



**2022**  
**WATER QUALITY REPORT**



**OPELIKA**  
**UTILITIES**

Clean Sustainable Water.  
Now and for the Future.

Volume 23, June 2022



**24/7** infrastructure and operators working for you



**24** million gallons/day two water treatment plants supply Opelika's water



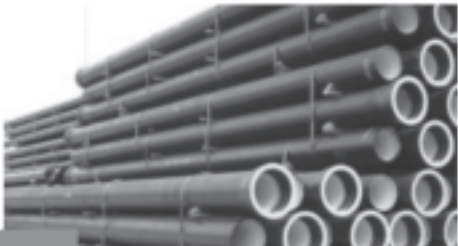
**100s** of weekly water tests



**2** million gallons of water seven water towers



**2200** fire hydrants across our community



**over 400** miles of pipes

# **WATER** You Can Count On. **NOW** And for the **FUTURE.**

Ever stop to think what it takes to bring clean, sustainable water to your home and business every day, 24/7? A lot, actually. These are some examples, but there's so much more. It's a complex mission requiring dedication, technology and the insight to guide half a billion dollars in water infrastructure into the decades to come. We're on it. Opelika Utilities. Water You Can Count On. Now and for the Future.



**OPELIKA UTILITIES**

705-5500

[www.projectH2Opelika.com](http://www.projectH2Opelika.com)

4055 Water Street Opelika



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# A CLOSER LOOK AT WATER QUALITY:



- *Where does your water come from?*
- *Is your water safe to drink?*
- *How are we improving our system?*
- *What contaminants are in our water?*
- *Where do contaminants come from?*

This brochure is a snapshot of last year's water quality. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency and Alabama Department of Environmental Management standards. We are committed to provide you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

Opelika Utilities takes great pride in producing and transmitting the highest quality water available to our customers. We strive to meet and exceed all existing standards established by the EPA and ADEM, and to research and prepare for any future standards required which could improve the quality of our water.

Call us for information about the next opportunity for public participation in decisions about drinking water. Consult our web site at [www.owwb.com](http://www.owwb.com) and for further information, see U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) water information at [www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater).

***We are proud to report that the water provided by the Opelika Utilities Board meets or exceeds all established water quality standards.***

Report due by:  
July, 2022

**OPELIKA UTILITIES BOARD**

# WATER SOURCE

Water used by the Opelika Utilities Board comes from two surface water reservoirs – Saugahatchee Lake and Halawakee Creek.

## *Saugahatchee Lake*

Saugahatchee Lake (City Lake) is an impoundment of Saugahatchee Creek. It covers about 500 acres and has a watershed that covers about 20 square miles. The lake was constructed in the early 1940's and has been a viable source for water since 1948. This reservoir is owned by the Board.

## *Halawakee Creek*

Halawakee Creek, an arm of Lake Harding, is an impoundment of the Chattahoochee River. This source was brought online in 1986 and has been a very good source of water. This reservoir is owned by Georgia Power Company.

## *Water Sources*

The sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled) include surface water sources and ground water sources. Surface water sources include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, and reservoirs. Ground water sources include springs and wells. Saugahatchee Lake and Halawakee Creek are surface water sources.



# DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

Distribution systems are generally designed to ensure hydraulic reliability, which includes adequate water quantity and pressure for fire flow as well as domestic and industrial demand. To meet these demands, extensive storage is usually incorporated in system design, which results in long residence times.

Our system has a total of 9,250,000 gallons of storage in six tanks. These tanks are connected by a system of 300 miles of underground pipes of various sizes ranging up to 36 inches in diameter. These pipes connect the filtration plants, the storage tanks and your homes, businesses and industry. We also have 2,500,000 gallons of water available at the Booster Pumping Station in-ground storage tanks and another 2,000,000 gallons at the R. A. Betts Filter Plant.



