PHENIX CITY
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
1119 Broad Street
Phenix City, Alabama 36867

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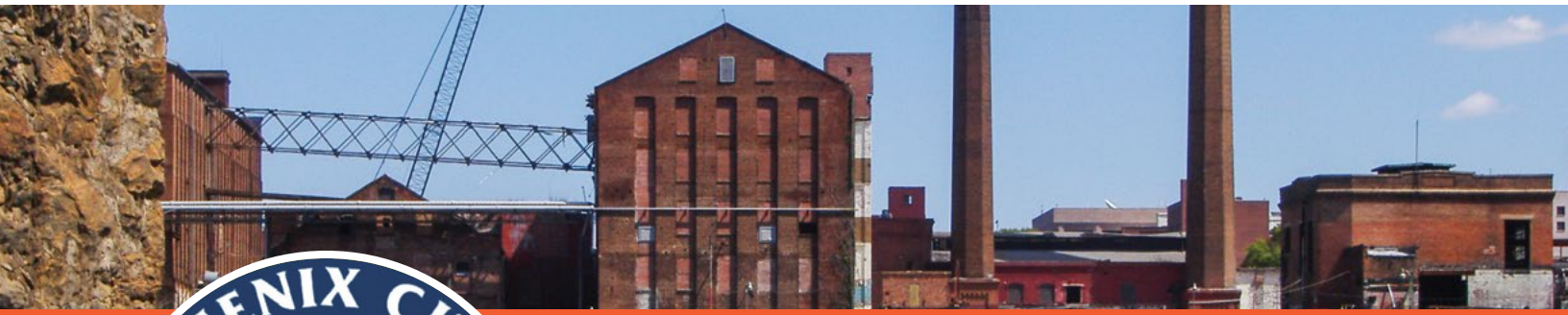


Water Quality Report 2024

Testing Performed
January – December 2023

2024 Water Quality Report

Phenix City Provides *exceptional* water for you!

We are pleased to present to you our Annual Water Quality Report. Last year, as in years past, your tap water met or exceeded all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) drinking water health standards. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

WATER SOURCE:
Our water source is surface water from the Chattahoochee River. Water is pumped almost continuously to the Water Filtration Plant for treatment and subsequent delivery to our approximately 14,400 taps.

WATER TREATMENT:
Coagulation/flocculation, sedimentation, chlorination, filtration, fluoridation and corrosion control. Please refer to the Water Treatment Diagram inside this report, adjacent to the Water Filtration Plant Excellence Awards, for more detail.

GET INVOLVED:
Protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility. You can help protect your community's drinking water in several ways:

- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides.
- Properly maintain septic systems
- Dispose of household chemicals properly (motor oil, household chemicals, paint).
- Report chemical spills or other polluting activities to the authorities
- Remember that storm water drains dump directly into your local water body.

We want our valued customers to be in-formed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend one of our regularly scheduled City Council meetings. They are held at 9 a.m. on the 1st Tuesday and 6 p.m. on the 3rd Tuesday of each month in the Council Chambers of the Public Safety Building at 1111 Broad Street, Phenix City, Alabama.

QUESTIONS:
If you have any questions or concerns regarding your water or this report, please contact John Spraggins, Utilities Director, at the water office at 334-448-2880.

WATER QUALITY PROTECTION

Protecting the water supply at its source is the first step in achieving our goal of providing safe drinking water to its customers. In compliance with the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM), we have developed a Source Water Assessment plan that will assist in protecting our water sources. The assessment has been performed, public notification has been completed, and the plan has been approved by ADEM. A copy of the report is available in the utilities office for review during regular business hours.

We continuously monitor our facilities that deliver safe drinking water to you. We utilize a Bacteriological Monitoring Plan to ensure we sample for potential contamination from locations throughout our distribution system. Chlorine residual is routinely tested by our technicians and bacteriological tests are run to ensure adequate disinfection is available to protect your drinking water. We have also established a Cross-Connection Policy to insure safe drinking water for our customers.

GENERAL INFORMATION

All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably 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 to drinking water and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hot-line at (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 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 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, 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.

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

We also monitor our source water for pathogens, such as Cryptosporidium and Giardia. These pathogens can enter the water from animal or human waste. For people who may be immuno-compromised, a guidance document developed jointly by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Center for Disease Control is available online at https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water or from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791.

INFORMATION ABOUT LEAD

Lead in drinking water is rarely found in source water but is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and 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. Use only water from the cold water tap for drinking, cooking, and especially for making baby formula. Hot water is likely to contain higher levels of lead. 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. These recommended actions are very important to the health of your family.

