

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report January—December 2025

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Last year, as in years past, your tap water met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) drinking water health standards. Your Local Water officials vigilantly safeguard its water supplies and once again we are proud to report that our system has not violated a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standards.

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Should you have any questions concerning your water utility, please contact Eric Barefield at (334) 774-3331.

Dale County Water Authority utilizes groundwater drawn from 5 wells which draw water from the Clayton and Providence Sands Aquifers. Well #1 is located in the Bertha Community, Well #2 is located in the Echo Community, Well #3 is located in the Dillard Community, and Well #4 is located in the Mt. Hebron Community. Well #5 is located in the Skipperville community. The groundwater supplied to our customers requires no specialized treatment, however, chlorine is added to the water as disinfectant and the required residual is maintained to protect your drinking water from any possible outside contaminants within the distribution system.

Important Drinking Water Definitions:

Disinfection Byproducts – contaminants formed when chlorine is used as a disinfectant.

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

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 one 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) - nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

Variances & Exemptions - ADEM or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or 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 Contaminant Level or MCL - 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 Residual Disinfectant Level Goal or 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 or MRDL - The 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.

Variances and Exemptions - The Department or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions

Treatment Technique - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Action Level - The concentration of a contaminant that triggers treatment or other requirement a water system shall follow.

Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.

Dale County Water Authority routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2025 All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the 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).

Dale County Water Authority utilizes a Bacteriological Monitoring Plan, and a Cross Connection Policy is in place to insure good safe drinking water for our customers. Dale County Water Authority has completed a Source Water Assessment Plan and a Well Head Protection Plan which is available for review at our office. These plans provide information about potential sources of contamination and is set up to help protect our water source.

Any Questions?

Please attend our regularly scheduled meetings!

Every 4th Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at the Dale County Water Authority Office located at 283 Campus Drive in Ozark.

Hope to See You There!

Table of Primary Contaminants

At high levels some primary contaminants are known to pose a health risks to humans. This table provides a quick glance of any primary contaminant detections.

CONTAMINANT	MCL	AMOUNT DETECTED	CONTAMINANT	MCL	AMOUNT DETECTED	CONTAMINANT	MCL	AMOUNT DETECTED
Bacteriological			Selenium(ppb)	50	ND	Epichlorohydrin	TT	ND
Total Coliform Bacteria	< 5%	ND	Thallium(ppb)	2	ND	Ethylbenzene(ppb)	700	ND
Turbidity	TT	ND	Organic Chemicals			Ethylene dibromide(ppt)	50	ND
Fecal Coliform & E. coli	0	ND	Acrylamide	TT	ND	Glyphosate(ppb)	700	ND
Radiological			Alachlor(ppb)	2	ND	Haloacetic Acids(ppb)	60	ND
Beta/photon emitters (mrem/yr)	4	ND	Atrazine(ppb)	3	ND	Heptachlor(ppt)	400	ND
Alpha emitters (pci/l)	15	ND	Benzene(ppb)	5	ND	Heptachlor epoxide(ppt)	200	ND
Combined radium (pci/l)	5	ND	Benzo(a)pyrene(PHAs)(ppt)	200	ND	Hexachlorobenzene(ppb)	1	ND
Uranium(pci/l)	30	ND	Carbofuran(ppb)	40	ND	Hexachlorocyclopentadiene(ppb)	50	ND
Inorganic			Carbon Tetrachloride(ppb)	5	ND	Lindane(ppt)	200	ND
Antimony (ppb)	6	ND	Chlordane(ppb)	2	ND	Methoxychlor(ppb)	40	ND
Arsenic (ppb)	10	ND	Chlorobenzene(ppb)	100	ND	Oxamyl [Vydete](ppb)	200	ND
Asbestos (MFL)	7	ND	2,4-D	70	ND	Pentachlorophenol(ppb)	1	ND
Barium (ppm)	2	0.023	Dalapon(ppb)	200	ND	Picloram(ppb)	500	ND
Beryllium (ppb)	4	ND	Dibromochloropropane(ppt)	200	ND	PCBs(ppt)	500	ND
Bromate(ppb)	10	ND	0-Dichlorobenzene(ppb)	600	ND	Simazine(ppb)	4	ND
Cadmium (ppb)	5	ND	p-Dichlorobenzene(ppb)	75	ND	Styrene(ppb)	100	ND
Chloramines(ppm)	4	ND	1,2-Dichloroethane(ppb)	5	ND	Tetrachloroethylene(ppb)	5	ND
Chlorine(ppm)	4	ND	1,1-Dichloroethylene(ppb)	7	ND	Toluene(ppm)	1	ND
Chlorine dioxide(ppb)	800	ND	Cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene(ppb)	70	ND	TOC	TT	ND
Chlorite (ppm)	1	ND	trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene(ppb)	100	ND	THM(ppb)	80	1.70
Chromium (ppb)	100	0.37	Dichloromethane(ppb)	5	ND	Toxaphene(ppb)	3	ND
Copper (ppm)	AL=1.3	ND	1,2-Dichloropropane(ppb)	5	ND	2,4,5-TP (Silvex)(ppb)	50	ND
Cyanide (ppb)	200	ND	Di-(2-ethylhexyl)adipate(ppb)	400	ND	1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene(ppb)	70	ND
Fluoride (ppm)	4	0.436	Di(2-ethylhexyl)phthlates(ppb)	6	ND	1,1,1-Trichloroethane(ppb)	200	ND
Lead (ppm)	AL=15	ND	Dinoseb(ppb)	7	ND	1,1,2-Trichloroethane(ppb)	5	ND
Mercury (ppb)	2	0.21	Dioxin[2,3,7,8-TCDD](ppq)	30	ND	Trichloroethylene(ppb)	5	ND
Nitrate (ppm)	10	0.026	Diquat(ppb)	20	ND	Vinyl Chloride(ppb)	2	3.95
Nitrite (ppm)	1	ND	Endothall(ppb)	100	ND	Xylenes(ppm)	10	1.46
Total Nitrate & Nitrite	10	0.026	Endrin(ppb)	2	ND			

