

WHAT IS THE SOURCE OF OUR DRINKING WATER?

Lake Tuscaloosa is Tuscaloosa's primary surface water supply source for drinking water. Lake Tuscaloosa is a 5,885-acre impoundment of North River and several major creeks. This beautiful man-made lake holds more than 40 billion gallons of excellent quality water. Lake Nicol and Harris Lake are our alternate sources of water. Currently, Harris Lake is used for industrial water.

The City of Tuscaloosa has completed the required Source Water Assessment and has published the data. A copy of the data may be viewed at the City of Tuscaloosa Water & Sewer Department's Office at 2201 University Blvd., 2nd floor.

Lake Tuscaloosa's watershed is comprised of a large portion of three counties. Every activity in the watershed has an impact on the quality of our drinking water.

WHAT CAN I DO TO PROTECT OUR SOURCE OF DRINKING WATER?

The Lakes Division is planning a Watershed Festival on May the 6th followed by the third annual Lake Cleanup Day on May the 7th. These events are a great way to learn about our lakes and to participate in their protection. Contact the Lakes Division at (205) 349-0279 or visit the City's website at www.tuscaloosa.com for more information.

Jerry Plott Water Treatment Plant



In its first year of eligibility, the Jerry Plott Water Treatment Plant won the Best Operated Plant Award from the Alabama Water & Pollution Control Association for a water plant of its size and type. The award recognizes the quality of operations and the dedication of the plant staff. The Plott Plant joins the Ed Love Water Treatment Plant which has been an award winning plant for the past thirteen years! Improvements are ongoing to the facilities to meet the demands for quality water in sufficient quantity.

In 2010, the Ed Love Plant added a building to house sodium hypochlorite, a chemical that takes the place of chlorine. This chemical is much safer and does the same job of disinfecting the water as chlorine. The new building also has room to expand if other operational changes are necessary in the future.

WHAT TREATMENT TECHNIQUES ARE USED TO TREAT MY WATER?

The City of Tuscaloosa operates two water treatment plants. These are the Ed Love Water Plant, and the Jerry Plott Water Treatment Plant. The Ed Love Water Plant was named for former superintendent Ed E. Love. The Jerry Plott Plant was named after former city councilman Jerry Plott. Both plants treat water from a common intake structure at Lake Tuscaloosa.

The Ed Love facility is a conventional treatment plant. Raw water enters a flash mixer where aluminum sulfate and lime are added for coagulation. Sodium permanganate is added when necessary for removal of iron and manganese for taste and odor control. The water then travels through four flocculators and four settling basins.

The water is then gravity filtered through multi-media filters. Lime is added for pH adjustment and corrosion control. Sodium hypochlorite is added for disinfection. Fluoride is added for the prevention of tooth decay, and ortho-polyphosphate is added for corrosion control. The finished water is pumped into the Distribution System.

The Jerry Plott Water Plant uses the same basic treatment as the Ed Love Plant, but with some different chemicals and techniques. Coagulation starts in a flash mixer with poly aluminum chloride. As the water passes through one of two flocculators, it enters a settling basin. The plant has two basins. Settling is accelerated with a series of settling plates.

The settled water is pumped under pressure to a bank of seven membrane filters. The water is squeezed through the pores of the membranes while impurities are left behind. Sodium hydroxide is added for pH control. Fluoride and orthopolyphosphate are also added. The finished water then goes to the distribution system. The water produced at these two plants is very similar.

The plants are maintained by 35 full-time employees. These employees are responsible for the highest quality water possible for more than 200,000 consumers. The plants are operated 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

The City's most valuable asset is its abundant supply of excellent quality water! Because of this excellent quality, numerous industries and businesses have selected Tuscaloosa as their home.