## IMPORTANT ABBREVIATIONS

AL	=	Action Level	TT	=	Treatment Technique
MCL	=	Maximum Contaminant Level	MCLG	=	Maximum Contaminant Goal Level
ppm	=	parts per million	ppb	=	parts per billion
ppt	=	parts per trillion (10 <sup>-12</sup> )	mg/L	=	milligrams per liter (Same as parts per million 10 <sup>-6</sup> )
MFL	=	million fibers per liter	µg/L	=	micrograms per liter (Same as parts per billion 10 <sup>-9</sup> )
NTU	=	Nephelometric Turbidity Unit	MDL	=	Minimum Detectable Limit
ND	=	None Detected	PCU	=	Particulate Color Units
MRL	=	Method Reporting Limit			
MRDL	=	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level			
MRDLG	=	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal			
pCi/L	=	Pico curies per liter (a measure of radioactivity)			
mrem/year	=	millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)			
Su	=	Sorensen units— pH—a logarithmic measure used to state the acidity or alkalinity of a solution			
mho@25	=	unit of electric conductance, susceptance and admittance			
BMDL	=	Below Minimum Detectable Limit	N/A	=	Not Applicable
BMRL	=	Below Method Detection Level			

# THE OPELIKA UTILITIES BOARD

Our water system voluntarily tests for hundreds of additional substances and microscopic organisms to make certain our water is safe to drink and of high quality.

For more information, call the Opelika Utilities Board at 334-705-5500. Water Quality Data for community water systems throughout the United States is available at [www.waterdata.com](http://www.waterdata.com). Learn more about the Opelika Utilities Board water system at [www.owwb.com](http://www.owwb.com).

## **CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTER**

4055 Water Street  
Monday - Friday  
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

## **ENGINEERING & DISTRIBUTION CENTER**

4055 Water Street  
Monday - Friday  
6:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

## **FOR BILLING, MAIL TO:**

Post Office Box 2587  
Opelika, AL 36803-2587

## **FOR GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE, MAIL TO:**

Post Office Box 1029  
Opelika, AL 36803-1029

OR Call 334-705-5500

The Utilities Board meets in the board room of our main office located at 4055 Water Street on the fourth Monday of every month at 3:00 p.m. Central Time.

Our web site contains helpful information such as services offered and water rates. You are able to pay your bill online 24 hours a day, seven days a week. You also have an option to have your bill paid by bank draft. Please call our business office between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. to get more information. You can find a copy of this report and previous years reports on our site also. Please visit our site at [www.owwb.com](http://www.owwb.com) and give us feedback on what you think. Our site is here to serve you, our customer.

# THE VALUE OF WATER: DID YOU KNOW?



- The systems that transport clean drinking water 24/7 from the water treatment plant to homes and businesses represent over \$250 million in capital value.
- Water is treated and delivered to each metered Opelika Utilities customer for an average of \$0.00776 per gallon - that's less than one penny per gallon for safe, reliable drinking water delivered 24/7.
- Upkeep and replacement are part and parcel to the cost and therefore, value of your water. Plans are underway to replace aging underground pipelines and older equipment to head off reliability and water quality issues.
- All 14,000 meters on the water system are being replaced between 2020-2022 with new smart meters, enhancing the reliability and providing precision usage information for customers.
- It's not just the infrastructure and facilities, but the people out front and behind the scenes that mean clean, reliable water for Opelika Utilities' homes and businesses.

# HOW DO I READ THESE CHARTS?

The tables show the results of our water-quality analyses. Every regulated contaminant that we detected in the water, even in the most minute traces, are listed here. The table contains the name of each substance, the highest level allowed by regulations (MCL), the ideal goals for public health, the amount detected, the usual sources of such contaminants, footnotes explaining findings, and a key to units of measurements.

## IMPORTANT DEFINITIONS:

### ***Maximum Contaminant Level (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:***

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.

### ***Treatment Technique (TT):***

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

### ***Action Level (AL):***

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

### ***Variations and Exemptions:***

ADEM or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a Treatment Technique under certain conditions.

### ***Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (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 (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.



# SAMPLING FREQUENCY

Opelika Utilities is required by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Alabama Department of Environmental Management to test for many analyte/analyte groups. The sampling is not required on all analytes in the same intervals. The following list of analytes and sample due dates may help in understanding why many sample dates reported are more than one year old. Gross Alpha, including R.A. Betts - next sample 12/31/2025 (1 sample every 9 yrs) at R.A. Betts and 12/31/2023 at Saugahatchee Lake. Radium - next sample 12/31/2025 (a sample every 9 years) at R.A. Betts and 12/31/2023 at Saugahatchee Lake. Lead/Copper - next sample 9/30/2022 (30 samples every 3 yrs). Synthetic Organic Compounds (SOC) (2 samples every 3 years) next sample 12/31/2022 at R.A. Betts and 12/31/2022 at Saugahatchee Lake. Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) next sample 12/31/2022 at the Saugahatchee Lake WTP and 12/31/2022 at the R.A. Betts WTP. Most others are due at least annually. (Analyte - a substance or chemical constituent that is undergoing analysis.)

Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)					
MCL = 80 ppb (All values expressed as ppb)					
TTHMs	1st Qtr. 2020	2nd Qtr. 2020	3rd Qtr. 2020	4th Qtr. 2020	Locational Running Annual Average
Sector 1	15.7	62.4	13.9	29.4	30.4
Sector 2	31.9	64.5	70.9	45.1	53.1
Sector 3	30.8	58.3	74.5	28.4	48.0
Sector 4	31.7	48.7	72.6	32.7	46.4
Sector 5	6.2	26.7	14.0	11.4	14.6
Sector 6	9.6	16.4	13.7	5.7	11.4



**Haloacetic Acids (HAA5s)**  
**MCL= 60 ppb (All values expressed as ppb)**

HAA5s	1st Qtr. 2020	2nd Qtr. 2020	3rd Qtr. 2020	4th Qtr. 2020	Locational Running Annual Average
Sector 1	11.7	44.6	26.8	22.6	26.4
Sector 2	25.3	40.7	18.1	35.0	29.8
Sector 3	20.0	33.8	40.0	20.0	28.5
Sector 4	23.8	25.2	21.1	23.4	23.4
Sector 5	8.8	20.9	15.1	10.6	13.9
Sector 6	11.7	11.0	6.6	6.4	8.9

Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) and Haloacetic Acids (HAA5s) are a by-product of drinking water chlorination. Chlorine is a strong disinfectant used to insure that drinking water is safe to drink. Inadequately treated water may contain disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites, which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches. Some people who drink water containing Trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their livers, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Opelika Utilities is required to monitor your drinking water for specific parameters and contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets standards set by ADEM.

Opelika Utilities had no violations for Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) or Haloacetic Acids (HAA5s) in 2021.

**2021 Chlorite**  
**(All values expressed as mg/l)**  
**MCL=1.0mg/l**

Month	Site 1 (Pepperell Pkwy)	Site 2 (Preston St)	Site 3 (Saug. Plant)
January	0.66	0.64	0.65
February	0.72	0.72	0.75
March	0.77	0.62	0.89
April	0.64	0.64	0.68
May	0.73	0.72	0.79
June	0.66	0.70	0.76
July	0.76	0.82	0.86
August	0.79	0.80	0.79
September	0.72	0.68	0.89
October	0.80	0.76	0.99
November	0.77	0.80	0.80
December	0.75	0.81	0.89

Month	Site 1 (Jeter Ave)	Site 2 (Hamilton Rd)	Site 3 (Betts Plant)
January	0.73	0.65	0.73
February	0.65	0.67	0.84
March	0.61	0.63	0.83
April	0.54	0.53	0.73
May	0.63	0.68	0.85
June	0.55	0.66	0.99
July	0.73	0.68	0.79
August	0.76	0.76	0.93
September	0.63	0.62	0.90
October	0.68	0.60	0.83
November	0.80	0.75	0.91
December	0.82	0.79	0.94

Chlorite occurs in drinking water as disinfection by-products when chlorine dioxide is used in the treatment process. The above chart shows the months that the chlorine dioxide was in use and the chlorine result. ND-None Detected.

## ***Methyl-Tertiary Butyl Ether (MTBE)***

Recent publicity associated with Methyl-Tertiary Butyl Ether (MTBE) has caused a great deal of uneasiness to the general public and our customers. We are committed to producing top quality water and providing our customers with information concerning the quality of our water. To that end, we have had our finished water and our source water from both sites tested. We are pleased to announce that the analysis indicates that our water is free of the contaminant.

# **REQUIRED HEALTH INFORMATION**

To insure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes limits on the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water.

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, and 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 runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- **Pesticides and herbicides**, which come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- **Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organics, 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.

