

2025 Annual Water Quality Report
(Covering period January - December 2024)

SOUTH ALABAMA UTILITIES

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The annual CCR Report is available on our website at www.southalabamautilities.net.

We are pleased to provide this Annual Water Quality Report to you. This report provides information on the sources of our water, the results of water analyses, important information about water and health, plain language definitions, and contact information. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We did not incur any MCL violations last year.

Water Sources	19 groundwater wells producing from the Pliocene-Miocene aquifer:	
	WL001 - Well 2 (U.S. HWY. 45)	WL020 - Scott Plantation Deep Well
	WL002 - Well 1 (Jail)	WL021 - Scott Plantation Shallow Well
	WL003 - Well 3 (Willie ST.)	WL022 - Coy Smith Well
	WL004 - Well 4 (5 th Street)	WL023 - Airport Blvd Well
	WL009 - Well 7 Johnson Road (Semmes)	WL024 - Georgetown Well
	WL013 - Well 8 Wilmer Town Hall	WL025 - Calvert/TK Well
	WL014 - Well 11 Eliza Jordan Well #1 (Semmes)	WL026 - MGM Well 3
	WL015 - Well 12 Mary Montgomery Well 1	WL027 - MGM Well 2
	WL016 - Well 13 Eliza Jordan #2 (Semmes)	WL029 - MCB Well 1
	WL019 - Well 14 Fairford	WL030 - MCB Well 2
Number of Customers	Approximately 22,640	
Water Treatment	Chlorination, corrosion control, and pH treatment	
Storage Capacity	15 active storage tanks, for a combined capacity of 8,648,000 gallons	
Additional Connections	Turnerville Water, McIntosh Water, and Kushla Water for emergency purposes only	
Board Members	Marcus Hobbs, Chairman	Jason Stringer, Director and Mayor
	Al McDonald, Vice-Chairman	Jeff Smith, Director
	Larry Yonge, Secretary-Treasurer	
Executive Director	Donnie Cunningham	

Source Water Protection

In compliance with the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM), South Alabama Utilities developed a Wellhead Protection plan that assists in protecting our water sources. This plan provides information such as potential sources of contamination. It includes a susceptibility analysis, which classifies potential contaminants as high, moderate, or non-susceptible (low) to contaminating the water source. Over 75% percent of the potential contaminants sited in our assessment areas were ranked as non-susceptible and medium risk. The report was approved by ADEM. A copy of the report is available in our office for review during normal business hours with prior request.

We routinely perform water storage facility inspections, and we utilize a Bacteriological Monitoring Plan. Chlorine residual is monitored closely within the distribution system. We have adopted a Cross-Connection Control Program for the purpose of detecting and preventing a danger to public health from cross-connection contamination.

Please help us make these efforts worthwhile by doing your part to help protect our source water. Carefully follow instructions on pesticides and herbicides you use for your lawn and garden, and properly dispose of household chemicals, paints, and waste oil. We ask that all our customers help us protect our valuable water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life, and our children's futures.

Questions?

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, call:

Citronelle, Fairford, & Calvert areas	Phillip Weaver	251-866-2365, ext 125
Semmes, Fairview, Wilmer, and West Mobile areas	Kevin Evans	251-649-4317, ext 215

We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at South Alabama Utilities office located at 8100 Joy Street, Citronelle, AL at 1:00 P.M. A board meeting schedule is also available on www.southalabamautilities.net to check for holiday dates and times.

General Drinking Water Information

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 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). MCLs are set at very stringent levels. 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. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the levels of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water.

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 wastewater 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.

Radon can move up through the ground into a home through cracks and holes in the foundation. It may also get into indoor air when released from tap water. Compared to radon entering the home through soil, radon entering the home through tap water will, in most cases, be a small source of radon in indoor air. Breathing air containing radon can lead to lung cancer. Drinking water containing radon may also cause increased risk of stomach cancer. If you are concerned about radon in your home consider having the home tested. Testing is easy and inexpensive. For more information call EPA's Radon Hotline at (800-SOS-RADON).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. People who are immunocompromised 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) or on EPA's website www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2015-10/documents/cryptosporidium-report.pdf.

Information about Lead

As required by ADEM, we conducted a Lead Service Line Inventory during 2024: Lead service lines were not found in our distribution system nor are there any records of Lead service lines ever being in our system. The Lead Service Line Inventory report and results from our latest round of Lead/Copper sampling are available for review in our office upon request.

