Water Conservation Tips

Water conservation measures are an important first step in protecting our water supply. Such measures not only save the supply of our source water, but can also save you money by reducing your water bill.

Conservation measures you can use inside your home include:

- Fix leaking faucets, pipes, toilet, etc.
- Replace old fixtures; install water-saving devices in faucets, toilets and appliances.
- Wash only full loads of laundry.
- Do not use the toilet for trash disposal.
- Do not let the water run while shaving or brushing teeth.
- Soak dishes before washing.
- Run the dishwasher only when full.

You can conserve outdoors as well:

- Water the lawn and garden in the early morning or evening.
- Use mulch around plants and shrubs.
- Use water-saving nozzles.
- Use water from a bucket to wash your car, and save the hose for rinsing.

LEAD

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and your children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. BWAA 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.

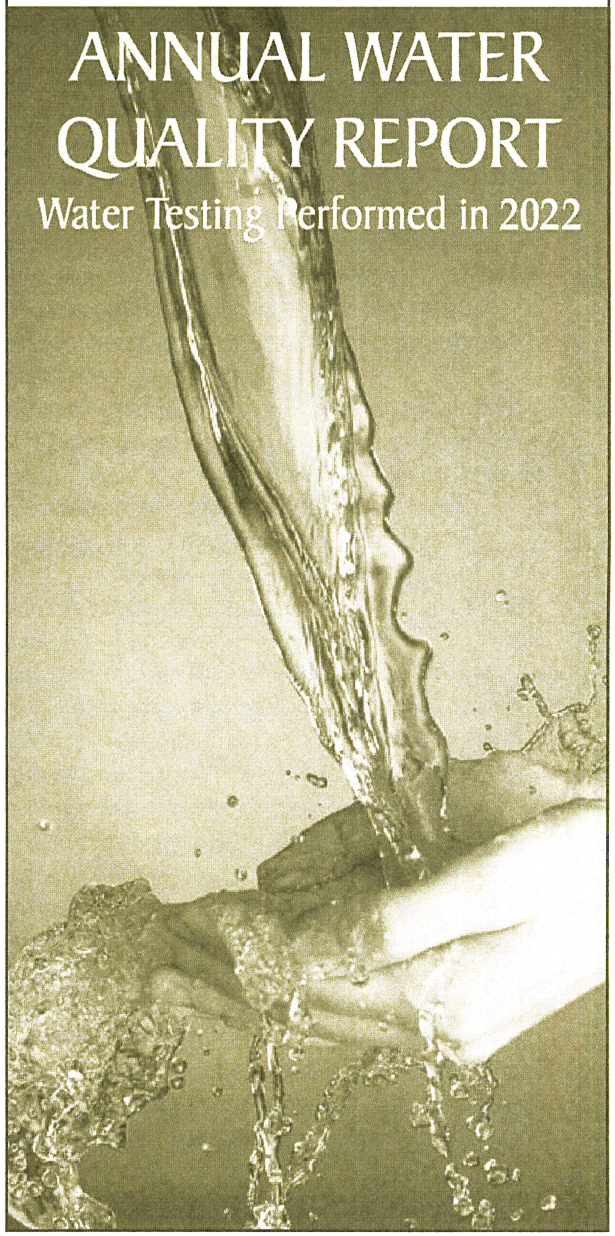
Big Wills Water Authority
7191 Duck Springs Road
Attalla, AL 35954

Proudly presented by

Big Wills Water Authority

ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Water Testing Performed in 2022



Continuing Our Commitment

Once again we proudly present our annual water quality report. This edition covers all testing completed from January through December 2018. We are pleased to tell you that our compliance with all state and federal drinking water laws remains exemplary. As in the past, we are committed to delivering the best quality drinking water. To that end, we remain vigilant in meeting the challenges of source water protection, water conservation, and community education while continuing to serve the needs of all of our water users.

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Dewayne Waldrop, Manager at (256) 538-7950.

Community Participation

You are invited to participate in our public forum and voice your concerns about your drinking water. We meet the third Tuesday of each month beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the office, 7191 Duck Springs Road.

Important 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 chemo-therapy, 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. The U.S. 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.

Where Does My Water Come From?

