

**2023 Annual Water Quality Report**  
(Testing Performed January through December 2023)

**WEST LAUDERDALE WATER & FIRE  
PROTECTION AUTHORITY**

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The West Lauderdale Water Authority is pleased to provide you, our customer, our annual Water Quality Report. The West Lauderdale Water Authority is committed to providing the residents of West Lauderdale County with the safest and highest quality drinking water possible. Our water quality meets or exceeds federal and state drinking water standards.

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| <b>Water Sources</b>       | Purchased surface water from the City of Florence Water Department |
|                            | (Surface water from the Tennessee River and Cypress Creek)         |
| <b>Storage Capacity</b>    | 6 tanks with total capacity 1,500,000 gallons                      |
| <b>Number of Customers</b> | Approximately 5000   |
| <b>Interconnections</b>    | Sell water to Southwest Wayne County, TN                           |
|                            | Emergency connection with Chisholm Heights                         |
| <b>Board Members</b>       |  |
|                            | Deborah Miles, Chairman  |
|                            | Bobby McCormick, Vice Chairman                                     |
|                            | Anthony Holcombe, Secretary  |

**Source Water Assessment**

In compliance with the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM), The City of Florence Water Department developed a Source Water Assessment plan that assists in protecting our water sources. It includes a susceptibility analysis, which classifies potential contaminants as high, moderate, or non-susceptible to contaminating the water source. You may request to review a copy during regular business hours, or you may purchase a copy upon request for a nominal reproduction fee.

West Lauderdale WFPA utilizes a Bacteriological Monitoring Plan. The required chlorine residual is maintained throughout our distribution system to protect your drinking water from possible outside contaminants. We have also established a Cross-Connection Policy to ensure safe drinking water for our customers. Please help us make these efforts worthwhile by protecting our source water. Carefully follow instructions on pesticides and herbicides you use for your lawn and garden, and properly dispose of household chemicals, paints, and waste oil. We ask that all our customers help us protect our valuable water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life, and our children's futures.

**Information about Lead**

Lead in drinking water is rarely found in source water but is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Your water system is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Use *only* water from the cold-water tap for drinking, cooking, and *especially for making baby formula*. Hot water is more likely to cause leaching of lead from plumbing materials. 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. These recommended actions are very important to the health of your family.

Lead levels in your drinking water are likely to be higher if:

- Your home or water system has lead pipes, or
- Your home has faucets or fittings made of brass which contains some lead, or
- Your home has copper pipes with lead solder, and you have naturally soft water, and
- Water often sits in the pipes for several hours.

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 [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

## General Information

All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. MCL's, defined in a List of Definitions in this report, 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.

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

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the level of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water.

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. People at risk should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

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.

Florence Water Department tests our untreated, raw source water for Cryptosporidium and Giardia. Cryptosporidium and Giardia are microscopic organisms found in surface water throughout the United States. These pathogens can enter the water from animal or human waste. For people who may be immuno-compromised, a guidance document developed jointly by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Center for Disease Control is available online at [www.epa.gov/safewater/crypto.html](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/crypto.html) or from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791. Although filtration can remove Cryptosporidium and Giardia, the most commonly used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100% removal. Cryptosporidium and Giardia are removed and/or treated at Florence Water Department water treatment plant by effective filtration and disinfection processes. The most recent results from testing the raw, untreated water source are in the table below.

| Analysis Results - Cypress Creek |                         | Analysis Results - Wilson Lake |                    |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| Cryptosporidium                  | Giardia                 | Cryptosporidium                | Giardia            |
| 0.00-0.48 organisms / L          | 0.19-1.80 organisms / L | 0.00-0.98 organisms / L        | 0.00 organisms / L |

## Monitoring Schedule and Results

West Lauderdale WFPA and Florence Water Department *routinely* monitor for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This report contains results from the most recent monitoring which was performed in accordance with the regulatory schedule.

| Constituents Monitored   | West Lauderdale | Florence |
|--|-----------------|----------|
| Inorganic Contaminants   |                 | 2022     |
| Lead/Copper  | 2020            | 2022     |
| Microbiological Contaminants   | current         | current  |
| Nitrates   |                 | 2022     |
| Radioactive Contaminants   |                 | 2021     |
| Synthetic Organic Contaminants (including herbicides and pesticides) |                 | 2021     |
| Volatile Organic Contaminants  |                 | 2022     |
| Disinfection By-products   | 2022            | 2022     |
| Cryptosporidium  |                 | 2017     |
| DSE Disinfection By-products   | 2018            | 2018     |
| Unregulated Contaminants Monitoring Rule 4 (UCMR4)                   | 2020            | 2020     |
| PFAS Contaminants  |                 | 2022     |

We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. We are pleased to report that our drinking water meets federal and state requirements.