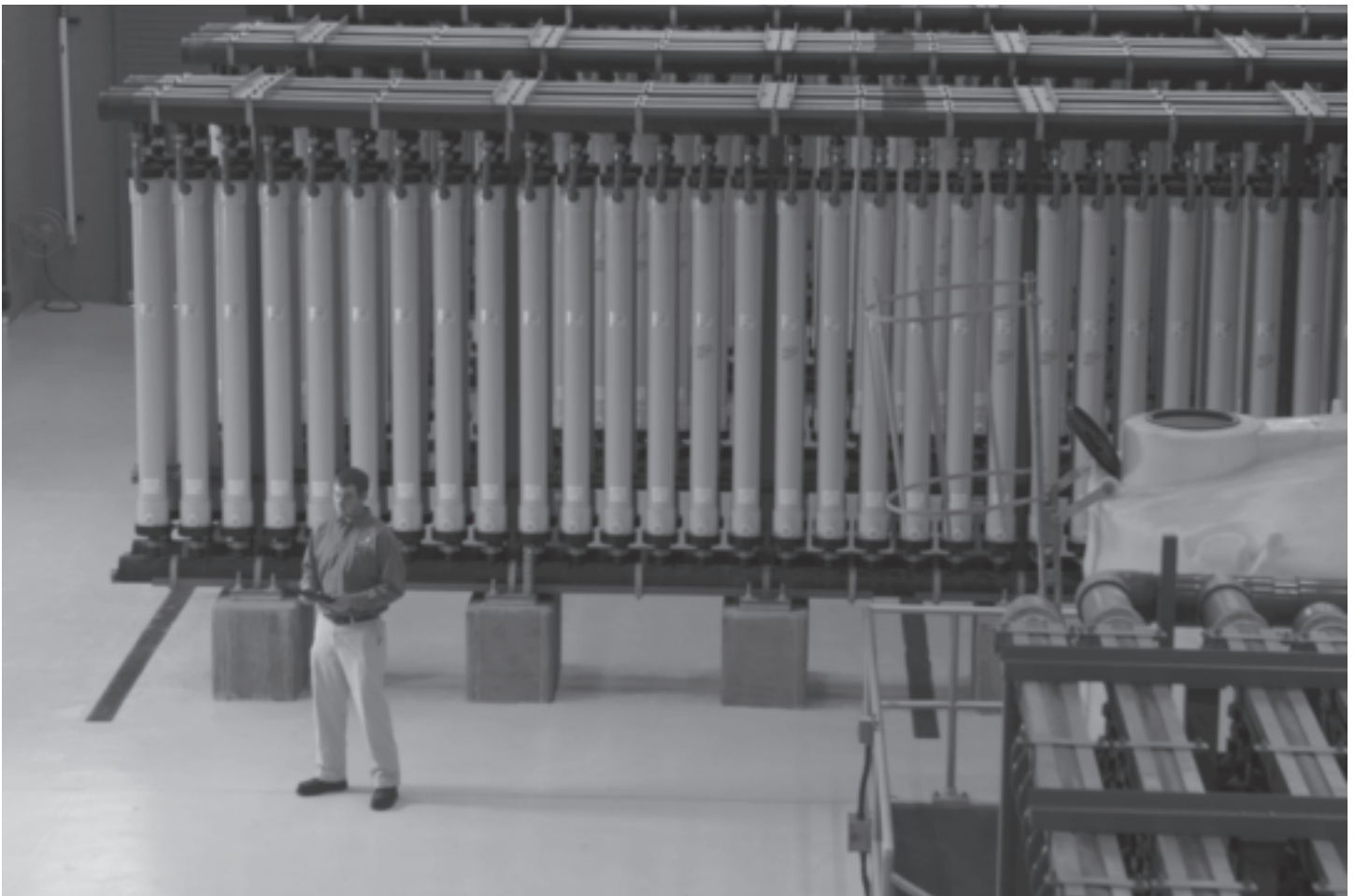
In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than is the general population. Immune-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 the advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/FDA guidelines on appropriate means to lessen risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

# ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL CONTAMINANTS

Opelika Utilities conducts assessments of the susceptibility of public water system water sources to potential sources of contamination. These assessments have been done in accordance with Alabama's Source Water Assessment and Protection Program and the Safe Drinking Water Act. The purpose for conducting the assessments is to educate the public and promote the development of local, voluntary source water protection. During 2021, the Source Water Assessment for Saughatchee Lake and Lake Harding was updated and reviewed.

Learn more about source water protection and other drinking water topics through EPA's Drinking Water Academy Web Cast training. The EPA Drinking Water Academy hosts a variety of drinking water related topics that are conducted through interactive on-line training. Learn more about registration and course offerings by visiting the Drinking Water Academy.



