

ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

Carbon Hill Utilities Board

January-December 2025

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. Our suppliers have a Source Water Protection Plan available for review that provides more information such as potential sources of contamination. I'm pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets federal and state requirements. Please help us make this effort worthwhile by protecting our source water. Carefully follow instructions on pesticides and herbicides you use for your lawn, garden and by properly dispose of household chemicals, paints and waste oil. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. The water we supply to our customers comes from the Mulberry Fork of the Warrior River, which is purchased from the Jasper Water Works and Sewer Board, and the Eldridge Water System. Eldridge produces their water from two wells which withdraws water from the Pottsville Formation aquifer. Chlorine is added to the water as disinfectant and the required residual is maintained to protect your drinking water from any possible outside contaminants.

Carbon Hill Utilities Board routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2025. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It's important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk.

If you have questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Jackie Stough, phone 205-924-9313. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Board meetings. They are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 4:00 P.M. in the Utility Office.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

◆ Bill Hurst, Chairman

Mitchell Mays

Terry Pendley

Wade Keeton

James Collins

PLAIN LANGUAGE DEFINITION

- **Not Required (NR)** – Laboratory analysis not required due to waiver granted by the Environmental Protection Agency for the State of Alabama.
- **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.
- **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.
- **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.
- **Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)** - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.
- **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.
- **Variances & Exemptions (V&E)** - State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
- **Action Level – (AL)** the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- **Treatment Technique (TT)** - (mandatory language) A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level - (mandatory language)** 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.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - (mandatory language)** The "Goal" (**MCLG**) 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 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.
- **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.

UCMR Definitions:

UCMR Minimum Reporting Level (MRL): The minimum concentration that may be reported by a laboratory as a quantified value for a method analyte following analysis. The MRLs were established based on the capability of the analytical method, not based on a level established as "significant" or "harmful". **UCMR Reference Concentration:** The reference concentrations are based on publicly available health information found in the following EPA resources: 2018 Edition of the Drinking Water Standards and Health Advisories Tables [i.e., Health advisories (HA)] and the CCL 4 Contaminant Information Sheets [i.e., **Health Reference Levels (HRLs)**]. The primary sources of the health information used to derive the guideline values in the resources referenced above are peer-reviewed assessments from EPA or other governmental agencies. The reference concentrations are subject to change as new health assessments are completed. Reference Concentrations are not legally enforceable federal standards.

Health Reference Levels (HRL): The CCL process derives HRLs for screening purposes using available data and can be used in the Regulatory Determination process as risk-derived concentrations against which to evaluate the occurrence data to determine if contaminants may occur at levels of public health concern. HRLs are not final determinations about the level of a contaminant in drinking water that is necessary to protect any particular population and, in some cases, are derived prior to development of a complete exposure assessment using the best available data. HRLs are not legally enforceable federal standards

Health Advisories (HA): Has provide information on contaminants that can cause human health effects and are known or anticipated to occur in drinking water. EPA's health advisories are non-enforceable and non-regulatory and provide technical information to State agencies and other public health officials on health effects, analytical methodologies and treatment technologies to assist with risk management decisions.

Level 1 Assessment: "A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system."

Level 2 Assessment: "A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an *E. coli* MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions."

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 run-off, 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 run-off, and septic systems.
- *Radioactive contaminants*, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

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.

The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or ADEM requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.



Table of Primary Contaminants

At high levels some primary contaminants are known to pose a health risks to humans. This table provides a quick glance of any primary contaminant detections.