Information on steps you can take to minimize lead exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water hotline or from www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Monitoring Results

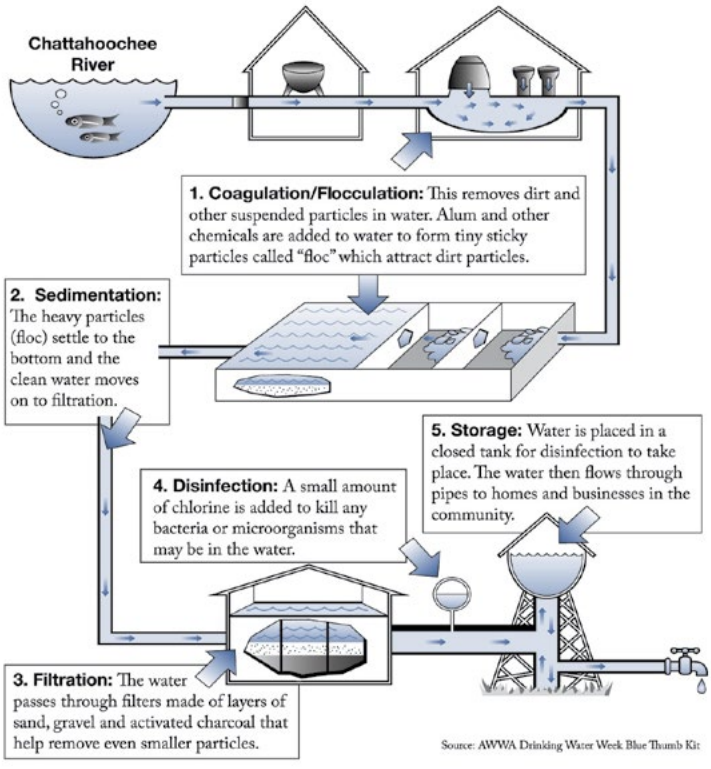
Our water system monitors for contaminants according to a schedule assigned to us by the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM), using EPA approved methods and a State certified laboratory. This report contains results from the most recent monitoring which was performed in accordance with the State and Federal regulatory schedule. Note: ADEM allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

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.

As you can see by the Water Quality Data Table on the next page, our system had no violations. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected; however, Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) are set at very stringent levels. The detection levels of contaminants listed to the right meet or exceed State and Federal regulations for drinking water.

The Water Quality Data Table includes only those contaminants that had some level of detection. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

Contaminants Monitored	Year
Inorganic Contaminants	2023
Lead/Copper	2022
Microbiological Contaminants	Monthly
Nitrates	2023
Radioactive Contaminants	2023
Synthetic Organic Contaminants (including herbicides & pesticides)	2023
Volatile Organic Contaminants	2023
Disinfection Byproducts	2023
Cryptosporidium	2017
Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule UCMR 4 Contaminants	2019



More information about drinking water contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (1-800-426-4791).

Table Definitions

AL (Action Level): The concentration that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements.

DBP (Disinfection Byproducts): Formed when disinfectants used in water treatment reacts with bromide and/or natural organic matter.

LRAA (Locational Running Annual Average): Yearly average of all the DPB results at each specific site

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level): Highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to t he MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal): 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.

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level): Highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water

mrem/yr (Millirems per year): Measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

n/a (not applicable)

ND (Non-Detect): Laboratory analysis indicates the constituent is not present above detection limits of lab equipment.

NR (not reported): Laboratory analysis, usually Secondary Contaminants, not reported by water system. EPA r ecommends secondary standards to water systems but does not require systems to comply.

NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Unit): Measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

ppm (parts per million) Corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in $10,000.

ppb (parts per billion) Corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in $10,000,000.

ppt (parts per trillion) Corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000,000 years, or a single penny in $10,000,000,000,000

picograms/L (Picograms per liter): Corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000,000 years, or a single penny in $10,000,000,000,000.

mg/L (milligrams per liter): Corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in $10,000.

µ g/L (micrograms per liter): Corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in $10,000,000.

nanograms/L (nanograms per liter): Corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in $10,000,000,000.

pCi/L (Picocuries per liter): Measure of radioactivity

RAA (running annual average): Average of DBP results in the water system

SU (Standard Units): pH of water measures the water's balances of acids and bases. Water with less than 6.5 could be acidic, soft, and corrosive. A pH greater than 8.5 could indicate that the water is hard.

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

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

REPORTING VIOLATION

In 2023 the Phenix City Microbiology Laboratory incurred a reporting violation for failing to report the results of a bacteriological test in February and April 2023. The tests were conducted as required but due to administrative error was not submitted by the 10th of the following month. Once notified of the error, the lab immediately reported the required data to ADEM. Phenix City now monitors the testing lab's receipt of samples, processing and reporting of results to ADEM to ensure that they are posted in time to meet all state requitements.

