



Consumer Confidence Report for Monitoring Year 2025

Our mission to provide pure, abundant water to our customers has remained consistent since 1972.

We're pleased to present our Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for the 2025 Monitoring Year. You'll find information about where your drinking water comes from, the basics of our water treatment process, how your drinking water is tested and continually monitored, and the steps we take to protect our natural resources.

The results from 2025 water quality testing are detailed in this report. These tests are performed continuously throughout our service area at various sampling locations.

As in years past, your tap water met all applicable U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) drinking water health standards.

Our water source is a natural underground reservoir known regionally as the Miocene Aquifer that underlies large portions of southwest Alabama and western Florida. The aquifer is recharged primarily through precipitation, and discharge is primarily to streams, rivers, bays, sounds, and wells. Operating under permit by the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM), Belforest Water System pumps water from this aquifer through four (4) wells that range in depth from 140-220 feet below the ground surface. In compliance with ADEM, BWS has developed a Source Water Assessment Plan to assist in protecting our water sources and to provide information about potential sources of contamination. The plan is available for review at our main office.



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Board of Directors' meetings are held on the fourth Monday of every month at 5 pm unless published otherwise. Meetings are held at 9080 County Road 64, Daphne.

TABLE OF PRIMARY DRINKING WATER CONTAMINANTS

CONTAMINANT	MCL	CONTAMINANT	MCL	CONTAMINANT	MCL
BACTERIOLOGICAL					
Turbidity	TT	Selenium (ppb)	50	Endrin (ppb)	2
Fecal Coliform & E. coli	0	Thallium (ppb)	2	Epichlorohydrin	TT
RADIOLOGICAL					
Beta/Photon emitters (mrem/yr)	4	Acrylamide	TT	Ethylbenzene (ppb)	700
Alpha emitters	15	Alachlor (ppb)	2	Ethylene dibromide (ppt)	50
Combined Radium (pCi/l)		Atrazine (ppb)	3	Glyphosate (ppb)	700
Uranium (ppb)	30	Benzene (ppb)	5	Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	60
INORGANIC					
Antimony (ppb)	6	Benzo(a)pyrene[PHAs] (ppt)	200	Heptachlor (ppt)	400
Arsenic (ppb)	10	Carbofuran (ppb)	40	Heptachlor epoxide (ppt)	200
Asbestos (MFL)	7	Carbon Tetrachloride (ppb)	5	Hexachlorobenzene (ppb)	1
Barium (ppm)	2	Chlordane (ppb)	2	Hexachlorocyclopentadiene (ppb)	50
Beryllium (ppb)	4	Chlorobenzene (ppb)	100	Lindane (ppt)	200
Bromate (ppb)	10	2, 4-D	70	Methoxychlor (ppb)	40
Cadmium (ppb)	5	Dalapon (ppb)	200	Oxamyl [Vydate] (ppb)	200
Chloramines (ppm)	4	Dibromochloropropane (ppt)	200	Pentachlorophenol (ppb)	1
Chlorine (ppm)	4	0-Dichlorobenzene (ppb)	600	Picloram (ppb)	500
Chlorine dioxide (ppb)	800	p-Dichlorobenzene (ppb)	75	PCBs (ppt)	500
Chlorite (ppm)	1	1,2-Dichloroethane (ppb)	5	Simazine (ppb)	4
Chromium (ppb)	100	1,1-Dichloroethylene (ppb)	7	Styrene (ppb)	100
Copper (ppm)	AL=1.3	Cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene (ppb)	70	Tetrachloroethylene (ppb)	5
Cyanide (ppb)	200	Trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene (ppb)	100	Toluene (ppm)	1
Fluoride (ppm)	4	Dichloromethane (ppb)	5	TOC	TT
Lead (ppb)	AL=15	1,2-Dichloropropane (ppb)	5	TTHM (ppb)	80
Mercury (ppb)	2	Di(2-ethylhexyl) adipate (ppb)	400	Toxaphene (ppb)	3
Nitrate (ppm)	10	Di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalates (ppb)	6	2,4,5-TP (Silvex) (ppb)	50
Nitrite (ppm)	1	Dinoseb (ppb)	7	1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene (ppb)	70
Total Nitrate & Nitrite	10	Dioxin [2,3,7,8-TCDD] (ppq)	30	1,1,1-Trichloroethane (ppb)	200
		Diquat (ppb)	20	1,1,2-Trichloroethane (ppb)	5
		Endothall (ppb)	100	Trichloroethylene (ppb)	5
				Vinyl Chloride (ppb)	2
				Xylenes (ppm)	10

