

## A commitment to quality:

Arab Water Works is pleased to share this water quality report with you. It describes the quality of your drinking water. This report covers January 1 through December 31, 2015. Arab's drinking water supply surpassed the strict regulations of both the State of Alabama and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which requires all water suppliers to produce reports like this every year to each customer.

In 2015 the treatment plant distributed 1,451,633,000 gallons of water to its customers. Our water sources are both surface and ground water. The source of surface water is from Brown's Creek Embayment (Lake Guntersville), which is located one mile west of Guntersville on Highway 69. The groundwater source is a well located at 66 Waterworks Road in Warrenton.

In addition to the coagulation, flocculation, sedimentation, and filtration processes, the AWW pre-treats the water with a Magnetic Ion Exchange (MIEX) process. These processes remove or reduce harmful contaminants that may come from the source water.

ADEM (Alabama Department of Environmental Management) has required that all water systems complete a SWAP (source water assessment plan). The SWAP is composed of four distinct activities: delineation of the source water assessment area, contaminant inventory, susceptibility analysis and public awareness. Arab Water Works has completed each required component of the SWAP and ADEM has approved our SWAP. It has provided ways to deal with emergencies that may arise as well as ways to protect our water source NOW and for the FUTURE. You may view the SWAP at the AWW business office.

In our continuing efforts to maintain a safe and dependable water supply it may be necessary to make improvements in the water system. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Ted Hyatt by calling 256-586-3159 or by writing to this address: 526 Cullman Road, Arab AL 35016. Also, our e-mail address is [arabwtp@arabwaterworks.net](mailto:arabwtp@arabwaterworks.net). We want our customers to be informed about their water utility. You can attend monthly board meetings on the fourth Tuesday of each month, at 526 Cullman Road at 6:00 p.m. Please visit our web site at [www.arabwaterworks.org](http://www.arabwaterworks.org)

### **Arab Water Works**

#### **Board of Directors:**

<b>Rodney Hyatt</b>	<b>Chairman</b>
<b>Ben Hornsby</b>	<b>Trustee</b>
<b>Bruce Smalley</b>	<b>Trustee</b>

#### **Arab Water Works is a member of:**

**Alabama Rural Water Association**

**American Water Works Association**

**Alabama Water and Pollution Control Association**

**The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) wants you to know:**

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that 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 that 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 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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

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, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

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. Arab Water Works 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>.

## 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 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 storm water runoff, 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.

**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/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).**

Arab Water Works routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws in accordance with regulatory schedule. This report contains results from the most recent monitoring which was performed in accordance with the regulatory schedule.

Constituents Monitored	Date Monitored
Inorganic Contaminants	2015
Lead/Copper	2013
Microbiological Contaminants	Monthly
Nitrates	2015
Radioactive Contaminants	2012
Synthetic Organic Contaminants	2013
Volatile Organic Contaminants	2015
Disinfection By-products	Quarterly
Cryptosporidium	2006
Unregulated Contaminants Monitoring Rule 3	2014

## Arab Water Works

### Table of Detected Contaminants

Of the many contaminants tested, only these few were at levels of detection. All test results are from the 2015 monitoring year unless otherwise noted.

CONTAMINANT	MCLG	MCL	Unit	Highest Amount Detected	Range Detected	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Microbiological</b>						
Turbidity	N/A	TT	NTU	0.19	0.01 - 0.19	Soil runoff.
<b>Radiological</b>						
Alpha Emitters (2012)	0	15	pCi/L	0.2 +/- 0.6	NA	Naturally present in the environment.
Radium 228 (2012)	0	5	pCi/L	0.4 +/- 0.8	NA	Naturally present in the environment.
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>						
Nitrate	10	10	ppm	0.46	single sample	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks; Erosion of natural deposits.
Copper (2013)	1.3	AL=1.3	ppm	ND 90th percentile	ND	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead (2013)	0	AL=15	ppb	ND 90th percentile	ND	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride (Hydrofluorosilicic Acid)	4	4	ppm	.95	ND - .95	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
<b>Organic Contaminants</b>						
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	N/A	60	ppb	26.0 HARA	10.7 - 39.6	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	N/A	80	ppb	55.3 HARA	20.1 - 72.1	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Total Organic Carbon	N/A	TT	ppm	1.6	0.9 - 1.6	Naturally present in the environment.
Chlorine	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4	ppm	2.8	2.4 - 2.8	Water additive used to control microbes.
<b>Unregulated Contaminants</b>						
Bromodichloromethane	N/A	N/A	ppb	12.9	3.71 - 12.9	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Chloroform	N/A	N/A	ppb	56.2	6.85 - 56.2	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Dichloroacetic Acid	N/A	N/A	ppb	21.7	5.62 - 21.7	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Trichloroacetic Acid	N/A	N/A	ppb	12.0	3.39 - 12.0	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Chlorodibromomethane	N/A	N/A	ppb	4.47	1.67 - 4.47	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
<b>Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 3 (UCMR3) Contaminants</b>						
Chromium (2014)	N/A	N/A	ppb	0.3	.12 - .30	Naturally present in the environment or industrial discharge.
Strontium (2014)	N/A	N/A	ppb	80	69 - 80	Naturally present in the environment or industrial discharge.
Vanadium (2014)	N/A	N/A	ppb	0.8	.4 - .8	Naturally present in the environment or industrial discharge.
Chromium, Hexavalent	N/A	N/A	ppb	0.4	ND - .4	Naturally present in the environment or industrial discharge.
Chlorate (2014)	N/A	N/A	ppb	54.0	34 - 54	Naturally present in the environment or industrial discharge.
1,4 -Dioxane (2014)	N/A	N/A	ppb	0.13	.08 - .13	Industrial discharge or leachate from landfill.