Water Mains in Service, 4" and larger.....559 Miles
Water Storage Tanks.....13 Tanks
Water Booster Pump Stations.....8 Stations
Water Storage Capacity.....25.4 Million Gallons
Ed Love Treatment Capacity...45.7 Million Gallons / Day
Jerry Plott Treatment Capacity..14 Million Gallons/ Day
Public Fire Hydrants.....3218 Hydrants

WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT

Jimmy W. Junkin, Director
Post Office Box 2090
Tuscaloosa, AL 35403-2090

The Tuscaloosa City Council Meetings are held every Tuesday at 6:00 pm in the City Council Chambers on the second floor of Tuscaloosa City Hall, 2201 University Blvd. The agenda for each meeting is published in the Tuscaloosa News on Saturday and on the internet at www.tuscaloosa.com, or you may call (205) 248-5010.

The City of Tuscaloosa's Mayor and Council are as follows:

Mayor, Walt Maddox
Bobby Howard, District 1
Harrison Taylor, District 2
Cynthia Almond, District 3
Lee Garrison, District 4
Kip Tyner, District 5
Bob Lundell, District 6
William Tinker, III, District 7

Water Billing Office
Turn On/Turn Off
Office Hours:
8:00 am – 4:30 pm
Monday – Friday
(205) 248-5000
Drive Thru Hours
7:30 am – 5:00 pm

Hilliard N. Fletcher
Wastewater Plant
Office Hours:
7:00 am – 3:30 pm
Monday – Friday
(205) 248-5900

Distribution Division
Line Breaks/Leaks
Office Hours:
7:00 am – 3:30 pm
Monday – Friday
(205) 248-5950

Lakes Division
Source Division
Office Hours:
7:00 am – 3:30 pm
Monday – Friday
(205) 349-0279

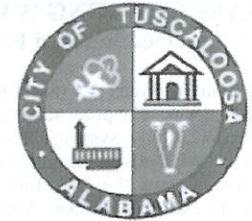
Ed Love Water Filtration Plant

Office Hours:
7:00 am – 3:30 pm
Monday - Friday
(205) 248-5630

Jerry Plott Water Plant
2101 New Watermelon Road
(205) 248-5600
Tuscaloosa, AL 35406

Additional Information:
Perry A. Acklin
Water Treatment Manager
Phone: (205) 248-5630

Scott Sanderford
Lakes Division Manager
Phone: (205) 349-0279



CITY OF TUSCALOOSA WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT

2011

ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT



City of Tuscaloosa
Ed Love Water Filtration Plant
1125 Jack Warner Parkway North East
Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35404-1056
Telephone (205) 248-5630
Fax (205) 349-0213

<http://www.tuscaloosa.com>

Office Hours:
7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

THE SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT... What Does It Mean For You?

The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) was signed into law on December 16, 1974. The purpose of the law is to assure that the nation's water supply systems serving the public meet minimum national standards for the protection of public health.

The SDWA directed the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to establish national drinking water standards. 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 the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline 800-426-4791 or EPA's website address www.epa.gov/safewater.

Amended in 1996, the SDWA contains provisions for consumer involvement and right-to-know. The Consumer Confidence Report or Annual Water Quality Report is the centerpiece of public right-to-know in SDWA. This report provides consumers the detected amounts of contaminants, sources of contamination, and plain language definitions.

The amendments recognized that 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 microbial contaminants are available from the 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 can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

PLAIN LANGUAGE DEFINITIONS

1. 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.

2. 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.

3. 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.

PLAIN LANGUAGE DEFINITIONS continued

4. 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.

5. Treatment Technique or TT: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

6. Action Level or AL: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

In the following tables you may find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms we have provided the following definitions.

ppm means parts per million and is equal to mg/L or milligrams per liter

ppb means parts per billion and is equal to µg/L or micrograms per liter

ppt means parts per trillion and is equal to ng/L or nanograms per liter

pCi/L equals picocuries per liter, a measure of radiation

NTU equals Nephelometric Turbidity Units

CFU equals Colony Forming Units

MFL means million fibers per liter longer than 10 micrometers

N/A - not applicable - ND - not detected

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.

EPA Lead and Copper Statement

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. The City of Tuscaloosa is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in the 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 with 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>.