The Big Wills Water Authority and its public supply well are located in the Wills Valley District of the Valley and Ridge physiographic province of the Cumberland Plateau in Alabama. The elevation of the Big Wills well is approximately 610 feet amsl. The Tennessee Valley Divide, a major drainage divide in Alabama, is at the crest of this ridge. Streams north of the divide flow north to the Tennessee River, and streams south of the divide flow south into Big Wills Valley and on to the Coosa River. The Big Wills Well is situated within the recharge area of the Big Wills Creek watershed of the Middle Coosa. The Big Wills Water Authority supply water to approximately 800 customers and has withdrawn approximately 616,000,000 gallons of water from the well since the beginning of production on October 27, 2005 up to January, 2013. The average daily production has been approximately 250,000 gallons. Organic and inorganic constituents of water produced by the Big Wills Well have tested within acceptable limits set by the EPA.

Things You Can Do To Help

Make sure the plumbing system in your home or business is in good repair and proper working order. Lead pipes and lead solder should not be used. The lead from these can leach into your water.

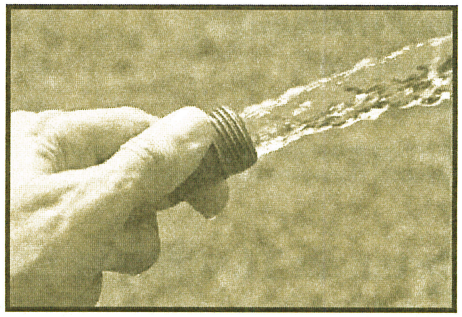
Have all leaks repaired to prevent the wasting of water. Promptly replace washers in leaking faucets. Periodically check all toilets by removing the lid on the tank (back) and making sure the water level is properly set. There should be a water line mark on the inside of the tank. Place a few drops of food coloring in the tank and wait ten minutes without flushing. Check to see if the coloring shows up in the bowl (bottom) portion of the commode. If it does, the commode is leaking and the flap valve needs to be replace.

The BWWA requires that all customers have a check valve on their service to prevent the water in you system from running back into the public system.

If you have any questions or need any assistance please contact us and we will be glad to help you.

Information On The Internet

The U.S. EPA Office of Water (www.epa.gov/watrhome) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (www.cdc.gov) Web sites provide a substantial amount of information on many issues relating to water resources, water conservation and public health. Also, the Alabama Department of Environmental Management has a Web site (www.adem.state.al.us) that provides complete and current information on water issues in our own state.



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 from human activity. Substances 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, or wildlife;

Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or many 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 by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and may also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems;

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

For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, call the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Contamination from Cross-Connections

Cross connections that could contaminate drinking water distribution lines are a major concern. A cross-connection is formed at any point where a drinking water line connects to equipment (boilers), systems containing chemicals (air conditioning systems, fire sprinkler systems, irrigation systems) or water sources of questionable quality. Cross-connection contamination can occur when the pressure in the equipment or system is greater than the pressure inside the drinking water line (backpressure). Contamination can also occur when the pressure in the drinking water line drops due to fairly routine occurrences (main breaks, heavy water demand) causing contaminants to be sucked out from the equipment and into the drinking water line (backsiphonage).

Outside water taps and garden hoses tend to be the most common sources of cross-connection contamination at home. The garden hose creates a hazard when submerged in a swimming pool or when attached to a chemical sprayer for weed killing. Garden hoses that are left lying on the ground may be contaminated by fertilizers, cesspools or garden chemicals. Improperly installed valves in your toilet could also be a source of cross-connection contamination.

Community water supplies are continuously jeopardized by cross-connections unless appropriate valves, known as backflow prevention devices, are installed and maintained. We have surveyed all industrial, commercial, and institutional facilities in the service area to make sure that all potential cross-connections are identified and eliminated or protected by a backflow preventer. We also inspect and test each backflow preventer to make sure that it is providing maximum protection.

For more information, visit the Web site of the American Backflow Prevention Association (www.abpa.org) for a discussion on current issues.

Anyone interested in the detection limits and/or analytical information in general should contact Steve Martin, T.T.L. Lab (205) 345-0816.