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. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water.

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. 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. It can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. People who are immuno-compromised 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 Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791) or on EPA's website epa.gov/safewater.



PFAS COMPOUNDS

CONTAMINANT	MCLG	MCL	RESULTS	UNITS
Perfluorobutane Sulfonic Acid (PFBS)	N/A	N/A	3.5-4.6	ppt
Perfluoroheptanoic Acid (PFHPA)	N/A	N/A	ND-2	ppt
Perfluorohexane Sulfonic Acid (PFHxS)	10	10	2.6-3.5	ppt
Perfluorononanoic Acid (PFNA)	10	10	ND	ppt
Perfluorooctane Sulfonic Acid (PFOS)	0	4	3.5-4.8	ppt
Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA)	0	4	4.4-5.6	ppt
Perfluorodecanoic Acid (PFDA)	N/A	N/A	ND	ppt
Perfluorododecanoic Acid (PFDOA)	N/A	N/A	ND	ppt
Perfluorohexanoic Acid (PFHXA)	N/A	N/A	2.5-3.2	ppt
Perfluorotetradecanoic Acid (PFTA)	N/A	N/A	ND	ppt
Perfluorotridecanoic Acid (PFTRDA)	N/A	N/A	ND	ppt
Perfluoroundecanoic Acid (PFUNA)	N/A	N/A	ND	ppt
11CL-PF3OUDS	N/A	N/A	ND	ppt
9CL-PF3ONS	N/A	N/A	ND	ppt
ADONA	N/A	N/A	ND	ppt
HFPO-DA	N/A	N/A	ND	ppt
NETFOSAA	N/A	N/A	ND	ppt
NMEFOSAA	N/A	N/A	ND	ppt

*The EPA established MCLs for PFOA, PFOS, PFHxS, PFNA, and HFPO-DA. Water systems must provide solutions by 2029 if levels exceed MCLs.

SECONDARY & UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS

CONTAMINANT	MCL	CONTAMINANT	MCL	CONTAMINANT	MCL
SECONDARY					
UNREGULATED					
Aluminum	0.2	1,1 - Dichloropropene	N/A	Chlorodibromomethane	N/A
Chloride	250	1,1,2,2 - Tetrachloroethane	N/A	Chloroform	N/A
Color (PCU)	15	1,1 - Dichloroethane	N/A	Chloromethane	N/A
Copper	1	1,2,3 - Trichlorobenzene	N/A	Dibromochloromethane	N/A
Foaming Agents	0.5	1,2,3 - Trichloropropane	N/A	Dibromomethane	N/A
Iron	0.3	1,2,4 - Trimethylbenzene	N/A	Dichlorodifluoromethane	N/A
Magnesium	75	1,2,4 - Trichlorobenzene	N/A	Dieldrin	N/A
Odor (T.O.N.)	1	1,3 - Dichloropropane	N/A	Fluorotrichloromethane	N/A
Silver	0.1	1,3 - Dichloropropene	N/A	Hexachlorobutadiene	N/A
Sulfate	250	1,3,5 - Trimethylbenzene	N/A	Isopropylbenzene	N/A
Total Dissolved Solids	500	2,2 - Dichloropropane	N/A	M-Dichlorobenzene	N/A
Zinc	5	3 - Hydroxycarbofuran	N/A	Methomyl	N/A
SPECIAL					
Calcium	N/A	Aldicarb	N/A	Metolachlor	N/A
Carbon Dioxide	N/A	Aldicarb Sulfone	N/A	Metribuzin	N/A
Manganese	0.05	Aldicarb Sulfoxide	N/A	MTBE	N/A
pH (SU)	N/A	Aldrin	N/A	N - Butylbenzene	N/A
Sodium	N/A	Bromobenzene	N/A	Naphthalene	N/A
Specific Conductance (umhos)	<500	Bromochloromethane	N/A	N-Propylbenzene	N/A
Temperature (*C)	N/A	Bromodichloromethane	N/A	O-Chlorotoluene	N/A
Total Alkalinity	N/A	Bromoform	N/A	P-Chlorotoluene	N/A
Total Hardness (as CaCO3)	N/A	Bromomethane	N/A	P-Isopropyltoluene	N/A
		Butachlor	N/A	Propachlor	N/A
		Carbaryl	N/A	Sec - Butylbenzene	N/A
		Chloroethane	N/A	Tert - Butylbenzene	N/A