Tuscaloosa's Lead and Copper Program

Since 1991, the City of Tuscaloosa has tested 57 homes annually for the presence of lead and copper. Because of the involvement of these citizens, the lead and copper program continues to be very successful. The City has always maintained compliance with this regulation. We would like to commend those 57 participants for their support of this endeavor.

WATER QUALITY REPORT PRIMARY DRINKING WATER PARAMETERS WATER SOURCE LAKE TUSCALOOSA

DETECTED CONTAMINANTS						
MICROBIOLOGICAL						
All results meet or surpass Federal Drinking Water Regulations						
Period Covered: 12 Months Ending December, 2010	Units	MCL	MCLG	Highest Level in Distribution System	Range of detections	Violation (Yes/No)
Total Coliform Bacteria	Presence of total coliform bacteria in <5% of the 120 required monthly samples	0	0	Coliform Present in 1.19% of samples in one month	Not detected 1.19%	No
Only 4 of 2505 samples were positive for Total Coliform or 0.16%, in 2009. No samples were E.coli positive.						
Total Organic Carbon	mg/L	TT	N/A	1.9	1.1 - 1.9	No
Turbidity	NTU	0.3	N/A	0.498	0.005 - 0.498	No
Chlorine as Cl ₂	mg/L	4	4	3	0.2 - 3.0	No
RADIOLOGICAL						
All results meet or surpass Federal Drinking Water Regulations						
Gross Alpha	pCi/L	15	0	0.6	0.4 - 0.5 - 0.6	No
INORGANIC CHEMICALS						
All results meet or surpass Federal Drinking Water Regulations						
Fluoride as F ⁻	mg/L	4	4	1.28	0.70 - 1.28	No
Nitrate as NO ₃ -N	mg/L	10	10	0.038	0.32 - 0.38	No
Sulfate as SO ₄	mg/L	50	50	31.0	15.3 - 31.0	No
DISINFECTION BY PRODUCTS						
All results meet or surpass Federal Drinking Water Regulations						
Period Covered: 12 Months Ending December, 2010	Units	MCL	MCLG	Average Level in Distribution System	Range of detections	Violation (Yes/No)
Haloacetic Acids	µg/L	60	N/A	25.1	9.6 - 51.0	No
The sum of Dibromoacetic, Dichloroacetic, Monobromoacetic, Monochloroacetic, & Trichloroacetic Acids annual average MCL equal to or less than 60 µg/L.						
Total Trihalomethanes	µg/L	80	N/A	35.9	13.9 - 85.5	No
The sum of Chloroform, Bromodichloromethane, Dibromochloromethane & Bromoform annual average MCL equal to or less than 80 µg/L.						
LEAD AND COPPER PRIMARY MONITORING						
All results meet or surpass Federal Drinking Water Regulations						
Period Covered: 12 Months Ending December, 2010	Units	MCL	MCLG	Highest Level in Distribution System	Range of detections	Violation (Yes/No)
Lead as Pb	mg/L	AL=0.015	0	0.005	<0.005 - 0.005	No
Copper as Cu	mg/L	AL=1.3	1.3	0.105	<0.050 - 0.105	No
There were no violations, more than 90% of samples were below the action level. Only one lead result and only one copper result were above the action level.						
ORGANIC CHEMICALS						
UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS						
All results meet or surpass Federal Drinking Water Regulations						
Period Covered: 12 Months Ending December, 2010	Units	MCL	MCLG	Highest Level in Distribution System	Range of detections	Violation (Yes/No)
Bromodichloromethane	µg/L	N/A	N/A	4.26	2.57 - 4.26	No
Chloroform	µg/L	N/A	N/A	8.81	4.28 - 8.81	No
Dibromochloromethane	µg/L	N/A	N/A	1.28	0.85 - 1.28	No

WATER QUALITY REPORT TABLE OF PRIMARY DRINKING WATER PARAMETERS MONITORING PERIOD ENDING DECEMBER 2005 WATER SOURCE LAKE TUSCALOOSA