Table of Secondary and Unregulated Contaminants

Secondary Drinking Water Standards are guidelines regulating contaminants that may cause cosmetic effects (such as skin or tooth discoloration) or aesthetic effects (such as taste, odor, or color) in drinking water. ADEM has Secondary Drinking Water Standards established in state regulations applicable to water systems required to monitor for the various components. **Unregulated contaminants** are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.

CONTAMINANT	MCL	DETECT	CONTAMINANT	MCL	DETECT	CONTAMINANT	MCL	DETECT
Secondary								
Aluminum	0.2	ND	Foaming Agents	0.5	ND	Silver	7	ND
Chloride	250	12.70	Iron	0.3	0.019	Sulfate	70	10.4
Color (PCU)	15	5.00	Magnesium	75	4.00	Total Dissolved Solids	500	199
Copper	1	ND	Odor (T.O.N.)	5	ND	Zinc	5	9.41
Special								
Calcium	N/A	22.35	pH (SU)	N/A	ND	Temperature (*C)	N/A	ND
Carbon Dioxide	N/A	ND	Sodium	N/A	ND	Total Alkalinity	N/A	148
Manganese	0.05	0.93	Specific Conductance (umhos)	N/A	357.00	Total Hardness (as CaCO3)	N/A	72.3
Unregulated								
1,1 - Dichloropropene	N/A	ND	Bromobenzene	N/A	ND	Hexachlorobutadiene	N/A	ND
1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane	N/A	ND	Bromochloromethane	N/A	ND	Isopropylbenzene	N/A	ND
1,1-Dichloroethane	N/A	ND	Bromodichloromethane	N/A	275.50000	M-Dichlorobenzene	N/A	ND
1,2,3 - Trichlorobenzene	N/A	ND	Bromoform	N/A	ND	Methomyl	N/A	ND
1,2,3 - Trichloropropane	N/A	ND	Bromomethane	N/A	ND	Metolachlor	N/A	ND
1,2,4 - Trimethylbenzene	N/A	ND	Butachlor	N/A	ND	Metribuzin	N/A	ND
1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene	N/A	ND	Carbaryl	N/A	ND	MTBE	N/A	ND
1,3 - Dichloropropane	N/A	ND	Chloroethane	N/A	ND	N - Butylbenzene	N/A	ND
1,3 - Dichloropropene	N/A	ND	Chlorodibromomethane	N/A	395.50000	Naphthalene	N/A	ND
1,3,5 - Trimethylbenzene	N/A	ND	Chloroform	N/A	1171.50000	N-Propylbenzene	N/A	ND
2,2 - Dichloropropane	N/A	ND	Chloromethane	N/A	ND	O-Chlorotoluene	N/A	ND
3-Hydroxycarbofuran	N/A	ND	Dibromochloromethane	N/A	ND	P-Chlorotoluene	N/A	ND
Aldicarb	N/A	ND	Dibromomethane	N/A	ND	P-Isopropyltoluene	N/A	ND
Aldicarb Sulfone	N/A	ND	Dichlorodifluoromethane	N/A	ND	Propachlor	N/A	ND
Aldicarb Sulfoxide	N/A	ND	Dieldrin	N/A	ND	Sec - Butylbenzene	N/A	ND
Aldrin	N/A	ND	Fluorotrichloromethan	N/A	ND	Tert - Butylbenzene	N/A	ND