### Unregulated Contaminants

In addition to the primary drinking water contaminants, the Arab Water Works also monitors for some of the following unregulated contaminants as required by ADEM and EPA.

CONTAMINATE	AMOUNT DETECTED	CONTAMINATE	AMOUNT DETECTED
Aldicarb	ND	o-Chlorotoluene	ND
Aldicarb Sulfone	ND	p-Chlorotoluene	ND
Aldicarb Sulfoxide	ND	Dibromomethane	ND
Aldrin	ND	m-Dichlorobenzene	ND
Butachlor	ND	1,1-Dichloroethane	ND
Carbaryl	ND	Dichlorodifluoromethane	ND
Dicamba	ND	1,3-Dichloropropane	ND
Dieldrin	ND	2,2-Dichloropropane	ND
3-Hydroxycarbofuran	ND	1,1-Dichloropropene	ND
Methomyl	ND	1,3-Dichloropropene	ND
Metolachlor	ND	Fluorotrichloromethane	ND
Metribuzin	ND	Hexachlorobutadiene	ND
Propachlor	ND	Isopropylbenzene	ND
Bromobenzene	ND	p-Isopropyltoluene	ND
Bromochloromethane	ND	Methyl Tertiary Butyl Ether (MTBE)	ND
Bromdichloromethane	12.9	Naphthalene	ND
Bromoform	ND	n-Propylbenzene	ND
Bromomethane	ND	1,1,2,2-Trichlorobenzene	ND
n-Butylbenzene	ND	1,2,3-Trichlorobenzene	ND
sec-Butylbenzene	ND	1,2,4-trichlorobenzene	ND
tert-Butylbenzene	ND	1,2,3-Trichloropropane	ND
Chlorodibromomethane	4.47	1,2,4-Trimethylbenzene	ND
Chloroform	56.2	1,3,5-Trimethylbenzene	ND
Chloromethane	ND	Chromium, Hexavalent	0.4
Chromium	0.3	Chlorate	54
Strontium	80	1,4-Dioxane	0.13
Vanadium	0.8		

### Secondary Contaminants

CONTAMINATE	AMOUNT DETECTED	CONTAMINATE	AMOUNT DETECTED
Alkalinity, Total (mg/l)	75.1	Magnesium (mg/l)	5.10
Aluminum(mg/l)	0.074	Manganese	ND
Calcium (mg/l)	28.6	Oder	ND
Carbon Dioxide (mg/l)	4.9	pH (su)	7.75
Chloride (mg/l)	24.0	Silver	ND
Color	ND	Sodium (mg/l)	10.3
Copper	ND	Specific Conductance (mg/l)	247
MBAS	ND	Total Dissolved Solids (mg/l)	108
Hardness (mg/l)	92.4	Zinc	ND
Iron, as Fe	ND	Sulfate, as SO <sub>4</sub> (mg/l)	10.6

**Table of Primary Contaminants**

At high levels some primary contaminants are known to pose a health risk to humans. This table provides a quick glance of any primary contaminant detections. All tests are from the 2015 monitoring year unless otherwise noted.