Lead is rarely found in source water but is primarily from corrosion of materials and components in home plumbing. Your water system 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. As required by federal and state agencies, we utilize an outside laboratory to analyze the samples we monitor for Lead. If present, elevated levels of Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Center for Disease Control (CDC) make the following recommendations:

- Before using any tap water for drinking or cooking, flush your water system by running the kitchen tap (or any other tap you use for drinking or cooking) on COLD for 1–2 minutes. Flushing can minimize the potential for lead exposure, especially if the water has been sitting undisturbed for several hours, as in overnight.
- In all situations, *especially for making baby formula*, drink or cook only with water that comes out of the cold tap. Warm or hot tap water is more likely to cause lead to leach from plumbing materials.
- Periodically remove the aerator on the tip of the faucet and wash out any debris such as metal particles.
- Remember - Boiling will NOT reduce the amount of lead in your water.

The actions recommended above are likely to be effective in reducing lead levels because most of the lead in household water usually comes from the plumbing in your house. 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 www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water or by calling the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791. Water systems are required to sample for lead in schools and licensed child care facilities as requested by the facility. Contact your school or child care facility for further information about potential sampling results.

Monitoring Schedule and Results

We routinely monitor your drinking water for contaminants according to Federal and State regulations. The Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. This report contains results from the most recent monitoring which was performed in accordance with the regulatory schedule. 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 was not required.

Constituent Monitored	Date Monitored
Inorganic Contaminants	2024
Lead/Copper	2023
Microbiological Contaminants	current
Nitrates	2024
Radioactive Contaminants	2024
Synthetic Organic Contaminants (including pesticides and herbicides)	2024
Volatile Organic Contaminants	2024
Disinfection By-products	2024
Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 5 (UCMR5)	2023
PFAS Contaminants	2023

TABLE OF DETECTED DRINKING WATER CONTAMINANTS						
Contaminants	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Msmt.	MCL G	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Alpha emitters	NO	Total 10.1 (Avg 2.51)	PCI/l	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium-228	NO	Total 3.93 (Avg 0.98)	PCI/l	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium	NO	0.013	ppm	2	2	Drilling & refinery discharge; erosion
Copper	NO	0.330 * (0.0035-0.45)	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Household plumbing corrosion; erosion; wood preservative leaching
Fluoride	NO	0.12	ppm	4	4	Erosion; additive for teeth; factory discharge
Lead	NO	0.0011 * (ND-0.0049)	ppm	0	AL=0.015	Household plumbing corrosion; erosion
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	NO	ND-0.77	ppm	10	10	Fertilizer runoff; septic & sewage leaching; erosion
TTHM [Total trihalomethanes]	NO	Annual 40.0-42.0	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 [Total haloacetic acids]	NO	Annual 23.0-24.0	ppb	0	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Unregulated Contaminants						
Chloroform	NO	ND-24.0	ppb	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring or from discharge or runoff
Bromodichloromethane	NO	ND-15.0	ppb	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring or from discharge or runoff
Chlorodibromomethane	NO	ND-8.1	ppb	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring or from discharge or runoff
Bromoform	NO	ND	ppb	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring or from discharge or runoff
Secondary Contaminants						
Chloride	NO	13.3	ppm	n/a	250	Naturally occurring or from discharge or runoff
Hardness	NO	3.6	ppm	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring or from water additives
Manganese	NO	0.01	ppm	n/a	0.05	Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from pipes
pH	NO	7.9	S.U.	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring or from water additives
Sodium	NO	42.2	ppm	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring in the environment
Sulfate	NO	5.4	ppm	n/a	250	Naturally occurring or from discharge or runoff
Total Dissolved Solids	NO	172	ppm	n/a	500	Naturally occurring or from discharge or runoff

* Figure shown is 90th percentile of most recent round of Lead and Copper sampling, and number of sample sites exceeding the Action Level (AL) = 0

UCMR5: The Fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5) requires monitoring by certain water systems for 30 unregulated contaminants during 2022 - 2026 on assigned schedules. UCMR 5 specifies monitoring for 29 PFAS and one metal (lithium). The table below contains the detected results of monitoring during our schedule in 2023. For more information, including the full list of UCMR 5 contaminants we monitored, see <https://www.epa.gov/dwucmr>.

Detected UCMR5 Contaminants (ppb)					
Contaminants	Range of Detections	Average of Detections	Contaminants	Range of Detections	Average of Detections
Lithium	ND-15.5	2.82	Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid	ND-0.0039	0.0003
6:2 FTS	ND-0.0054	0.0007	Perfluorooctanoic acid	ND-0.0017	0.00006
Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid	ND-0.0027	0.0003	PFBA	ND-0.0170	0.0018
Perfluoroheptanoic acid	ND-0.0010	0.00003	PFPeA	ND-0.0016	0.00006
Perfluorohexanoic acid	ND-0.0015	0.0001			

PFAS: Below is a list of PFAS contaminants and results of monitoring our wells in 2022 and our new MGM wells in 2023. For more information on PFAS contaminants, please refer to <https://www.epa.gov/pfas>.