Antimony, Arsenic, Barium, Beryllium, Cadmium Chromium, Cyanide, Lead, Mercury, Nickel, Nitrite, Selenium, Thallium, Color, Copper, Foaming Agents (Surfactants), Iron, Manganese, Odor, Silver, 1,1-Dichloropropene, 1,1,1,2-Tetrachloroethane, 1,1,1-Trichloroethane, 1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane, 1,1,2-Trichloroethane, 1,1-Dichloroethane, 1,1-Dichloroethylene, 1,2,3-Trichlorobenzene, 1,2,3-Trichloropropane, 1,2,4-Trimethylbenzene, 1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene, 1,2-Dichloroethane, 1,2-Dichloropropane, 1,3-Dichloropropene, 1,3,5-Trimethylbenzene, 2,2-Dichloropropane, 2,4,5-TP(Silvex), 2,4-D, Alachlor (Lasso), Atrazine, Benzene, Benzo(A)Pyrene, Bromobenzene, Bromochloromethane, Bromoform, Bromomethane, Carbofuran, Carbon Tetrachloride, Chlordane, Chloroethane, Chloromethane, cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene, Dalapon, DBCP(1,2 Dibromo-3-Chloropropane), Di(2-Ethylhexyl)Adipate, Di(2-Ethylhexyl)Phthalate, Dibromoacetic Acid, Dibromochloromethane, Dibromomethane, Dichlorodifluoromethane, Dinoseb, Diquat, EDB(Ethylene Dibromide), Endothall, Endrin, Ethylbenzene, Glyphosate, Heptachlor, Heptachlor Epoxide, Hexachlorobenzene(HCB), Hexachlorobutadiene, Hexachlorocyclopentadiene, Isopropylbenzene, Lindane, m-Dichlorobenzene, Methoxychlor, Methylene Chloride, Methyl Tertiary Butyl Ether(MTBE), Monochloroacetic Acid, Monochlorobenzene, N-Butylbenzene, Naphthalene, N-Propylbenzene, o-Chlorotoluene, o-Dichlorobenzene, Oxamyl(Vydate), PCB(Polychlorinated Biphenyls), p-Chlorotoluene, p-Dichlorobenzene, Pentachlorophenol, Picloram, p-Isopropyltoluene, sec-Butylbenzene, Simazine, Styrene, TCE(Trichloroethylene), tert-Butylbenzene, Tetrachloroethylene, Toluene, Toxaphene, trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene, Trichlorfluoromethane, Vinyl Chloride, Xylenes, 3-Hydroxycarbofuran, Aldicarb, Aldicarb Sulfone, Aldicarb Sulfoxide, Aldrin, Butachlor, Carbaryl, Dicamba, Dieldrin, Methomyl, Metolachlor, Metribuzin, Propachlor.

Sampling Results

During the past year we have taken hundreds of water samples in order to determine the presence of any radioactive, biological, inorganic, volatile organic or synthetic organic contaminants. The table below shows only those contaminants that were detected in the water. Although all of the substances listed here are under the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL), 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	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE (LOW-HIGH)	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Haloacetic Acids [HAAs] (ppb)	2022	ND	NA	ND	ND-60	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Nitrate (ppm)	2022	mg/L	10	0.50	ND-10	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage, Erosion of natural deposits
A LPHA, Gross	2019	15	NA	0.401+/-0.479	ND-15	No	Naturally occurring
Raduim - 228	2019	15	NA	0.470+/-0.365	ND-15	No	Naturally occurring
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	2022	80	NA	ND	ND-80	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Turbidity (NTU)[1]	2022	TT	NA	0.088	ND-5	No	Soil runoff

2013 Detected Contaminants Reported by the BWWA

SUBSTANCE (UNITS)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL	MCLG	VIOLATION	NOTES	SOURCE
Total Coliform Bacteria (ppb)	2022	Presence of coliform bacteria in >5% of monthly samples	0	No	This value represents the highest monthly number of positive samples	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform (ppb)	2022	A routine sample and a repeat sample are total coliform positive and one is also fecal coliform or E Coli positive	0	No	This number represents the total number of positive samples	Human and animal waste

UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNITS)	YEAR SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	TYPICAL SOURCE
Bromodichloromethane (ppb)	2022	ND	ND-0.004	By product of drinking water disinfection
Chloroform (ppb)	2022	ND	ND-0.51	By product of drinking water disinfection
Sulfate (ppm)	2020	2.1	0-500	Erosion of natural deposits

[1] Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our well system. During the reporting year, 100% of all samples taken to measure turbidity met water quality standards.

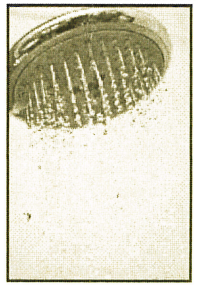


Table Definitions

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

MCL (Maximum Containment 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.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal): 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 contamination.

NA: Not applicable

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

ppb (part 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.

Substances That Might 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

List of Non-detected Contaminants for 2021