CONTAMINANT	MCL	AMOUNT DETECTED	CONTAMINANT	MCL	AMOUNT DETECTED
<b>Bacteriological</b>			Endrin (ppb)	2	ND
Total Coliform Bacteria	< 5%	0	Epichlorohydrin	TT	ND
Turbidity <sup>2</sup>	TT	0.19	Glyphosate (ppb)	700	ND
Fecal coliform and E. coli	< 5%	0	Heptachlor (ppt)	400	ND
<b>Radiological</b>			Heptachlor epoxide (ppt)	200	ND
Beta/photon emitters (mrem/yr)	4	ND	Hexachlorobenzene (ppb)	1	ND
Alpha emitters (pci/l)	15	0.2+/-0.6	Hexachlorocyclopentadiene (ppm)	50	ND
Combined radium (pci/l)	5	ND	Chlorine(ppm)	MRDL=4	2.8
Uranium (ppb)	30	ND	Chlorine Dioxide (ppb)	800	ND
<b>Inorganic</b>			Lindane (ppt)	200	ND
Antimony (ppb)	6	ND	Methoxychlor (ppb)	40	ND
Arsenic (ppb)	10	ND	Oxamyl [Vydate] (ppb)	200	ND
Asbestos (MFL)	7	ND	PCBs (ppt)	500	ND
Barium (ppm)	2	ND	Pentachlorophenol (ppb)	1	ND
Beryllium (ppb)	4	ND	Picloram (ppb)	500	ND
Cadmium (ppb)	5	ND	Simazine (ppb)	4	ND
Chromium (ppb)	100	ND	Toxaphene (ppb)	3	ND
Copper (ppm)	AL=1.3	ND	Benzene (ppb)	5	ND
Cyanide (ppb)	200	ND	Carbon Tetrachloride (ppb)	5	ND
Fluoride (ppm)	4	.95	Chlorobenzene (ppb)	100	ND
Lead (ppb)	AL=15	ND	Dibromochloropropane (ppt)	200	ND
Mercury (ppb)	2	ND	o-Dichlorobenzene (ppb)	600	ND
Nitrate (ppm)	10	0.46	p-Dichlorobenzene (ppb)	75	ND
Nitrite (ppm)	1	ND	1,2-Dichloroethane (ppb)	5	ND
Total Nitrate and Nitrite (ppm)	10	ND	1,1-Dichloroethylene (ppb)	7	ND
Selenium (ppb)	50	ND	Cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene (ppb)	70	ND
Thallium (ppb)	2	ND	trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene (ppb)	100	ND
<b>Organic Chemicals</b>			Dichloromethane (ppb)	5	ND
2,4-D (ppb)	70	ND	1,2-Dichloropropane (ppb)	5	ND
2,4,5-TP (Silvex)(ppb)	50	ND	Ethylbenzene (ppb)	700	ND
Acrylamide	TT	ND	Ethylene dibromide (ppt)	50	ND
Alachlor (ppb)	2	ND	Styrene (ppb)	100	ND
Benzo(a)pyrene[PHAs](ppt)	200	ND	Tetrachloroethylene (ppb)	5	ND
Carbofuran (ppb)	40	ND	1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene (ppb)	70	ND
Chlordane (ppb)	2	ND	1,1,1-Trichloroethane (ppb)	200	ND
Dalapon (ppb)	200	ND	1,1,2-Trichloroethane (ppb)	5	ND
Di-(2-ethylhexyl)adipate (ppb)	400	ND	Trichloroethylene (ppb)	5	ND
Di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalates (ppb)	6	ND	TTHM (ppb)	80	72.1
Dinoseb (ppb)	7	ND	Toluene (ppb)	1	ND
Diquat (ppb)	20	ND	Vinyl Chloride (ppb)	2	ND
Dioxin[2,3,7,8-TCDD] (ppq)	30	ND	Xylenes (ppm)	10	ND
Chloramines (ppm)	4	ND	Total Organic Carbon(ppm)	TT	1.6
Chlorite (ppm)	1	ND	Bromate (ppb)	10	ND
Endothall (ppb)	100	ND	Total Haloacetic Acid(ppb)	60	39.6

Notes:

<sup>1</sup>Testing Frequency: The 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, are more than one year old.

<sup>2</sup>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.

\*In addition to the more than 7,000 regular tests and testing performed by Arab Water Works and the Alabama Department of Environmental Management, Arab Water Works has contracted an independent lab to test lake water for herbicides that TVA is currently using to control aquatic weeds. These tests will run concurrently with TVA's weed spraying programs, as well as quarterly through the years to insure that Arab Water Works is safe and herbicide free.

\*Based on a study conducted by the 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.

### **Definitions**

**Maximum Contaminant Level (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 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 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.

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

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

**90th Percentile:** 90% of samples are equal to or less than the number in the chart.

**NTU (or Nephelometric Turbidity Units):** A measure of clarity.

**HARA:** Highest Annual Rolling Average; based on seven quarters of testing.

**NA:** Not applicable.

**Su:** Standard Unit.

**ND:** Not detectable at testing limits.

**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.

**FDA:** Food and Drug Administration.

**EPA:** Environmental Protection Agency.

**ADEM:** Alabama Department of Environmental Management.

**CDC:** Center for Disease Control