PFAS Contaminants (in ppb)									
Abbreviation	Contaminant	MCLG	MCL	Detected	Abbreviation	Contaminant	MCLG	MCL	Detected
11Cl-PF3OUdS	11-chloroeicosafluoro-3-oxaundecane-1-sulfonic acid	--	--	ND	PFDoA	Perfluorododecanoic acid	--	--	ND
9Cl-PF3ONS	9-chlorohexadecafluoro-3-oxanone-1-sulfonic acid	--	--	ND	PFHpA	Perfluoroheptanoic acid	--	--	ND
ADONA	4,8-dioxo-3H-perfluorononanoic acid	--	--	ND	PFHxS	Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid	0.010	0.010	ND
HFPO-DA	Hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acidA	0.010	0.010	ND	PFNA	Perfluorononanoic acid	0.010	0.010	ND
NEIFOSAA	N-ethylperfluorooctanesulfonamidoacetic acid	--	--	ND	PFOS	Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid	0	0.004	ND
NMeFOSAA	N-methylperfluorooctanesulfonamidoacetic acid	--	--	ND	PFOA	Perfluorooctanoic acid	0	0.004	ND
PFBS	Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid	--	--	ND-0.0026	PFTeDA	Perfluorotetradecanoic acid	--	--	ND
PFDA	Perfluorodecanoic acid	--	--	ND	PFTrDA	Perfluorotridecanoic acid	--	--	ND
PFHxA	Perfluorohexanoic acid	--	--	ND	PFUnA	Perfluoroundecanoic acid	--	--	ND

Note: In April 2024, the EPA finalized a Primary Drinking Water Regulation establishing individual MCLGs and MCLs for five (5) PFAS contaminants in drinking water. PFOA, PFOS, PFHxS, PFNA, & HFPO-DA. Mixtures containing 2 or more of PFHxS, PFNA, HFPO-DA, & PFBS were assigned MCL of 1 (unitless) Hazard Index.

Plain Language Definitions

Action Level: the concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements.

Coliform Absent (ca): laboratory analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present.

Disinfection byproducts (DBPs): formed when disinfectants react with bromide or natural organic matter present in the source water.

Distribution System Evaluation (DSE): a 4-quarter study to test for disinfection byproducts in different areas of the distribution

Hazard Index (HI): used to determine health concerns associated with mixtures of certain PFAS in finished drinking water. An HI greater than 1 requires a system to take action.

Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA) – yearly average of all the DPB results at each specific sampling site

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water.

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

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.

Micrograms per liter (ug/L): equivalent to parts per billion (ppb) since one liter of water is equal in weight to one billion micrograms.

Microsiemens per centimeter (µs/cm): unit of measurement for Specific Conductance.

Milligrams per liter (mg/L): equivalent to parts per million

Millirems per year (mrem/yr): a 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.

Not Detected (ND): laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present above detection limits of lab equipment.

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

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

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

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

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

Running Annual Average (RAA): yearly average of all the DPB results at each specific sampling site in the distribution system.

Standard Units (S.U.): pH of water measures the water's balances of acids and bases.

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

Unregulated Contaminants: contaminants for which the EPA has not established MCLs.

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

Below is a table of contaminants for which we monitor as required on a schedule set by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Alabama Department of Environmental Management.