MICROBIOLOGICAL			RADIOLOGICAL		
Analyte	MCL	Highest Level Detected	Analyte	MCL	Highest Level Detected
Total Coliform Bacteria	<5%	1.00%	Beta / Photon Emitters	4 mrem / yr	N/A
Turbidity	<0.3 NTU	0.300	Alpha Emitters	15 pCi/L	1.2 ± 0.8
INORGANIC CHEMICALS			Combined Radium	5 pCi/L	N/A
Antimony as Sb	6 ppb	ND	Uranium	30 ppb	N/A
Arsenic as As	10 ppb	ND	ORGANIC CHEMICALS		
Asbestos*	7 MFL	N/A	Endrin	2 ppb	ND
Barium as Ba	2 ppm	ND	Epichlorohydrin	TT	ND
Beryllium as Be	4 ppb	ND	Glyphosate	700 ppb	ND
Cadmium as Cd	5 ppb	ND	Heptachlor	400 ppb	ND
Chromium as Cr	100 ppb	ND	Heptachlor epoxide	200 ppt	ND
Copper as Cu	AL=1.3ppm	ND	Hexachlorobenzene	1 ppb	ND
Cyanide as Cn	200 ppb	ND	Hexachlorocyclopentadiene	50 ppb	ND
Fluoride as F ⁻	4 ppm	ND	Lindane	200 ppt	ND
Lead as Pb	AL=15 ppb	ND	Methoxychlor	40 ppb	ND
Mercury as Hg	2 ppb	ND	Oxamyl (Vydate)	200 ppb	ND
Nitrate as NO ₃ -N	10 ppm	ND	PCB's	500 ppt	ND
Nitrite as NO ₂ -N	1 ppm	ND	Pentachlorophenol	1 ppb	ND
Selenium as Se	50 ppb	ND	Picloram	500 ppb	ND
Thallium as Tl	2 ppb	ND	Simazine	4 ppb	ND
DISINFECTION BY PRODUCTS			Toxaphene	3 ppb	ND
Chlorine	4 ppm	3.6	Benzene	5 ppb	ND
Chloramines	4 ppm	ND	Carbon tetrachloride	5 ppb	ND
Chlorine	1 ppm	ND	Chlorobenzene	100 ppb	ND
Chlorine Dioxide	800 ppb	ND	Dibromochloropropane	200 ppt	ND
Bromate	10 ppb	ND	o-Dichlorobenzene	600 ppb	ND
Total Organic Carbon	TT	2.8	p-Dichlorobenzene	75 ppb	ND
Total Trihalomethanes	80 ppb	129	1,2-Dichloroethane	5 ppb	ND
Haloacetic Acids	60 ppb	71.5	1,1-Dichloroethylene	7 ppb	ND
ORGANIC CHEMICALS			cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene	70 ppb	ND
2,4-D	70 ppb	ND	trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene	100 ppb	ND
2,4,5-TP(Silvex)	50 ppb	ND	Dichloromethane	5 ppb	ND
Acrylamide	TT	ND	1,2-Dichloropropane	5 ppb	ND
Alachlor	2 ppb	ND	Ethylbenzene	700 ppb	ND
Atrazine	3 ppb	ND	Ethylene dibromide	50 ppt	ND
Benzo(A)pyrene	200 ppb	ND	Styrene	100 ppb	ND
Carbofuran	40 ppb	ND	Tetrachloroethylene	5 ppb	ND
Chlordane	2 ppb	ND	1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene	70 ppb	ND
Dalapon	200 ppb	ND	1,1,1-Trichloroethane	200 ppb	ND
Di(2-ethylhexyl)adipate	400 ppb	ND	1,1,2-Trichloroethane	5 ppb	ND
Di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalates	6 ppb	ND	Trichloroethylene	5 ppb	ND
Dinoseb	7 ppb	ND	Toluene	1 ppm	ND
Diquat	20 ppb	ND	Vinyl Chloride	2 ppb	ND
Dioxin(2,3,7,8-TCDD)*	30 ppt	ND	Xylenes	10 ppm	ND
Endothall	100 ppb	ND			