| DETECTED DRINKING WATER CONTAMINANTS |               |                       |                   |           |         |         |  |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------|---------|---------|--|
| Contaminants                         | Violation Y/N | W.Lauderdale Detected | Florence Detected | Unit Msmt | MCLG    | MCL     | Likely Source  |
| Chlorine                             | NO            |                       | .5-2.7            | ppm       | MRDLG=4 | MRDL=4  | Water additive used to control microbes  |
| Total Organic Carbon                 | NO            |                       | .5-1.1            | ppm       | n/a     | TT      | Soil runoff and naturally present in the environment   |
| Turbidity                            | NO            |                       | 0.1-0.40          | NTU       | n/a     | TT      | Soil runoff  |
| Alpha emitters                       | NO            | 2.5 ± 1.0             | ND                | PCi/l     | 0       | 15      | Erosion of natural deposits  |
| Copper (at consumer's tap)           | NO            | 0.07*<br>0 > AL       | 0.050*<br>0 > AL  | ppm       | 1.3     | AL=1.3  | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives |
| Fluoride                             | NO            |                       | ND-0.68           | ppm       | 4       | 4       | Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth                                |
| Lead (at consumer's tap)             | NO            | ND                    | 0.0033*<br>0 > AL | ppm       | 0       | AL=0.15 | Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits                                   |
| Nitrate (as Nitrogen)                | NO            |                       | 0.81              | ppm       | 10      | 10      | Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits            |
| TTHM-Total trihalomethanes           | NO            | Range 11.0-85.0       | 28.0              | ppb       | 0       | 80      | By-product of drinking water chlorination  |
| HAA5-Total haloacetic acids          | NO            | Range 3.00-40.0       | 17.3              | ppb       | 0       | 60      | By-product of drinking water chlorination  |
| <b>Secondary Contaminants</b>        |               |                       |                   |           |         |         |  |
| Aluminum                             | NO            |                       | 0.048             | ppm       | none    | 0.2     | Erosion; treatment with water additives  |
| Chloride                             | NO            |                       | 29.3              | ppm       | n/a     | 250     | Naturally occurring in the environment or from runoff  |
| Hardness                             | NO            |                       | 76.2              | ppm       | n/a     | n/a     | Naturally occurring; treatment with water additives  |
| Manganese                            | NO            |                       | ND                | ppm       | n/a     | 0.05    | Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from pipes   |
| pH                                   | NO            |                       | 7.4               | S.U.      | n/a     | n/a     | Erosion; treatment with water additives  |
| Sodium                               | NO            |                       | 12.8              | ppm       | n/a     | n/a     | Naturally occurring in the environment   |
| Sulfate                              | NO            |                       | 9.5               | ppm       | n/a     | 250     | Naturally occurring in the environment or from runoff  |
| Total Dissolved Solids               | NO            |                       | 112               | ppm       | n/a     | 500     | Naturally occurring in the environment or from runoff  |
| <b>DSE Disinfection Byproducts</b>   |               |                       |                   |           |         |         |  |
| TTHM-Total trihalomethanes           | NO            | 27.25                 |                   | ppb       |         |         | By-product of drinking water chlorination  |
| HAA5-Total haloacetic acids          | NO            | 18.00                 |                   | ppb       |         |         | By-product of drinking water chlorination  |

\* Figure shown is 90<sup>th</sup> percentile and # of sites above the Action Level = 0

### Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5)(Florence)

| Contaminant | Amount Detected | Units | Contaminant  | Amount Detected | Units |
|-------------|-----------------|-------|--------------|-----------------|-------|
| PFTrDA      | ND              | ppb   | PFHxA        | 0.0032          | ppb   |
| NETFOSAA    | ND              | ppb   | ADONA        | ND              | ppb   |
| NMEFOSAA    | ND              | ppb   | PFPeS        | ND              | ppb   |
| PFTeDA      | ND              | ppb   | 6:2 FTS      | ND              | ppb   |
| PFBA        | 0.0097          | ppb   | PFOA         | 0.0048          | ppb   |
| PFMPA       | ND              | ppb   | PFHpS        | ND              | ppb   |
| PFPeA       | 0.0029          | ppb   | PFOS         | 0.014           | ppb   |
| PFBS        | 0.0051          | ppb   | PFNA         | ND              | ppb   |
| PFMBA       | ND              | ppb   | 9CI-PF3ONS   | ND              | ppb   |
| PFEESA      | ND              | ppb   | 8:2 FTS      | ND              | ppb   |
| HFPO-DA     | ND              | ppb   | PFDA         | ND              | ppb   |
| NFDHA       | ND              | ppb   | PFUnA        | ND              | ppb   |
| 4:2 FTS     | ND              | ppb   | 11CI-PF3Ouds | ND              | ppb   |
| PFHxS       | ND              | ppb   | PFDaA        | ND              | ppb   |
| PFHpA       | ND              | ppb   | Lithium      | ND              | ppb   |

**PFAS - Florence:** Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are synthetic chemical compounds found throughout our environment. PFAS are found in water, air, and soil. PFAS are used in many consumer and industrial products because they have the unique ability to repel oil, water, and grease. The City of Florence tested for PFAS in 2022 at Cypress Creek, Wilson Lake Water Treatment Plants, and Houston Hills Well. Cypress Creek WTP had a 0.020 ppb result for PFAS. Wilson Lake WTP had a 0.050 ppb result for PFAS. Houston Hills Well had a 0.0022 ppb result for PFAS.