**Standard List of Primary Drinking Water Contaminants**

Contaminant	MCL Mg/L	Amt Detected RA Betts mg/L	Amt Detected Saugahatchee mg/L	MDL mg/L	Collected Date R.A. Betts	Collected Date Saugahatchee
<b>INORGANIC CHEMICALS (IOCs)</b>						
Antimony	0.006	BMDL	BMDL	0.00014	04/21/2021	04/21/2021
Arsenic	0.05	BMDL	BMDL	0.00026	04/21/2021	04/21/2021
Barium	2	0.0214	0.016	0.00016	04/21/2021	04/21/2021
Beryllium	0.004	BMDL	BMDL	0.00011	04/21/2021	04/21/2021
Cadmium	0.005	BMDL	BMDL	0.00013	04/21/2021	04/21/2021
Chromium	0.1	0.00058	0.00048	0.00026	04/21/2021	04/21/2021
Cyanide	0.2	BMDL	BMDL	0.004	04/21/2021	04/21/2021
Fluoride	4	0.690	0.662	0.03	04/21/2021	04/21/2021
Lead	0.015	BMDL	BMDL	0.0002	04/21/2021	04/21/2021
Mercury	0.002	BMDL	BMDL	0.00036	04/21/2021	04/21/2021
Nickel	0.1	0.00062	0.00023	0.00016	04/21/2021	04/21/2021
Nitrate (As N)	10	0.170	BMDL	0.035	04/21/2021	04/21/2021
Nitrite (As N)	1	BMDL	BMDL	0.008	04/21/2021	04/21/2021
Total Nitrate/Nitrite	10	0.170	BMDL	0.035	04/21/2021	04/21/2021
Selenium	0.05	BMDL	BMDL	0.00069	04/21/2021	04/21/2021
Sulfate	500	18.9	5.76	5.04	04/21/2021	04/21/2021
Thallium	0.002	BMDL	BMDL	0.00013	04/21/2021	04/21/2021
Alkalinity, Total	N/A	32.5	20.3	20.0	04/21/2021	04/21/2021
Aluminum	0.2	BMDL	0.111	0.022	04/21/2021	04/21/2021
Calcium	N/A	3.63	2.83	0.0451	04/21/2021	04/21/2021
Carbon Dioxide	N/A	29.0	17.8	N/A	04/21/2021	04/21/2021
Chloride	250	11.4	BMDL	10.0	04/21/2021	04/21/2021
Color	15	BMDL	BMDL	6	04/21/2021	04/21/2021
Copper	1	0.0025	0.00066	0.00026	04/21/2021	04/21/2021
Foaming Agents (Surfactants)	0.5	BMDL	BMDL	0.18	04/21/2021	04/21/2021
Hardness, Total (As CaCo3)	N/A	16.3	12.2	5.0	04/21/2021	04/21/2021
Iron	0.3	BMDL	BMDL	0.0273	04/21/2021	04/21/2021
Magnesium	N/A	2.20	1.64	0.028	04/21/2021	04/21/2021
Manganese	0.05	0.0037	0.00025	0.00021	04/21/2021	04/21/2021
Odor	3 TON	None	None	N/A	04/21/2021	04/21/2021
pH	N/A	7.7	7.7	N/A	04/21/2021	04/21/2021
Silver	0.1	BMDL	BMDL	0.0015	04/21/2021	04/21/2021
Sodium	N/A	28.3	15.8	0.718	04/21/2021	04/21/2021
Specific Conductance	N/A	175	108	10	04/21/2021	04/21/2021
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	500	107	73.5	2.5	04/21/2021	04/21/2021
Zinc	5	0.0024	0.0008	0.00022	04/21/2021	04/21/2021

(NO VIOLATIONS OF MCLs OCCURRED IN 2021)

