located in Lanett, Alabama.

Source Water Assessment:

A Source Water Assessment was completed in 2010 by Goodwyn, Mills and Cawood, Inc. in conjunction with the Alabama Department of Environmental Management and the District. The assessment found 60 potential sources of contamination; these sites were studied and rated by the three entities listed above with six (6) of the sites determined to have moderated risk and 54 were determined to have a low risk of contamination to the District's water source. A complete copy of the District's Source Water Assessment can be reviewed at the District's offices in Valley, Alabama or for a nominal copying fee; a copy can be obtained at the same location.

An Explanation of the Water-Quality Data Table:

The table shows the results of our water-quality analyses. Every regulated contaminant that we detected in the water, even in the minutest traces, is listed here. The table contains the name of each substance, the highest level allowed by regulation (MCL), the ideal goals for public health (MCLG), the amount detected, the usual sources of such contamination, footnotes explaining our findings, and a key to units of measurement.

Important Definitions:

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water; MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's 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. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

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.

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

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

(ND) None Detected

Pci/l: Picocuries per Liter (A measure of radiation)

ppm: Parts per Million, or Milligrams Per Liter; corresponds to one minute in 2 years or one penny in \$10,000.

ppb: Parts per Billion, or Micrograms Per Liter; corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years or one penny in \$10,000,000.

Table of Detected Contaminants

| CONTAMINANT | MCLG | MCL | Range | Amount Detected | Likely Source of Contamination |
|---|------|---------|------------------------------------|-----------------|--|
| Bacteriological | | | | | |
| Sampling Period- 01/01/2011 to 12/31/2011 | | | | | |
| Total Coliform Bacteria | 0 | < 5% | 0 - 0 | 0 | Present or Absent Naturally present in the environment |
| Turbidity | 0 | TT | 100% < 0.30 | 0.18 | NTU Soil runoff |
| Radiological | | | | | |
| Alpha emitters (Sampling Period - 01/16/2004) | 0 | 15 | 0 - -0.74 | 0.74 | PCI/L Erosion of natural deposits |
| Radium 228 (Sampling Period - 04/11/2003) | 0 | 5 | 0 - 0.12 | 0.12 | PCI/L Erosion of natural deposits |
| Inorganic Chemicals | | | | | |
| Copper (Sampling Period – September, 2010) | 1.3 | AL=1.3 | No. of Sites above action level=0 | 0.235 | ppm Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives |
| Fluoride (Sampling Period- 01/01/2011 to 12/31/2011) | 4 | 4 | 0.86 - 1.12 | .99 | ppm Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories |
| Barium 06/04/2011 | 2 | 2 | ND - 0.012 | 0.012 | ppb Discharge of drilling waste; discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits |
| Lead (Sampling Period- September, 2010) | 0 | AL=.015 | No. of Sites above action level =0 | 0.0022 | ppm Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits |
| Nitrate (Sampling Period 06/04/2011) | 10 | 10 | ND 0.798 | 0.798 | ppm Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits |
| Organic Chemicals | | | | | |
| Sampling Period- 01/01/2011 to 12/31/2011 | | | | | |
| TTHM (Total Trihalomethanes) | 0 | 80 | 18.2 - 90.5 | 43.15 | ppb By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| HAA5 (Haloacetic Acids) | 0 | 60 | 2.3 - 58.5 | 30.26 | ppb By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| Chlorine (as CL2) Sampling period- 01/01/2011—12/31/2011 | 4 | 4 | 1.5 - 2.40 | 2.40 | ppm Water additive used to control microbes |
| Total Organic Carbon (% of Removal) | NA | TT | 27% - 39% | 32.5% | Removal Naturally present in the environment |

LEAD AND COPPER ARE SCHEDULED TO BE SAMPLED AGAIN IN 2013

Waivers:

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 is not required.

| UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS TABLE (ppb) | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|-------|---|------|
| CONTAMINANT | AVERAGE | RANGE | | |
| Chloroform | 27.40 | 10.1 | - | 60.7 |
| Bromodichloromethane | 12.00 | 6.24 | - | 22.9 |
| Dibromochloromethane | 3.76 | 1.86 | - | 6.95 |

There were no violations of State or Federal drinking water standards in 2011!

Water-Quality Table Footnotes:

- ◆ Although we ran many tests, only the listed regulated substances were found. They are all below the MCL required.
- ◆ Turbidity and coliform bacteria tests are done as an indicator of microbiological contamination.
- ◆ During 2011 all turbidity tests were below 0.3 NTU and all coliform bacteria tests were negative.

Required Additional Health Information:

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes limits on the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA 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 reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It is important to remember that the presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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:

- (A) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- (B) Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- (C) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- (D) Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organics, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can, also, come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff and septic systems.
- (E) 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 (Environmental Protection Agency) /CDC (Center of Disease Control) 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).

Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. Lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community because of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

National Primary Drinking Water Regulation Compliance:

We comply with all Federal and State Drinking Water Regulations.

Additional Information for Lead:

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. East Alabama Water Sewer and Fire Protection District is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of material used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to two (2) minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your drinking 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 the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Cryptosporidium Monitoring:

Cryptosporidium is a microbial pathogen found in surface water throughout the United States. Although filtration removes cryptosporidium, the most commonly used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100% removal. The monitoring at the Chattahoochee Valley Water Plant indicates the presence of these organisms in our source water and/or finished water, and current test methods do not allow us to determine if the organisms are dead, or if they are capable of causing disease.

The Chattahoochee Valley Water Supply District was required by EPA and State agencies to test for Cryptosporidium and E. coli. The test required the District to collect one sample per month for twenty four (24) consecutive months. The results classify which treatment technique would be used to remove the contaminants. The testing was performed by the Montgomery Environmental Lab, with a result of 0.017 oocysts/L, which did not result in a change of treatment technique.

Other Monitoring:

In addition to testing that is required to be performed, the Chattahoochee Valley Water Supply District voluntarily tests for hundreds of additional substances and microscopic organisms to make certain our water is safe and of high quality. If you are interested in a more detailed report or for more information, call East Alabama Water, Sewer and Fire Protection District at (334) 756-7150 or write us at P.O. Box 37, Valley, AL 36854.