CONTAMINANT	MCL	AMOUNT DETECTED	CONTAMINANT	MCL	AMOUNT DETECTED
Bacteriological			Dalapon(ppb)	200	ND
Total Coliform Bacteria	< 5%	0	Dibromochloromethane(ppb)	200	0.32
Turbidity (Jasper)	TT	0.10	0-Dichlorobenzene(ppb)	600	ND
Turbidity (Eldridge)	TT	ND	p-Dichlorobenzene(ppb)	75	ND
Fecal Coliform & E. coli	0	ND	1,2-Dichloroethane(ppb)	5	ND
Fecal Indicators (enterococci or coliphage)	None	ND	1,1-Dichloroethylene(ppb)	7	ND
Radiological			Cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene(ppb)	70	ND
Beta/photon emitters (mrem/yr)	4	ND	trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene(ppb)	100	ND
Alpha emitters (pci/l)(Jasper)	15	ND	Dichloromethane(ppb)	5	ND
Combined radium (pci/l) (Jasper)	5	ND	1,2-Dichloropropane(ppb)	5	ND
Uranium(pci/l)	30	ND	Di-(2-ethylhexyl)adipate(ppb)	400	ND
Inorganic			Di(2-ethylhexyl)phthlates(ppb)(Jasper 2010)	6	ND
Antimony (ppb)	6	ND	Dinoseb(ppb)	7	ND
Arsenic (ppb)	10	ND	Dioxin[2,3,7,8-TCDD](ppq)	30	ND
Asbestos (MFL)	7	ND	Diquat(ppb) (Jasper 2010)	20	ND
Barium (ppm) (Jasper)	2	0.0219	Endothall(ppb)	100	ND
Beryllium (ppb)	4	ND	Endrin(ppb)	2	ND
Bromate(ppb)	10	ND	Epichlorohydrin	TT	ND
Cadmium (ppb)	5	ND	Ethylbenzene(ppb)	700	ND
Chloramines(ppm)	4	ND	Ethylene dibromide(ppt)	50	ND
Chlorine(ppm) (Carbon Hill)	4	1.26	Glyphosate(ppb)	700	ND
Chlorine dioxide(ppb)	800	ND	Haloacetic Acids(ppb)(Carbon Hill)	60	26.51
Chlotite(ppm)	1	ND	Heptachlor(ppt)	400	ND
Chromium (ppb)	100	ND	Heptachlor epoxide(ppt)	200	ND
Copper (ppm) (Carbon Hill)	AL=1.3	0.086	Hexachlorobenzene(ppb)	1	ND
Cyanide (ppb)	200	ND	Hexachlorocyclopentadiene(ppm)	50	ND
Fluoride (ppm)(Jasper)	4	ND	Lindane(ppt)	200	ND
Lead (ppb) (Carbon Hill)	AL=15	0.001	Methoxychlor(ppb)	40	ND
Mercury (ppb)	2	ND	Oxamyl [Vydate](ppb)	200	ND
Nitrate (ppm) (Carbon Hill)	10	N/A	Pentachlorophenol(ppb)	1	ND
Nitrate (ppm) (Jasper)	10	0.563	Picloram(ppb)	500	ND
Nitrate (ppm) (Eldridge)	10	ND			
Nitrite (ppm)	1	ND	PCBs(ppt)	500	ND
Total Nitrate & Nitrite	10	0.563	Simazine(ppb)	4	ND
Selenium(ppb)	50	ND	Styrene(ppb)	100	ND
Thallium(ppb) (Jasper)	2	ND	Tetrachloroethylene(ppb)	5	ND
Organic Chemicals			Toluene(ppm)	1	ND
Acrylamide	TT	ND	TOC (Jasper)	TT	1.25
Alachlor(ppb)	2	ND	TTHM(ppb)(Carbon Hill)	80	33.33
Atrazine(ppb) (Jasper)	3	ND	Toxaphene(ppb)	3	ND
Benzene(ppbv)	5	ND	2,4,5-TP (Silvex)(ppb)	50	ND
Benzo(a)pyrene[PHAs](ppt)	200	ND	1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene(ppb)	70	ND
Carbofuran(ppb)	40	ND	1,1,1-Trichloroethane(ppb)	200	ND
Carbon Tetrachloride(ppb)	5	ND	1,1,2-Trichloroethane(ppb)	5	ND
Chlordane(ppb)	2	ND	Trichloroethylene(ppb)	5	ND

Chlorobenzene(ppb)	100	ND	Vinyl Chloride(ppb)	2	ND
2,4-D	70	ND	Xylenes(ppm)	10	ND

Table of Detected Drinking Water Contaminants

CONTAMINANT	MCLG	MCL	Range			Amount Detected		Likely Source of Contamination
Bacteriological Contaminants January - December 2025								
Turbidity (Jasper)	0	TT				0.10	NTU	Soil runoff
Inorganic Contaminants January - December 2025								
Chlorine (Carbon Hill)	MRDLG 4	MRDL 4	0.42	-	1.89	1.16	ppm	Water additive used to control microbes
Copper (Carbon Hill)	1.3	AL=1.3	No. of Sites above action level 0			0.086	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Nitrate (as N)(Eldridge)	10	10	ND	-	ND	ND	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (as N)(Jasper)	10	10	0.563	-	0.563	0.563	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Turbidity (Eldridge)	N/A	TT				ND	NTU	Soil runoff
Organic Contaminants January - December 2025								
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (Carbon Hill)	N/A	60	9.2	-	49.0	26.51	ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Organic Carbon (TOC) (Jasper)	N/A	TT	0.90	-	1.5	1.2	ppm	Naturally present in the environment
Total trihalomethanes (TTHM)(Carbon Hill)	0	80	11.0	-	60.0	33.33	ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Secondary Contaminants January - December 2025								
Chloride (Eldridge)	N/A	250	6.8	-	6.9	6.85	ppm	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of agricultural runoff
Chloride (Jasper)	N/A	250	15.0	-	15.0	15.0	ppm	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of agricultural runoff
Iron (Eldridge)	N/A	0.3	ND	-	0.12	0.12	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
Manganese (Eldridge)	N/A	0.05	ND	-	0.03	0.03	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
Odor (Eldridge)	N/A	3	ND	-	1.00	1.00	T.O.N.	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of treatment with water additives