STANDARD LIST OF PRIMARY DRINKING WATER CONTAMINANTS							
Contaminant	MCL	Unit of Msmt	Detections	Contaminant	MCL	Unit of Msmt	Detections
Bacteriological Contaminants				1,1-Dichloroethylene	7	ppb	ND
Total Coliform Bacteria	<5%	Present or absent	absent	cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene	70	ppb	ND
Fecal Coliform and E. coli	0	Present or absent	absent	trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene	100	ppb	ND
Radiological Contaminants				Dichloromethane	5	ppb	ND
Beta/photon emitters	4	mrem/yr	ND	1,2-Dichloropropane	5	ppb	ND
Alpha emitters	15	pCi/l	Total 10.1	Di (2-ethylhexyl) adipate	400	ppb	ND
Combined radium	5	pCi/l	Total 3.93	Di (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate	6	ppb	ND
Uranium	30	pCi/l	ND	Dinoseb	7	ppb	ND
Inorganic Chemicals				Dioxin [2,3,7,8-TCDD]	30	ppb	ND
Antimony	6	ppb	ND	Diquat	20	ppb	ND
Arsenic	10	ppb	ND	Endothall	100	ppb	ND
Asbestos	7	MFL	ND	Endrin	2	ppb	ND
Barium	2	ppm	0.013	Epichlorohydrin	TT	ppb	ND
Beryllium	4	ppb	ND	Ethylbenzene	700	ppb	ND
Cadmium	5	ppb	ND	Ethylene dibromide	50	ppb	ND
Chromium	100	ppb	ND	Glyphosate	700	ppb	ND
Copper	AL=1.3	ppm	0.0035-0.45	Heptachlor	400	ppb	ND
Cyanide	200	ppb	ND	Heptachlor epoxide	200	ppb	ND
Fluoride	4	ppm	0.12	Hexachlorobenzene	1	ppb	ND
Lead	AL=15	ppb	ND-0.0049	Hexachlorocyclopentadiene	50	ppb	ND
Mercury	2	ppb	ND	Lindane	200	ppb	ND
Nitrate	10	ppm	ND-0.77	Methoxychlor	40	ppb	ND
Nitrite	1	ppm	ND	Oxamyl [Vydate]	200	ppb	ND
Selenium	.05	ppm	ND	Polychlorinated biphenyls	0.5	ppb	ND
Thallium	.002	ppm	ND	Pentachlorophenol	1	ppb	ND
Organic Contaminants				Picloram	500	ppb	ND
2,4-D	70	ppb	ND	Simazine	4	ppb	ND
Acrylamide	TT	TT	ND	Styrene	100	ppb	ND
Alachlor	2	ppb	ND	Tetrachloroethylene	5	ppb	ND
Benzene	5	ppb	ND	Toluene	1	ppb	ND
Benzo(a)pyrene [PAHs]	200	ppt	ND	Toxaphene	3	ppb	ND
Carbofuran	40	ppb	ND	2,4,5-TP(Silvex)	50	ppb	ND
Carbon tetrachloride	5	ppb	ND	1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene	.07	ppb	ND
Chlordane	2	ppb	ND	1,1,1-Trichloroethane	200	ppb	ND
Chlorobenzene	100	ppb	ND	1,1,2-Trichloroethane	5	ppb	ND
Dalapon	200	ppb	ND	Trichloroethylene	5	ppb	ND
Dibromochloropropane	200	ppt	ND	Vinyl Chloride	2	ppb	ND
1,2-Dichlorobenzene	1000	ppb	ND	Xylenes	10	ppb	ND
1,4-Dichlorobenzene (para)	75	ppb	ND	Disinfection Byproducts			
o-Dichlorobenzene	600	ppb	ND	TTHM [Total trihalomethanes]	80	ppb	40.0-42.0
1,2-Dichloroethane	5	ppb	ND	HAA5 [Total haloacetic acids]	60	ppb	23.0-24.0
LIST OF SECONDARY CONTAMINANTS							
Alkalinity, Total (as CA, Co ₃)	Copper			Manganese		Specific Conductance	
Aluminum	Corrosivity			Odor		Sulfate	
Calcium, as Ca	Foaming agents (MBAS)			Nickel		Total Dissolved Solids	
Carbon Dioxide	Hardness			pH		Zinc	
Chloride	Iron			Silver			
Color	Magnesium			Sodium			
LIST OF UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS							
Aldicarb	Chloroethane			Hexachlorobutadiene		Propachlor	
Aldicarb Sulfone	Chloroform			3-Hydroxycarbofuran		N-Propylbenzene	
Aldicarb Sulfoxide	Chloromethane			Isopropylbenzene		Propachlor	
Aldrin	O-Chlorotoluene			p-Isopropyltoluene		1,1,1,2-Tetrachloroethane	
Bromoacetic Acid	P-Chlorotoluene			M-Dichlorobenzene		1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane	
Bromobenzene	Dibromochloromethane			Methomyl		Tetrachloroethene	
Bromochloromethane	Dibromomethane			Methomyl		Trichloroacetic Acid	
Bromodichloromethane	1,1-Dichloroethane			Methylene chloride		1,2,3-Trichlorobenzene	
Bromoform	1,3-Dichloropropane			Methyl tert-butyl ether		Trichloroethene	
Bromomethane	2,2-Dichloropropane			Metolachlor		Trichlorofluoromethane	
Butachlor	1,1-Dichloropropene			Metribuzin		1,2,3-Trichloropropane	
N-Butylbenzene	1,3-Dichloropropene			MTBE		1,2,4-Trimethylbenzene	
Sec-Butylbenzene	Dicamba			Naphthalene		1,3,5-Trimethylbenzene	
Tert - Butylbenzene	Dichlorodifluoromethane			1-Naphthol			
Carbaryl	Dieldrin			Paraquat			

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).