

Water Quality

Data Table & Test Results Calendar Year 2021

WHERE DO WE GET OUR WATER?

Our underground water is pumped from eight wells drawing from the massive sand of the lower Tuscaloosa Aquifer.

SOURCE WATER PROTECTION

The source water assessment has been completed for our public water system to identify potential sources of contamination and determine the overall susceptibility of the drinking water supply. Susceptibility assessment has been completed and all wells have ranked moderate by the MDEQ for vulnerability to contamination.

CONTACT US

As a valued customer, we want you to be informed about your water utility. If you have any questions, please contact Customer Service with Columbus Light & Water at 662-328-7192, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

WATER QUALITY

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man-made. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemical and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the 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 at 1-800-426-4791.

TESTING

The Columbus Light & Water Department routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and Mississippi state laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2021. In cases where monitoring wasn't required in 2021, the table reflects the most recent results. As you can see by the table, our system had no violations. We're proud that 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, however the EPA has determined that your water is safe at these levels.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR LEAD

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. Columbus Light & Water 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>. The Mississippi State Department of Health Public Health Laboratory offers lead testing for \$10 per sample. Please contact 601-576-7582 if you wish to have your water tested.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR FLUORIDATION

To comply with the "Regulation Governing Fluoridation of Community Water Supplies", MSO 440003, Columbus Light & Water is required to report certain results pertaining to fluoridation of our water system. The number of months in the previous calendar year in which average fluoride sample results were within the optimal range of 0.6-1.2 ppm was 12. The percentage of fluoride samples collected in the previous calendar year that was within the optimal range of 0.6-1.2 ppm was 90%.

EXPLANATION OF REASONS FOR MONITORING UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS

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

SPECIAL POPULATIONS

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised 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. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate ways to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline: 1-800-426-4791.

At Columbus Light & Water, we work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. Please call our office if you have any questions. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

CONTAMINATE	VIOLATION Y/N	DATE COLLECTED	LEVEL DETECTED	RANGE	MCL	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS						
Chlorine	N	2021	2.0 RAA 2.20 max. mg/L 1.70 min. mg/L		4.0 mg/L	Water additive used to control microbes
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	N	2021	2.41 ppb		60 ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
INORGANIC CHEMICALS						
Antimony	N	2019	<0.0005 ppm		0.006 ppm	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solders
Arsenic	N	2019	<0.0005 ppm		0.010 ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass & electronics production wastes
Barium	N	2019	0.0008 ppm* 0.0132 ppm**		2 ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Beryllium	N	2019	<0.0005 ppm		0.004 ppm	Discharge from metal refineries & coal-burning factories; discharge from electrical, aerospace, & defense industries
Cadium	N	2019	<0.0005 ppm		0.005 ppm	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from metal refineries; runoffs from waste batteries and
Chromium	N	2019	<0.0005 ppm* <0.0005 ppm**		0.1 ppm	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Cyanide	N	2019	<0.015 ppm		0.2 ppm	Discharge from steel/metal, plastic & fertilizer factories
Fluoride	N	2019	0.778 ppm* 0.698 ppm**		4 ppm	Water additive which promote strong teeth; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer & aluminum factories
Lead	N	2021	1 ppm		15 ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Mercury	N	2019	<0.0005 ppm		0.002 ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills and croplands
Nitrate	N	2021	<0.08 ppm */**		10 ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks/sewage; erosion from natural deposits
Nitrite	N	2021	<0.02 ppm */**		1 ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks/sewage; erosion from natural deposits
Nitrate + Nitrite	N	2021	<0.1 ppm */**		10 ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks/sewage; erosion from natural deposits
Selenium	N	2019	<0.0005 ppm		0.05 ppm	Discharge from petroleum refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines
Sodium	N	2019	3200 ppb		none	Naturally occurring runoff; erosion from natural deposits
Thallium	N	2019	<0.0005 ppm		0.002 ppm	Leaching from ore processing sites; discharge from electronics, glass & drug factories
ORGANIC CHEMICALS						
Benzene	N	2018	<0.5 ppb		5 ppb	Discharge from factories; leaching from gas storage tanks & landfills
Carbon Tetrachloride	N	2018	<0.5 ppb		5 ppb	Discharge from chemical plants & industrial activities
CIS- 1, 2-Dichloroethylene	N	2018	<0.5 ppb		70 ppb	Discharge from meat & fish or pharmaceutical industries
Dichloromethane	N	2018	<0.05 ppb		5 ppb	
Dichlorobenzene	N	2004	<0.5 ppb		5 ppb	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
O-Dichlorobenzene	N	2018	<0.5 ppb		600 ppb	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
P-Dichlorobenzene	N	2018	<0.5 ppb		75 ppb	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
1, 2 - Dichloroethane	N	2018	<0.5 ppb		5 ppb	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
1, 1 - Dichloroethylene	N	2018	<0.5 ppb		7 ppb	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
1, 2 - Dichloropropane	N	2018	<0.5 ppb		5 ppb	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
Ethylbenzene	N	2018	<0.5 ppb		700 ppb	Discharge from petroleum refineries
Monochlorobenzene	N	2015	<0.5 ppb		100 ppb	Discharge from paint, glass & ceramic industries
Tetrachloroethylene	N	2018	<0.5 ppb		5 ppb	Discharge from factories & dry cleaners
Trans- 1, 2 - Dichloroethylene	N	2018	<0.5 ppb		100 ppb	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
1, 1, 1 - Trichloroethane	N	2018	<0.5 ppb		200 ppb	Discharge from metal degreasing sites & factories
Trichloroethylene	N	2018	<0.5 ppb		5 ppb	Discharge from metal degreasing sites & factories
1, 1, 2 - Trichloroethane	N	2018	<0.5 ppb		5 ppb	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
1, 2, 4 - Trichlorobenzene	N	2015	<0.5 ppb		70 ppb	Discharge from textile finishing factories
Toluene	N	2018	<0.5 ppb		1000 ppb	Discharge from petroleum factories
Styrene	N	2018	<0.5 ppb		100 ppb	Discharge from rubber & plastic factories; leaching from landfills
Vinyl Chloride	N	2018	<0.5 ppb		2 ppb	Leaching from PVC pipes; discharge from plastic factories
Xylenes	N	2018	<0.5 ppb		10000 ppb	Discharge from petroleum & chemical factories
RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS						
Combined Radium	N	2019	2.32 pCi		5 pCi/L	Erosion from natural deposits
UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS						
HAA5	N	2019	0.78 ppb	0.31 - 0.78 ppb	None	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
HAA6Br	N	2019	0.53 ppb	0 - 0.53 ppb	None	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
HAA9	N	2019	1.31 ppb	0.31 - 1.31 ppb	None	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Manganese	N	2019	0.57 ppb	0.42 - 0.57 ppb	None	Naturally occurring element

*Treatment Plant North | ** Treatment Plant South | MCL = maximum containment level | ppm = parts per million
ppb = parts per billion | mg/L = milligrams per liter | RAA = Running Annual Average | pCi/L = picocuries per liter