#### DEFINITIONS

Action Level- the concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements.

Coliform Absent (ca)- Laboratory analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present.

Disinfection byproducts (DBPs)- are formed when disinfectants react with bromide and/or natural organic matter (i.e., decaying vegetation) present in the source water. Different disinfectants produce different types and amounts of disinfection byproducts. Disinfection byproducts for which regulations have been established include trihalomethanes (THM), haloacetic acids (HAA5), bromate, and chlorite.

Initial Distribution System Evaluation (IDSE)-a one-time study conducted by water systems to identify distribution system locations with high concentrations of trihalomethanes (THMs) and haloacetic acids (HAAs).

Level 1 Assessment-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 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.

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 (MRDL)-the highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water

Micrograms per liter (ug/L) – Equivalent to parts per billion (ppb) since one liter of water is equal in weight to one billion micrograms.

Milligrams per liter (mg/L) – Equivalent to parts per million

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

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU)-a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

Not Detected (ND)- laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present above detection limits of lab equipment.

Not Reported (NR)-laboratory analysis, usually Secondary Contaminants, not reported by water system. EPA recommends secondary standards to water systems but does not require systems to comply.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (µg/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 a single 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.

Running Annual Average (RAA)-yearly average of all the DPB results at each specific sampling site in the distribution system. The RAA, along with a range, is reported in the Table of Detected Contaminants.

Standard Units (S.U.)-pH of water measures the water's balances of acids and bases and is affected by temperature and carbon dioxide gas. Water with less than 6.5 could be acidic, soft, and corrosive. A pH greater than 8.5 could indicate that the water is hard.

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

Variations & Exemptions (V&E)-State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

#### Questions?

We will be pleased to answer any questions about this report or our water quality. Call our office at (256) 766-8787 Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. The Authority Board meets the first Thursday of each month at 8:30 a.m. at the water board office.

More information about contaminants to drinking water and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (1-800-426-4791).

Following is a list of *Primary Drinking Water Contaminants* and a list of *Unregulated Contaminants* for which our water system routinely monitors. These contaminants were *not* detected in your drinking water unless they are listed in the *Table of Detected Drinking Water*