WATER TREATMENT PROCESS

Raw water is pumped from the underground aquifers to an aerator. Aeration quickly adds oxygen to the water and helps eliminate certain naturally-occurring contaminants such as iron and carbon dioxide. After aeration, lime is added to adjust the water's pH to within an optimum range and a disinfectant (chlorine) is added to inactivate potentially harmful pathogens and to keep the water safe in the water lines all the way to each customer's home. The water and additives are then given ample time to thoroughly mix inside a large tank called a Clearwell before entering the distribution system. Once the treated water meets current water quality requirements, large pumps move the water into Elevated Storage Tanks, where the water then moves through the distribution system to the customer. BWS utilizes a Bacteriological Monitoring Plan, and has a Cross Connection Policy in place to help ensure that safe, healthy water is delivered to customers.



DETECTED DRINKING WATER CONTAMINANTS

CONTAMINANT	MCLG	MCL	RANGE	AMOUNT DETECTED	UNITS	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
BACTERIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS JANUARY - DECEMBER 2025						
Total Coliform Bacteria	0.00	TT		1 positive sample 8/6/2025		Naturally present in the environment
RADIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS JANUARY - DECEMBER 2025						
Alpha emitters	0.00	15		2.9	pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium 226 & 228	0.00	5	2.2 - 3.3	3.3	pCi/L	
INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS JANUARY - DECEMBER 2025						
Antimony, Total	6	6	ND - .124	.124	ppb	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder
Barium	2	2	.0483 - .0899	.0899	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Beryllium, Total	4	4	.093 - .161	.161	ppb	Discharge from metal refineries and coal-burning factories; discharge from electrical, aerospace, and defense industries
Chlorine	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4	1.275 - 1.658	1.658	ppm	Water additive used to control microbes
Chromium	100	100	.105 - .855	.855	ppb	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Copper	N/A	1.3	0.001 - 0.019	0.019	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Fluoride	4	4	ND - .013	.013	ppm	Water additive which promotes strong teeth; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Lead	N/A	15	ND - 3	3	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Mercury	2	2	.076 - .557	.557	ppb	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills; runoff from cropland
Nickel	.1		.0015 - .0034	.0034	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate (as N)	10	10	3.42 - 4.27	4.27	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Total Nitrate & Nitrite	10	10	3.42 - 4.27	4.27	ppm	
ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS JANUARY - DECEMBER 2025						
Di(2-Ethylhexyl) Phthalate	0	6	ND - 0.09	0.09	ppb	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories
HAA5 Total Haloacetic Acids	N/A	60	.834 - 1.832	1.832	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Total trihalomethanes (TTHM)	0.00	80	0.48 - 2.7	2.7	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
Xylenes	10	10	ND - .001	.001	ppm	Discharge from petroleum factories; discharge from chemical factories
SECONDARY CONTAMINANTS JANUARY - DECEMBER 2025						
Aluminum	N/A	.2	.02 - .038	.038	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
Chloride	N/A	250	10.9 - 13.4	13.4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; agricultural runoff
Foaming Agents	N/A	.5	ND - .14	.14	ppm	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Iron	N/A	300	5 - 17	17	ppb	Erosion of natural deposits; corrosion of household plumbing
Magnesium	N/A	N/A	2.054 - 3.013	3.013	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
Silver	N/A	100	ND - .205	.205	ppb	Erosion of natural deposits
Sulfate	N/A	250	.0001 - .532	.532	ppm	Naturally occurring in the environment
Total Dissolved Solids	N/A	500	54 - 84	84	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
Zinc	N/A	5	.0048 - .0983	.0983	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
SPECIAL CONTAMINANTS JANUARY - DECEMBER 2025						
Alkalinity	N/A	N/A	4.20 - 11	11	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
Calcium	N/A	N/A	4.147 - 7.024	7.024	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
Carbon Dioxide	N/A	N/A	ND - 5	5	ppm	Naturally occurring in the environment