DAVID BENSEMA
PHENIX CITY WATER FILTRATION PLANT
1100 32ND ST
PHENIX CITY, AL
36867

Water Quality Table CCR 2024

Contaminant	Results mg/L	Date Tested
Fluoride, as F	0.55	Jan 2023
Lead, as Pb	0.55 avg.	Jan 2023
Nitrate as N	ND	July 2023
Cyanide	ND	July 2023
Barium	0.017	July 2023
Aluminum	0.12	Jan 2023
Copper, as Cu	0.0031	Jan 2023
Sulfate, as SO_4	12.7	Jan 2023
Alkalinity, Total as $CaCO_3$	26.3	Jan 2023
Chloride, as Cl	12.0	Jan 2023
Hardness, as $CaCO_3$	22.4	Jan 2023
pH	6.6	Jan 2023
Sodium, as Na	16.6	Jan 2023
Total Dissolved Solids	81.0	Jan 2022
Chlorine, as Cl_2	1.3 avg.	Low 0.59 / High 1.8
Calcium, as Ca	5.9	Jan 2023
Carbon Dioxide	20.9	Jan 2023
Magnesium, as Mg	1.9	Jan 2023
Manganese, as Mn	ND	Jan 2023
Specific Conductance	144	Jan 2023
Zinc, as Zn	0.48	Jan 2023
TTHM	22.2	2023
HAA5	27.3	2023
Bromodichloromethane	0.0039	Jan 2023
Chloroform	0.0055	Jan 2023
Dibromochloromethane	0.0028	Jan 2023
Bromomethane	ND	Jan 2023
Highest Filtered Turbidity	0.17	2023
Antimony	ND	Jan 2023
Arsenic	ND	Jan 2023
Beryllium	ND	Jan 2023
Selenium	ND	Jan 2023
Thallium	ND	Jan 2023
Mercury	ND	Jan 2023
Nitrite, as N	ND	Jan 2023
Cadmium	ND	Jan 2023
Chromium	ND	Jan 2023
Iron	ND	Jan 2023
Nickle	ND	Jan 2023
Silver	ND	Jan 2023
Apparent Color	ND	Jan 2023
Langelier Index	-2.56	Jan 2023
Zinc, as Zn	0.48	Jan 2023
Glyphosate	ND	Sep 2022
2,4D	ND	Jan 2022
Dalapon	ND	Jan 2022
2,4-DCAA (S)	116 %	Jan 2022
Simazine	0.00024	Jan 2023
Gross Alpha	1.97U ± 0.813 pCi/L	2023
Radium-228	0.707U ± 0.366 pCi/L	2023

Source Water	Hi	Low	Avg.
Cryptosporidium[1]	0.09	0	0.03
Giardia	0.09	0	0.03

Source water, from the Chattahoochee River, were tested for Cryptosporidium and Giardia from May 2015 to March 2017 and resulted in an average less than 0.075 oocyst/L resulting in a Bin 1 classification.

	MCLG	AL	90th %	#Sites	Violation	
Copper[2]	0	1.3	0.16	0	NO	2022
Lead[3]	0	15	0.001	0	NO	2022

[1] Cryptosporidium was detected in 1 source water sample May 2016. Giardia was detected in 3 source water samples; in January, February, and March of 2016. Cryptosporidium and Giardia were not detected in any other samples.

[2] Figure shown is 90th percentile; number of sites greater than the Action Level (AL) of 1.3 ppm = 0

[3] Figure shown is 90th percentile; number of sites greater than the Action Level (AL) of 15 ppb = 0

PFAS

Contaminant	Max Recorded Results ug/L	PPT	Date Tested
Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid	0.0059	5.9	Jan 2023
Perfluorohexanoic acid	0.0072	7.2	Sep 2022
Perfluoroheptanoic acid	0.0027	2.7	Sep 2022
Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid	0.0022	2.2	Sep 2022
Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid	0.0090	9	Sep 2022
Perfluorooctanoic acid	0.0063	6.3	Sep 2022
Total PFAs	0.033		Sept 2023

UCMR4

Paramaters	Avg
alpha-BHC	0.023U
Chlorpyrifos	0.0098U
Dimethipin	0.65U
Ethoprop	0.0098
Merphos-Oxone	0.022U
Oxyfluorfen	0.017U
Permethrin	0.013
Profenofos	0.098
Tebuconazole	0.065U
1,3-Dimethyl-2-nitrobenzene (S)	98%
Benzi(a)oyrene-d12 (S)	115%
Triphenylphosphate	115%
Butylated Hydroxyanisole	0.0096U
Quinoline	0.0064U
O-Toluidine	0.022U
Quinoline -d7 (S)	89%
O-Toludine-d9 (S)	72%
n-Butanol	0.67U
2-Methoxyethanol	0.13U
2- Propen-1-ol	0.17U
n-Butanol-d 10 (s)	97%
Germanium	0.10U

Paramaters	Avg
Manganese	5.2
Bromide	26.65J
TOC	2620U
Bromochloroacetic Acid	5.1
Bromodichloroacetic Acid	1.75
Chlorodibromoacetic Acid	0.535
Dibromoacetic Acid	0.89
Dichloroacetic Acid	16.25
HAA9 Group	32.7
Total Brominated HAAs	8.7
Haloacetic Acids (Total)	25.3
Monobromoacetic Acid	0.8
Monochloroacetic Acid	2.2
Tribromoacetic Acid	0.67U
Trichloroacetic Acid	8.8
2,3-Dibromopropanoic Acid (S)	80.5%

Cyanotoxins	
Anatoxin	0.010U
Cylindrospermopsin	0.030U
Total Microcystins	0.10U

U - microgram per liter ug/L
J - Estimated concentration above the adjusted method detection limit and below the adjusted reporting limit.

Contaminant	Percent Removal			
	TT	AVG	Range	Date Tested
Total Organic Carbon	15-35%	38.1%	29.2 - 48.4%	2023

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