

2016 Drinking Water QUALITY REPORT



Introduction

We are pleased to bring you this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to keep you informed about the quality of water and services we deliver to you every day. We want you to understand the efforts we make to improve treatment processes and protect our supply. We are committed to the quality of your drinking water. As in the past, your drinking water has been and remains safe to drink with no monitoring violations in 2014.

Please take a few moments to look over this important report concerning your drinking water. We have tried to assemble a report that paints a brief but accurate picture of the quality of water you get every day from your tap. If you have any questions regarding this report, feel free to contact White House Water System at (251)937-2430

History

In 1974, the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) was signed into law requiring all water systems that serve the public to meet national standards for water quality. These standards set the limits for certain contaminants and require all public water systems to monitor for these contaminants. North Baldwin Utilities routinely tests for these constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The tables in this report show the monitoring results of the Calendar Year 2014 Sampling Schedule beginning January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014, unless otherwise noted.

Section 1 - Sources of Water

White House Water System (WHWS) currently purchases water from NBU. North Baldwin Utilities (NBU) obtains its drinking water through the use of nine public water supply wells with the ninth well serving as an emergency supply well. Each well produces groundwater from sand units of the regional aquifer known as the Pliocene-Miocene Aquifer System. In the Bay Minette area, the sands are identified as the Bay Minette Middle Aquifer supplying groundwater to Wells #2, #3, #4 and #5, the Bay Minette Lower Aquifer supplying groundwater to Wells #5 and #6. Well #8 is supplied by a deep Miocene sand aquifer identified as the North Baldwin Rabun Aquifer. Well #9A and #9B is supplied by a Miocene Undifferentiated Aquifer Well #10, available to the system in the event of an emergency but not in daily service, is supplied by deep Miocene sand aquifer identified as the Tensaw Aquifer. The source of recharge to the aquifers is precipitation. The produced groundwater is treated with aeration, chlorination, fluoridation and corrosion control prior to distribution.

North Baldwin Utilities implements and maintains a Source Water Assessment Program in compliance with the Alabama Department of Environmental Management. The Source Water Assessment Program is a pro-active measure taken by the system to protect its sources of drinking water.

Section 2 – Definitions

In the following table you will find many terms and abbreviations that may not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we've provided the following definitions:

- **Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l)** - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000
- **Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter-** one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)-** The "Goal" is 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 Contaminant Level (MCL)** - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is 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.
- **Action Level-** the concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
- **Treatment Technique (TT)-** A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- **Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU)** - nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

Results of Radon Monitoring:

Radon is a radioactive gas that you can't see, taste or smell. It is found throughout the United States. Radon can move up through the ground and into a home through cracks and holes in the foundation. Radon can build up to high levels in all types of homes, Radon can also get into indoor air when released from tap water from showering, washing dishes, and other household activities. 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. Radon is a known human carcinogen. 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, test the air in your home. Testing is inexpensive and easy. Fix your home if the level of radon in your air is 4 picocuries per liter of air (pCi/L) or higher. There are simple ways to fix a radon problem that aren't too costly. For additional information, call your state radon program or call EPA's Radon Hotline (800-SOS-RAOON).

Dioxin and Asbestos:

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 is not required.

Sections 3 and 4

Refer to Tables on Second Page

Section 5 – Additional Info

Subsection A: Contaminants in Drinking Water:

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 activities. All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by constituents that are naturally occurring or are man-made. Those constituents can be microbes, organic or inorganic chemicals, or radioactive materials. 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 Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Subsection B: Water System Contacts:

White House Water System meets in the Board Room at 11120 White House Fork Rd. Ext on the last Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m.

Board Members and Contact Personnel are:

- **Ruffin Crook**
- **Kerry Wallace**
- **Pelham Chastang**
- **Robert Wallace**
- **Tony Smith**

Subsection C: Sourcewater Assessment and Vulnerability

Assessment:

North Baldwin Utilities is in regulatory compliance with respect to sourcewater and vulnerability assessments for each well. Documents associated with the sourcewater and vulnerability assessments are housed at the system's office.

Subsection D:

As part of NBU's UCMR2 Assessment Monitoring, Wells #2, 3, 5, 6, 8 (Rabun), 9A, 9B and 10 were sampled for the presence of 1,3-dinitrobenzene, ROX (Hexahydro; 1,3,5-trinitro; 1,3,5-triazine), TNT (2,4,6-trini-trotoluene), HBB (2,2',4,4',5,5'-Hexabromodiphenyl ether), BDE-100 (2,2',4,4',6-Pentabromodiphenyl ether), BDE-153 (2,2',4,4',5,5'-Hexabromodiphenyl ether), BDE-47 (2,2',4,4'-Tetrabromodiphenyl ether), BDE-99 (2,2',4,4',5-Pentabromodiphenyl ether), Dimethoate and Terbufos-sulfone with all samples reported as being non detected for these compounds.

White House Water System, Inc.



Section 3 - Table of Primary Contaminants

All 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.

Table with 4 columns: Contaminant, MCL, Amount Detected, Contaminant, MCL, Amount Detected, Contaminant, MCL, Amount Detected. Lists various contaminants like Total Coliform Bacteria, Arsenic, Lead, etc.

Table of Secondary and Unregulated Contaminants

Secondary Drinking Water Standards are guidelines regulating contaminants that may cause cosmetic effects (such as skin or tooth discoloration) or aesthetic effects (such as taste, odor, or color) in drinking water.

Table with 4 columns: Contaminant, MCL, Detect, Contaminant, MCL, Detect, Contaminant, MCL, Detect. Lists secondary (Aluminum, Chloride, etc.) and unregulated (1,1-Dichloroethane, etc.) contaminants.

Section 4 - Table of Detected Drinking Water Contaminants

Table with 5 columns: Contaminant, MCL/G, MCL, Range, Amount Detected, Likely Source of Contamination. Lists detected contaminants like Nitrate, Lead, Fluoride, and various organic/secondary/unregulated contaminants.

Section 6 - Educational 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 can be particularly at risk from infections.

Section 7 - Lead Notice

Every report shall contain the following lead-specific information: 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.

Frequently Asked Questions

Is my water safe?

We are proud your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and state requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected, Section 4, Table of Detected Contaminants.

Do I need to take special precautions?

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 can be particularly at risk from infections.

What customers can do to protect our water supply?

There are several things you can do to help protect your water system's source of supply.

Here are two:

- 1. Properly dispose of all chemicals in accordance with the procedures outlined on their containers.
2. Be vigilant of our system's wells, water towers and hydrants. Report all suspicious activity at these facilities to the police.

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