

2025 Annual Water Quality Report
(Monitoring Performed January - December 2024)

WEST BLOCTON WATER WORKS
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We are pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report includes information on our water sources, results of water analyses, plain language definitions, and other important information about water and health. Our goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water.

Water Source	One groundwater spring (Williams Spring) producing from the Conasauga aquifer
Water Treatment	Chlorination
Storage Capacity	Four tanks with a total capacity of one million gallons
Number of Customers	Approximately 1700 service connections
Water Superintendent	Jonathan Lawley
Town Council	Daniel Sims, Mayor
	Fred Lynch, Council
	Glen Johnson, Council
	Holly Barnett, Council
	Blane Sherron, Council
	Kristen Nash, Council

Source Water Protection

In compliance with the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM), West Blocton Water Works developed a Wellhead Protection Plan (WHPP) that assists in protecting our water sources. This plan provides information such as potential sources of contamination. The assessment was performed, public notification was completed, and the plan was approved by ADEM. A copy of the report is available in our office for review during regular business hours.

West Blocton Water Works utilizes a monthly Bacteriological Monitoring Plan. The required chlorine residual is maintained throughout our distribution system to protect your drinking water from possible outside contaminants. We have also established a Cross-Connection Policy to insure safe drinking water for our customers. Please help us make these efforts worthwhile by protecting 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.

Information about Lead

As required by ADEM, we conducted a Lead Service Line Inventory during 2024, and it was confirmed that our system contains no lead service lines, nor is there record of lead ever being used in our service lines. The Lead Service Line Inventory report and results from our latest Lead results 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 associated with home plumbing. Your water system is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. 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 for the household:

- 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 lead in water.

The actions recommended above are likely to be effective in reducing lead levels because most of the lead in household water comes from household plumbing materials. 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.

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. 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. 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).

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 epa.gov/safewater.

Questions?

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Jonathan Lawley at 205-938-7622. 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 first and third Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the West Blocton Municipal Building.

Monitoring Schedule and Results

West Blocton Water Works routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws, using EPA approved methods and a State certified laboratory. 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.

Constituents Monitored	West Blocton
Inorganic Contaminants	2022
Lead/Copper	2022
Microbiological Contaminants	monthly
Nitrates	2024
Radioactive Contaminants	2019
Synthetic Organic Contaminants (including herbicides and pesticides)	2023
Volatile Organic Contaminants	2022
Disinfection By-products	2024
PFAS Contaminants	2020

We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. We are pleased to report that we incurred no MCL violations. This report shows our water quality and what it means.

TABLE OF DETECTED DRINKING WATER CONTAMINANTS						
Contaminants	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Msmt	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Alpha emitters	NO	1.09	PCi/l	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium	NO	0.021	ppm	2	2	Metal refinery and drilling discharge; erosion
Copper	NO	0.091* (0.0025-0.10)	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Household plumbing corrosion, erosion; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead	NO	0.0024* (ND-0.0053)	ppm	0	AL=0.015	Household plumbing corrosion, erosion
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	NO	0.45	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Secondary Contaminants						
Chloride	NO	3.1	ppm	none	250	Naturally occurring; industrial discharge or agricultural runoff
Hardness	NO	147	ppm	none	none	Naturally occurring; treatment with water additives
pH	NO	7.1	S.U.	none	none	Naturally occurring; treatment with water additives
Sulfate	NO	3.1	ppm	none	250	Naturally occurring; industrial discharge or agricultural runoff
Total Dissolved Solids	NO	136	ppm	none	500	Naturally occurring; industrial discharge or agricultural runoff

* Figure shown is 90th percentile of latest round of sampling, and number of sample sites exceeding the Action Level (AL) is 0.

PFAS Contaminants: Below is a list of PFAS contaminants for which our system monitored in 2020 and the results of that monitoring. *PFAS was not detected in our drinking water.*

PFAS Contaminants (ppb)									
Abbreviation	Contaminant	MCLG	MCL	Detection	Abbreviation	Contaminant	MCLG	MCL	Detection
11Cl-PF3OUdS	11-chloroeicosafluoro-3-oxaundecane-1-sulfonic acid	--	--	ND	PFDaA	Perfluorododecanoic acid	--	--	ND
9Cl-PF3ONS	9-chlorohexadecafluoro-3-oxanone-1-sulfonic acid	--	--	ND	PFHpA	Perfluoroheptanoic acid	--	--	ND
ADONA	4,8-dioxa-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
NEtFOSAA	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	PFTeDA	Perfluorotetradecanoic acid	--	--	ND
PFDA	Perfluorodecanoic acid	--	--	ND	PFTTrDA	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.

For more information on PFAS contaminants, please consult www.epa.gov/pfas.

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

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 (µg/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.

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.

Turbidity: a measure of the cloudiness of the water, a good indicator of water quality. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants.

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	1.09	Di (2-ethylhexyl) adipate	400	ppb	ND
Combined radium	5	pCi/l	ND	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	0.021	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	0.0025-0.10	Heptachlor	400	ppb	ND
Cyanide	200	ppb	ND	Heptachlor epoxide	200	ppb	ND
Fluoride	4	ppm	ND	Hexachlorobenzene	1	ppb	ND
Lead	AL=15	ppb	ND-0.0053	Hexachlorocyclopentadiene	50	ppb	ND
Mercury	2	ppb	ND	Lindane	200	ppb	ND
Nitrate	10	ppm	0.45	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	ND
1,2-Dichloroethane	5	ppb	ND	HAA5 [Total haloacetic acids]	60	ppb	ND
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).