Sulfate (Jasper)	N/A	250	17.3	-	17.3	17.3	ppm	Naturally occurring in the environment
Sulfate (Eldridge)	N/A	250	ND	-	1.06	1.06	ppm	Naturally occurring in the environment
Total Dissolved Solids (Eldridge)	N/A	500	257.0	-	277.00	267.00	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
Total Dissolved Solids (Jasper)	N/A	500	70.0	-	70.0	70.0	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
Zinc (Jasper)	N/A	5	0.452	-	0.452	0.452	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
Special Contaminants January - December 2025								
Calcium (Jasper)	N/A	N/A	11.9	-	11.9	11.9	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
Calcium (Eldridge)	N/A	N/A	1.59	-	1.97	1.97	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
Carbon Dioxide (Jasper)	N/A	N/A	5	-	12	12	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
Magnesium (Jasper)	N/A	N/A	2.32	-	2.32	2.32	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
Magnesium (Eldridge)	N/A	N/A	ND	-	0.53	0.53	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
pH (Eldridge)	N/A	N/A	7.9	-	8.2	8.05	SU	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of treatment with water additives
pH (Jasper)	N/A	N/A	7.7	-	7.7	7.7	SU	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of treatment with water additives
Sodium (Jasper)	N/A	N/A	7.52	-	7.52	7.52	ppm	Naturally occurring in the environment
Sodium (Eldridge)	N/A	N/A	113.0	-	115.00	114.00	ppm	Naturally occurring in the environment
Specific Conductance (Jasper)	N/A	<500	ND	-	158.00	158.00	umhos	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of treatment with water additives
Specific Conductance (Eldridge)	N/A	<500	358.00	-	475.00	475.00	umhos	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of treatment with water additives
Total Alkalinity (Jasper)	N/A	N/A	18.0	-	57.0	57.0	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
Total Alkalinity (Eldridge)	N/A	N/A	183.00	-	242.00	242.00	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
Total Hardness (as CaCO3)(Eldridge)	N/A	N/A	3.70	-	3.80	3.75	ppm	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of treatment with water additives
Total Hardness (as CaCO3)(Jasper)	N/A	N/A	39.2	-	39.2	39.2	ppm	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of treatment with water additives
Unregulated Contaminants January - December 2025								

Bromodichloromethane (Carbon Hill)	N/A	N/A	1.7	-	7.0	4.2	ppb	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of industrial discharge or agricultural runoff; by-product of chlorination
Dibromochloromethane (Carbon Hill)	N/A	N/A	ND	-	1.2	0.32	ppb	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of industrial discharge or agricultural runoff; by-product of chlorination
Chloroform (Carbon Hill)	N/A	N/A	12.0	-	52.0	28.93	ppb	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of industrial discharge or agricultural runoff; by-product of chlorination

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. ADEM has Secondary Drinking Water Standards established in state regulations applicable to water systems required to monitor for the various components.

GENERAL INFORMATION

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

As you can see by the tables, our system had no violations of allowable limits of contaminants in drinking water. 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.

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 activities.

Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea and associated headaches.

Cryptosporidium is a microbial pathogen found in surface water throughout the U.S. Although filtration removes *Cryptosporidium*, the most commonly-used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100 percent removal. Ingestion of *Cryptosporidium* may cause cryptosporidiosis, an abdominal infection. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within a few weeks. However, immune-compromised individuals, infants and small children, and the elderly are at greater risk of developing life-threatening illness. We encourage immune-compromised individuals to consult their doctor regarding appropriate precautions to take to avoid infection. *Cryptosporidium* must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water. We currently monitor for *Cryptosporidium* and have had none detected.

Radon is a naturally occurring gas present in some groundwater. Inhaled radon has been linked to lung cancer and may pose a health risk when inhaled after the release from water into the air. This inhalation could occur during showering, bathing, washing dishes, or washing clothes. The radon gas release from drinking water is a relatively small part of the total radon found in air. One major source of radon gas is from the soil, where the gas can seep through the foundations of homes. It is not clear whether ingested (i.e. taken through the mouth) radon contributes to cancer or other adverse health conditions. If you are concerned about radon in your home, tests are available to determine the total exposure level. For additional information on home testing contact (insert name of local health department). Note 300 Pci/l proposed MCL.

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 (Environmental Protection Agency)/CDC (Center of Disease Control) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline. All Drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. 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).

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.

Lead in Drinking Water: “Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups. 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.

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 Carbon Hill Utilities Board 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>.

Lead Service Line Inventory: Our Lead Service Line Inventory was completed and submitted by the deadline of October 16, 2024, and a copy of it is in our office as required by EPA. If any would like to review it or have any questions, please feel free to contact our office.

Upon completing the lead service line inventory, The Utilities Board of Carbon Hill is pleased to report, that they had 0 – Lead Service Lines, 0 – Galvanize Required Replacement Service Lines, 17– Unknown, and 1120 Non- Lead Service Lines.

Lead Status Unknown: The service line material is not known to be lead or GRR. For the entire service line or a portion of it (in cases of split ownership), there is not enough evidence to support the material classification. We at Carbon Hill Utilities will be working to identify these unknown services and or replacing them as required by EPA.

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. We at the Carbon Hill Utilities Board work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. 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.