The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. **Unless** otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or ADEM requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

Table of Detected Drinking Water Contaminants								
CONTAMINANT	MCLG	MCL	Range		Amount Detected			Likely Source of Contamination
Bacteriological Contaminants January - December								
Total Coliform Bacteria	0	< 5%				ND	Present or Absent	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity	0	TT				ND	NTU	Soil runoff
Fecal Coliform & E. coli	0	0				ND	Present or Absent	Human and animal fecal waste
Viruses, Giardia	0	TT				0	Present or Absent	Human and animal fecal waste
Legionella	0	TT				0	Present or Absent	Found naturally in water, multiplies in heating systems
Radiological Contaminants January - December								
Beta particle and photon	0	4				ND	mrem/yr	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Alpha emitters	0	15				ND	pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium 226 & 228	0	5				ND	pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium	0	30				ND	pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants January - December								
Barium	2	2	0.01	-	0.023	0.023	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium	100	100	0.29	-	0.37	0.37	ppb	Discharge from steel and pulp mills erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	4	4	0.06	-	0.436	0.436	ppm	Water additive which promotes strong teeth; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Mercury	2	2	0.07	-	0.21	0.21	ppb	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills; runoff from cropland
Nitrate (as N)	10	10	0.01	-	0.026	0.026	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Total Nitrate & Nitrite	10	10	ND	-	0.026	0.026	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Organic Contaminants January - December								
Total trihalomethanes (THM)	0	80	0.65	-	1.70	1.70	ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Vinyl Chloride	0	2	0.94	-	3.95	3.95	ppb	Leaching from PVC piping; discharge from plastics factories
Xylene (total)	10	10	ND	-	1.46	1.46	ppm	Discharge from petroleum factories; discharge from chemical factories
Secondary Contaminants January - December								
Chloride	N/A	250	4.89	-	12.70	12.70	ppm	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of agricultural runoff
Color	N/A	15	ND	-	5.00	5.00	PCU	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of treatment with water additives
Iron	N/A	0.3	0.02	-	0.019	0.019	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
Magnesium	N/A	0.05	3.20	-	4.00	4.00	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
Sulfate	N/A	250	7.78	-	10.40	10.40	ppm	Naturally occurring in the environment
Total Dissolved Solids	N/A	500	164.00	-	199.00	199.00	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
Zinc	N/A	5	1.15	-	9.41	9.41	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
Special Contaminants January - December								
Calcium	N/A	N/A	6.34	-	22.35	22.35	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
Manganese	N/A	N/A	0.25	-	0.93	0.93	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
Specific Conductance	N/A	<500	253.00	-	357.00	357.00	umhos	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of treatment with water additives
Total Alkalinity	N/A	N/A	41.00	-	148.00	148.00	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
Total Hardness (as CaCO3)	N/A	N/A	29.20	-	72.30	72.30	ppm	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of treatment with water additives

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MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated contaminants, 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.

Office Hours:
Monday - Friday
8:00am - 4:30pm

A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. These improvements are sometimes reflected as rate structure adjustments. Thank you for understanding. We at the Dale County

Water Authority work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

Mr. Richard (Eddy) Parker,
Chairman of the Board

Consumer Confidence Report Prepared By The Alabama Rural Water Association

General Information As you can see by the tables, our system had no monitoring violations of allowable limits of contaminants in drinking water. We're proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some contaminants have been detected. **Total Coliform:** The Total Coliform Rule requires water systems to meet a stricter limit for coliform bacteria. Coliform bacteria are usually harmless, but their presence in water can be an indication of disease-causing bacteria. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow-up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. If this limit is exceeded, the water supplier must notify the public by newspaper, television or radio. To comply with the stricter regulation, we have increased the average amount of chlorine in the distribution system. 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. Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. People who are immuno-compromised such as cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy, organ transplant recipients, HIV/AIDS positive 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. 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). 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. Dale County Water Authority is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials 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 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. 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 the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

**SHOULD YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS CONCERNING THIS MONITORING REQUIREMENTS, PLEASE CONTACT ERIC BARFIELD WITH DALE COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY
283 CAMPUS DRIVE, OZARK, AL. 36360 AT 334-774-3331.**