Hardness, Total (as CaCO3)	N/A	N/A	19.5 - 27.3	27.3	ppm	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of treatment with water additives
Manganese	N/A	.05	.0045 - .0104	.0104	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
PH	N/A	N/A	7.7 - 8.9	8.9	SU	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of treatment with water additives
Specific Conductance	N/A	<500	78 - 97.2	97.2	umho/cm	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of treatment with water additives
UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS JANUARY - DECEMBER 2025						
Chloroform	70	N/A	ND - 2.49	2.49	ppb	Naturally occurring in the environment as a result of industrial discharge or agricultural runoff; by-product of chlorination
Bromoform	0	N/A	ND - .618	.618	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
Bromodichloromethane	0	N/A	ND - 2.14	2.14	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
Dibromochloromethane	60	N/A	ND - 1.59	1.59	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination

DEFINITIONS

Action Level - The concentration of a contaminant that triggers treatment or other requirement a water system shall follow.

Disinfection Byproducts - contaminants formed when chlorine is used as a disinfectant.

Maximum Contaminant Level or 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 or 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 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.

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.

Millirems per year (mrem/yr) - measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

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.

Non-Detects (ND) - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (ug/l) - one part per billion 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) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per quadrillion (ppq) or Picograms per liter (picograms/l) - one part per quadrillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000,000 years or one penny in \$10,000,000,000,000.

Parts per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (nanograms/l) - one part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Treatment Technique - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.

Variations and Exemptions - ADEM or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.



BWS was formed in 1972; pictured above are founding members of the Board. Bottom row: **Joseph L. Parker, Walter E. Penry, Jr., Malcolm E. Garrett.** Top row: **David W. Coker, Bailey Yelding, Sr.**

NOTES ON LEAD

Complete lead tap sampling data and Service Line Inventory is available for review upon request at our main office at 9080 County Road 64, Daphne, Alabama, 36526. Belforest Water System is required to sample for lead in schools and licensed child care facilities as requested by the facility. You may contact your school or child care facility for further information about potential sampling results.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems in all age groups, especially for pregnant women and young children. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems or exacerbate existing learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these adverse health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney, or nervous system problems.

Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. BWS 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>.

Based on a study conducted by the Department and with the approval of the EPA a statewide waiver for the monitoring of asbestos and dioxin was issued. Thus, monitoring for any of these contaminants was not required.

Belforest Water System is required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. During April 2025, we did not complete all required monitoring for total coliform bacteria and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may have not received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public notice or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This violation occurred when only nineteen of the required twenty samples were received by ADEM during the monitoring period. All following samples were submitted according to schedule with no resulting violations.

Should you have any questions concerning this violation or monitoring requirements, please contact Field Operations Manager Corley Lauderdale at 251-626-5554.