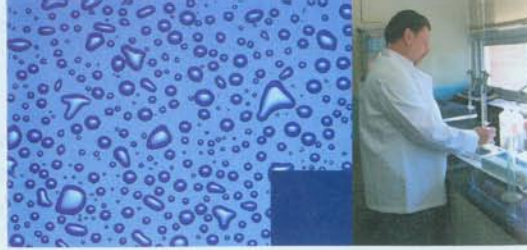


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Annual Water Quality Report Guntersville Water Board

What's The Quality Of Our Water?

Guntersville Water Board is pleased to share this water quality report with you. It describes to you, our customer, the quality of your drinking water. This report covers January through December 1999. Guntersville's drinking water surpassed the strict regulations of both the State of Alabama and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, which requires all water suppliers to provide reports like this every year to each customer.

Guntersville relies on surface water from Brown's Creek Embayment on Lake Guntersville and groundwater from a well located at 1511 Blount Avenue. Drinking water is also purchased from MUB - Albertville thru 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.

Where Can I Get More Information?

If you have any questions about the treatment or chemicals used by Guntersville Water Board, please contact our office or Sunset Water Treatment Plant. 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. Our telephone numbers are listed below.

Office: (256)-582-5931
Nights- Weekends- Holidays
(256)-506-9000 Fax: (256)-582-6923

Guntersville Board is a member of: American Water Works Association, Alabama Water and Pollution Control Association, Alabama Rural Water Association. (PWS ID # AL 0000943).

Our Staff

Board of Directors

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Dale Clayton

Maintenance

Bill Carr
Jeff Davis
Brian Norrell
Mitchell Redington
Allen Walker

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. This report will be coming to you annually, and we will be continually upgrading our system to



provide the highest quality water and the best service available.

What Else Should I Know About My Water?

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 water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Generally, sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, ponds, streams, natural springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or under the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations, which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

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 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 byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems; and

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

1999 Results of Monitoring for Contaminants in Drinking 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. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Contaminant	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Amount Detected		Potential Source of Contamination
		EPA's Limits	Health Goal	S	W	
Alpha Emitter	pCi/L	15	0	1.3	1.6 (1998) ¹	Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	ppm	4	4	1.30	NA	Additive for strong teeth.
Nitrate	ppm	10	10	0.08	1.35 (1998) ¹	Fertilizer runoff.
TTHM ²	ppb	100	NA	33	33	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination.
Turbidity ³	NTU	TT	NA	0.097	0.19	Soil runoff.
Herbicides Used By TVA⁴						
Copper	ppm	1.3	1.3	0.02	NA	Erosion of natural deposits.
Diquat	ppm	20	22	0.0004	NA	Toxic ingredients in herbicide.

¹The state allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though accurate, is more than one year old.

²TTHM acceptance is based on an annual average of quarterly samples. Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.


³Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.

⁴Although we ran many tests, only these Regulated & Unregulated substances were found to be present. They are all below the MCLs required by EPA. The active ingredients for Herbicides currently being sprayed on Guntersville Lake for control of Aquatic Weeds are shown. These are also below MCLs required, monitoring results for all contaminants tested are available for review at our office.

Non-Regulated Substances⁴

Substance	Unit	Amount Detected	
		S	W
Aluminum	ppm	0.154	NA
Calcium	ppm	22.2	NA
Chloride	ppm	13	8.05 (1998) ¹
Iron	ppb	0.065	0.02
Magnesium	ppm	4.71	4.87 (1998) ¹
Sodium	ppm	5.97	3.40 (1998) ¹
Sulfate	ppb	16.1	1.40 (1998) ¹

The Guntersville Water Board tested for lead/copper at 20 residences during 1998 and no contamination was found in the monitoring.



WATER FACT

You can refill an 8 oz. glass of water approximately 15,000 times for the same cost of a soft drink six pack.

Definitions

S: Surface Water **W:** Well Water

Source: This provides an explanation of a typical material or man-made origin of the contaminant.

Unit: The measurement of the contaminant.

MCL or 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 or 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.

NTU or Nephelometric Turbidity Units: A measure of clarity.

NA: Not applicable.

ppb or parts per billion: micrograms per liter (ug/l).

ppm or parts per million: milligrams per liter (mg/l).

pCi/L or picocuries per liter: a measure of radioactivity.

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

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