| STANDARD LIST OF PRIMARY DRINKING WATER CONTAMINANTS |                      |                            |   |     |              |
|--|----------------------|----------------------------|---|-----|--------------|
| Contaminant  | MCL                  | Unit of Msmt               | Contaminant                             | MCL | Unit of Msmt |
| <b>Bacteriological Contaminants</b>                  |                      |                            | trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene              | 100 | ppb          |
| Total Coliform Bacteria                              | <5%                  | present or absent          | Dichloromethane                         | 5   | ppb          |
| Fecal Coliform and E. coli                           | 0                    | present or absent          | 1,2-Dichloropropane                     | 5   | ppb          |
| Turbidity  | TT                   | NTU                        | Di (2-ethylhexyl)adipate                | 400 | ppb          |
| Cryptosporidium                                      | TT                   | Calculated organisms/liter | Di (2-ethylhexyl)phthalate              | 6   | ppb          |
| <b>Radiological Contaminants</b>                     |                      |                            | Dinoseb                                 | 7   | ppb          |
| Beta/photon emitters                                 | 4                    | mrem/yr                    | Dioxin [2,3,7,8-TCDD]                   | 30  | ppq          |
| Alpha emitters                                       | 15                   | pCi/l                      | Diquat                                  | 20  | ppb          |
| Combined radium                                      | 5                    | pCi/l                      | Endothall                               | 100 | ppb          |
| Uranium  | 30                   | pCi/l                      | Endrin                                  | 2   | ppb          |
| <b>Inorganic Chemicals</b>                           |                      |                            | Epichlorohydrin                         | TT  | TT           |
| Antimony   | 6                    | ppb                        | Ethylbenzene                            | 700 | ppb          |
| Arsenic  | 10                   | ppb                        | Ethylene dibromide                      | 50  | ppt          |
| Asbestos   | 7                    | MFL                        | Glyphosate                              | 700 | ppb          |
| Barium   | 2                    | ppm                        | Heptachlor                              | 400 | ppt          |
| Beryllium  | 4                    | ppb                        | Heptachlor epoxide                      | 200 | ppt          |
| Cadmium  | 5                    | ppb                        | Hexachlorobenzene                       | 1   | ppb          |
| Chromium   | 100                  | ppb                        | Hexachlorocyclopentadiene               | 50  | ppb          |
| Copper   | AL=1.3               | ppm                        | Lindane                                 | 200 | ppt          |
| Cyanide  | 200                  | ppb                        | Methoxychlor                            | 40  | ppb          |
| Fluoride   | 4                    | ppm                        | Oxamyl [Vydate]                         | 200 | ppb          |
| Lead   | AL=15                | ppb                        | Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs)        | 0.5 | ppb          |
| Mercury  | 2                    | ppb                        | Pentachlorophenol                       | 1   | ppb          |
| Nitrate  | 10                   | ppm                        | Picloram                                | 500 | ppb          |
| Nitrite  | 1                    | ppm                        | Simazine                                | 4   | ppb          |
| Selenium   | .05                  | ppm                        | Styrene                                 | 100 | ppb          |
| Thallium   | .002                 | ppm                        | Tetrachloroethylene                     | 5   | ppb          |
| <b>Organic Contaminants</b>                          |                      |                            | Toluene                                 | 1   | ppm          |
| 2,4-D  | 70                   | ppb                        | Toxaphene                               | 3   | ppb          |
| Acrylamide   | TT                   | TT                         | 2,4,5-TP(Silvex)                        | 50  | ppb          |
| Alachlor   | 2                    | ppb                        | 1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene                  | .07 | ppm          |
| Benzene  | 5                    | ppb                        | 1,1,1-Trichloroethane                   | 200 | ppb          |
| Benzo(a)pyrene [PAHs]                                | 200                  | ppt                        | 1,1,2-Trichloroethane                   | 5   | ppb          |
| Carbofuran   | 40                   | ppb                        | Trichloroethylene                       | 5   | ppb          |
| Carbon tetrachloride                                 | 5                    | ppb                        | Vinyl Chloride                          | 2   | ppb          |
| Chlordane  | 2                    | ppb                        | Xylenes                                 | 10  | ppm          |
| Chlorobenzene  | 100                  | ppb                        | Disinfectants & Disinfection Byproducts |     |              |
| Dalapon  | 200                  | ppb                        | Chlorine                                | 4   | ppm          |
| Dibromochloropropane                                 | 200                  | ppt                        | Chlorine Dioxide                        | 800 | ppb          |
| o-Dichlorobenzene                                    | 600                  | ppb                        | Chloramines                             | 4   | ppm          |
| p-Dichlorobenzene                                    | 75                   | ppb                        | Bromate                                 | 10  | ppb          |
| 1,2-Dichloroethane                                   | 5                    | ppb                        | Chlorite                                | 1   | ppm          |
| 1,1-Dichloroethylene                                 | 7                    | ppb                        | HAA5 [Total haloacetic acids]           | 60  | ppb          |
| cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene                             | 70                   | ppb                        | TTHM [Total trihalomethanes]            | 80  | ppb          |
| <b>UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS</b>                      |                      |                            |   |     |              |
| 1,1 – Dichloropropene                                | Aldicarb             | Chloroform                 | Metolachlor                             |     |              |
| 1,1,1,2-Tetrachloroethane                            | Aldicarb Sulfone     | Chloromethane              | Metribuzin                              |     |              |
| 1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane                            | Aldicarb Sulfoxide   | Dibromochloromethane       | N - Butylbenzene                        |     |              |
| 1,1-Dichloroethane                                   | Aldrin               | Dibromomethane             | Naphthalene                             |     |              |
| 1,2,3 - Trichlorobenzene                             | Bromobenzene         | Dicamba                    | N-Propylbenzene                         |     |              |
| 1,2,3 - Trichloropropane                             | Bromochloromethane   | Dichlorodifluoromethane    | O-Chlorotoluene                         |     |              |
| 1,2,4 - Trimethylbenzene                             | Bromodichloromethane | Dieldrin                   | P-Chlorotoluene                         |     |              |
| 1,3 – Dichloropropane                                | Bromoform            | Hexachlorobutadiene        | P-Isopropyltoluene                      |     |              |
| 1,3 – Dichloropropene                                | Bromomethane         | Isopropylbenzene           | Propachlor                              |     |              |
| 1,3,5 - Trimethylbenzene                             | Butachlor            | M-Dichlorobenzene          | Sec - Butylbenzene                      |     |              |
| 2,2 – Dichloropropane                                | Carbaryl             | Methomyl                   | Tert - Butylbenzene                     |     |              |
| 3-Hydroxycarbofuran                                  | Chloroethane         | MTBE                       | Trichlorofluoromethane                  |     |              |

Contaminants.

