

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.



Special Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Got Questions?

Call the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791

Guntersville Water Board
329 Gunter Ave.
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2001 WATER QUALITY REPORT



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Guntersville Water Board

PWS ID#: AL0000943

Our Mark of Excellence

We are once again proud to present to you our annual water quality report. Over the years, we have dedicated ourselves to producing drinking water that meets or does better than all state and federal drinking water standards. We continually strive to adopt new and better methods of delivering the best quality drinking water to you. As regulations and drinking water standards change, it is our commitment to you to incorporate these changes systemwide in an expeditious and cost-effective manner.

As new challenges to drinking water safety emerge, we will be vigilant in maintaining our objective of providing quality drinking water at an affordable price. If you have any health concerns relating to the information in this report, we encourage you to contact your health care provider. For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Mr. Jack Swann, General Manager, at (256) 582-5931.



What's Inside?

This report outlines the processes involved in delivering to you the highest quality drinking water available. In it, we will answer these important questions:

- Where does my water come from?
- What is in my drinking water?

We will also provide information on other available resources that will answer questions about water quality and health effects.

Where Does My Water Come From?

Guntersville relies on surface water drawn from the Tennessee River Brown's Creek embayment on Lake Guntersville at its Sunset Treatment Plant, and a groundwater well for our water supply. Drinking water is also purchased from MUB-Albertville through 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.



How is My Water Treated and Purified?

Our source water from Brown's Creek entering our Sunset Drive surface plant is initially treated with activated carbon for taste and odor control at our raw water station. It is then pumped through an aerator to further oxidize the water for removal of any residual taste and odor. As water enters the rapid mix basin, polymer and a coagulant aid are added along with chlorine for disinfectant. Water then flows through our settling basins to our mix media filtration process. After filtration, fluoride is added to promote strong teeth. A poly orthophosphate is added for corrosion control in our mains and reservoirs. Our well at Blount Avenue treats water with an initial application of potassium permanganate for removal of manganese and iron. The well water then is filtered through two 10-foot diameter pressure filters after which chlorine, fluoride, and corrosion inhibitors are added to the finished water. Our certified water operators will be glad to further explain our treatment process in detail. Just give them a call. 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.

How Secure Is Our Water System?

Since the terrorist attacks of September 11, the nation's water supplies, treatment facilities and distribution systems have been put on security alert. At Guntersville we have added security gates and fencing at our Sunset Water Plant, and upgraded security at all our water reservoirs and pumping stations. Random patrols by our staff as well as the Guntersville Police Department have been increased. We receive security alerts and status reports from United States Homeland Security Department and consider the security of our water and facilities a major priority.

**Guntersville
Water Board is
a member of:**

American Water Works
Association, Alabama Water and
Pollution Control Association, and
Alabama Rural Water Association.

What's in My Water?

We are pleased to report that during the past year, the water delivered to your home or business complied with, or did better than, all state and federal drinking water requirements. For your information, we have compiled a list in the table below showing what substances were detected in our drinking water during 2001. Although all of the substances listed below are under the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) set by the U.S. EPA, we feel it is important that you know exactly what was detected and how much of the substance was present in the water.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNITS)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL	MCLQ	Well #1		Sunset Water Plant		VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
				AMOUNT DETECTED (LOW-HIGH)	RANGE (LOW-HIGH)	AMOUNT DETECTED (LOW-HIGH)	RANGE (LOW-HIGH)		
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	2001	15	1.6	1.6	NA	NA	NA	NA	Erosion of natural deposits
Di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (ppb)	2001	6	0	1	NA	NA	NA	NA	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories
Fluoride (ppm)	2001	4	4	1.16	NA	0.68	NA	NA	Erosion of natural deposits. Water additive which promotes strong teeth. Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Halacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	2001	60	NA	55	20-90	55	20-90	No	Erosion of natural deposits. Water additive which promotes strong teeth. Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (ppm)	2001	10	10	1.33	NA	0.30	NA	NA	By-product of drinking water disinfection
THM5 (Total Trihalomethane) (ppb)	2001	100	NA	92	20-80	92	20-80	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Tetrachloroethylene (ppb)	2001	5	0.7	0.7	NA	NA	NA	No	Leaching from PVC pipes. Discharge from factories and dry cleaners
Total Organic Carbon	2001	TT	NA	NA	NA	2	NA	NA	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity (NTU) ¹	2001	TT	NA	0.15	NA	0.091	NA	No	Soil runoff

Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from 30 homes in the service area

SUBSTANCE (UNITS)	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED ABOVE AL		TYPICAL SOURCE	
				HOMES DETECTED	VIOLATION		
Copper (ppm)	2001	1.3	1.3	0.008	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems. Erosion of natural deposits. Leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	2001	15	0	8	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems. Erosion of natural deposits

UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNITS)	YEAR SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED (LOW-HIGH)	Well #1		Sunset Water Plant		TYPICAL SOURCE
			AMOUNT DETECTED (LOW-HIGH)	RANGE (LOW-HIGH)	AMOUNT DETECTED (LOW-HIGH)	RANGE (LOW-HIGH)	
Chloroform (ppm)	2001	0.0012	NA	NA	NA	NA	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Sulfate (ppm)	2001	1.43	NA	18.9	NA	NA	Erosion of natural deposits

SECONDARY & PHYSICAL CONTAMINANTS TABLE

SUBSTANCE	GROUNDWATER	AVERAGE SURFACE WATER	SUBSTANCE		GROUNDWATER	AVERAGE SURFACE WATER
			AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE (LOW-HIGH)		
Aluminum	ND	ND	Total Alkalinity	85	39	
Calcium	30.2	19.0	Chloride	8.12	13.5	
Magnesium	4.57	3.79	Sulfate	1.43	18.9	
Manganese	0.09	ND	Total Dissolved Solids	124	110	
Nickel	ND	ND	pH	6.6	6.9	
Silver	ND	ND	Odor	ND	ND	
Zinc	ND	ND	Iron	ND	ND	
Hardness	94.2	63.1	Sodium	3.14	5.09	
Color	ND	ND	Potassium	ND	ND	
Copper	0.34	ND	Carbon Dioxide	35.2	11.4	

TVA HERBICIDE TESTING RESULTS²

CONTAMINANT	YEAR SAMPLED	RESULTS	
		Annual average.	Turbidity 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. During the reporting year, 100% of all samples taken to measure turbidity met water quality standards.
2,4-D	2001	ND	The active ingredients for herbicides currently being sprayed on Guntersville Lake for control of aquatic weeds were tested for and not found at detectable levels.
Copper	2001	ND	
Diquat	2001	ND	

Substances Expected to be in Drinking Water

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. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

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 can acquire naturally occurring minerals, in some cases, radioactive material, and substances resulting from the presence of animals or other human activity. **Substances that may be present in source water include:**



Table Definitions

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

MCL (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 (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.

NA: Not applicable

ND: Not detected

NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units): Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of the water.

pCi/L (picocuries per liter): Measurement of the natural rate of disintegration.

ppb (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

ppm (parts per million): One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

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

NON-DETECTED CONTAMINANTS

These contaminants were tested for and not detected in our water supply:

1,1,1,2-Tetrachloroethane, 1,1,1-Trichloroethane, 1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane, 1,1,2-Trichloroethane, 1,1-Dichloroethane, 1,1-Dichloroethene, 1,1,1-Trichloroethane, 1,1,2-Trichloroethane, 1,2,3-Trichlorobenzene, 1,2,4-Trimethylbenzene, 1,2-Dichlorobenzene, 1,2-Dichloroethane, 1,2-Dichloropropane, 1,3,5-Trimethylbenzene, 1,3-Dichlorobenzene, 1,3-Dichloropropane, 1,3-Dichloropropene, 1,4-Dichlorobenzene, 2,2-Dichloropropane, 2,4-D, 2-Chloroethane, 4-Chlorophenol, Benzene, Bromobenzene, Bromochloroethane, Bromodichloroethane, Bromoform, Bromonethane, Carbon tetrachloride, Chloroethane, Chloroethene, Copper, cis-1,2-Dichloroethene, Daldapon, Dichlorodichloroethane, Dichloromethane, Bromochloroethane, Dithionamide, Diquat, Endosulf, Ethylbenzene, Hexachlorocyclopentadiene, Isopropylbenzene, Methyl tert-Butyl Ether, Monochlorobenzene, Naphthalene, n-Butylbenzene, n-Propylbenzene, p-Isopropylphenol, sec-Butylbenzene, Styrene, tert-Butylbenzene, Toluene, trans-1,2-Dichloroethane, Trichloroethene, Trichlorofluoromethane, Vinyl chloride, Xylene (total),