Contaminant	MCL Mg/L	Amt Detected R.A. Betts mg/L	Amt Detected Saugahatchee mg/L	MDL mg/L	Collected Date R.A. Betts	Collected Date Saugahatchee
<b>SYNTHETIC ORGANIC CHEMICALS (SOCs)</b>						
2,4,5-TP(Silvex)	0.05	BMDL	BMDL	0.000067	06/18/2019	06/18/2019
2,4-D	0.07	BMDL	BMDL	0.000049	06/18/2019	06/18/2019
Alachlor (Lasso)	0.002	BMDL	BMDL	0.000494	06/18/2019	06/18/2019
Atrazine	0.003	BMDL	BMDL	0.000234	06/18/2019	06/18/2019
Benzo(a)pyrene [PAHS]	0.0002	BMDL	BMDL	0.000005	06/18/2019	06/18/2019
Carbofuran	0.04	BMDL	BMDL	0.00123	06/18/2019	06/18/2019
Chlordane	0.002	BMDL	BMDL	0.000136	06/18/2019	06/18/2019
Dalapon	0.2	BMDL	BMDL	0.000082	06/18/2019	06/18/2019
DBCP (1,2 Dibromo-3-Chloropropane)	0.0002	BMDL	BMDL	0.00001	06/18/2019	06/18/2019
Bis (2-ethylhexyl) adipate	0.4	BMDL	BMDL	0.000348	06/18/2019	06/18/2019
Bis (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate	0.006	BMDL	BMDL	0.0012	06/18/2019	06/18/2019
Dimoseb	0.007	BMDL	BMDL	0.000045	06/18/2019	06/18/2019
Diquat	0.02	BMDL	BMDL	0.000597	06/18/2019	06/18/2019
EDB (Ethylene Dibromide)	0.00005	BMDL	BMDL	0.00001	06/18/2019	06/18/2019
Endothall	0.1	BMDL	BMDL	0.00786	06/18/2019	06/18/2019
Endrin	0.002	BMDL	BMDL	0.000065	06/18/2019	06/18/2019
Glyphosate	0.7	BMDL	BMDL	0.00267	06/18/2019	06/18/2019
Heptachlor	0.0004	BMDL	BMDL	0.00008	06/18/2019	06/18/2019
Heptachlor epoxide	0.0002	BMDL	BMDL	0.00004	06/18/2019	06/18/2019
Hexachlorobenzene (HCB)	0.001	BMDL	BMDL	0.00015	06/18/2019	06/18/2019
Hexachlorocyclopentadiene	0.05	BMDL	BMDL	0.000068	06/18/2019	06/18/2019
Lindane	0.0002	BMDL	BMDL	0.000039	06/18/2019	06/18/2019
Methoxychlor	0.04	BMDL	BMDL	0.000265	06/18/2019	06/18/2019

(Continued...)

### Standard List of Primary Drinking Water Contaminants

Contaminant	MCL Mg/L	Amt Detected R.A. Betts mg/L	Amt Detected Saughatchee mg/L	MDL mg/L	Collected Date R.A. Betts	Collected Date Saughatchee
<b>SYNTHETIC ORGANIC CHEMICALS (SOCs) <span style="float: right;">continued</span></b>						
Oxamyl (Vydate)	0.2	BMDL	BMDL	0.000537	06/18/2019	06/18/2019
PCB (Polychlorinated Biphenyls)	0.0005	BMDL	BMDL	0.0001	06/18/2019	06/18/2019
Pentachlorophenol	0.001	BMDL	BMDL	0.000038	06/18/2019	06/18/2019
Picloram	0.5	BMDL	BMDL	0.000053	06/18/2019	06/18/2019
Simazine	0.004	BMDL	BMDL	0.000241	06/18/2019	06/18/2019
Tonaphene	0.003	BMDL	BMDL	0.000079	06/18/2019	06/18/2019
3-Hydroxycarbofuran	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.000439	06/18/2019	06/18/2019
Aldicarb	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.000335	06/18/2019	06/18/2019
Aldicarb Sulfone	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.000308	06/18/2019	06/18/2019
Aldicarb Sulfoxide	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.000396	06/18/2019	06/18/2019
Aldrin	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.000133	06/18/2019	06/18/2019
Butachlor	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.000384	06/18/2019	06/18/2019
Carbaryl	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.000329	06/18/2019	06/18/2019
Dicamba	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.000055	06/18/2019	06/18/2019
Dieldrin	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.000085	06/18/2019	06/18/2019
Methomyl	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.00042	06/18/2019	06/18/2019
Metolachlor	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.000137	06/18/2019	06/18/2019
Metribuzin	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.000763	06/18/2019	06/18/2019
Propachlor	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.000131	06/18/2019	06/18/2019
(NO VIOLATIONS OF MCLs OCCURRED IN 2021)						

### Lead and Copper Monitoring

The Opelika Utilities Board completed monitoring requirements for lead and copper in 2019 without exceeding the lead and copper action level. The system will continue to monitor for lead and copper every three years. The next monitoring period for the system will be the period of June - September 2022.

Our monitoring results in 2019 were as follows:

	Actual Results	Action Level Limit
Lead (90th Percentile Sample)	= 0.00075 ppm	0.015 ppm
Copper (90th Percentile Sample)	= 0.0972 ppm	1.30 ppm

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. Opelika Utilities 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>.

Opelika Utilities has completed a Source Water Assessment which is required by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Alabama Department of Environmental Management. Copies of the assessment documents are available to the public upon request. Requests can be made at 4055 Water Street, Opelika.

\*\*DIOXIN and ASBESTOS MONITORING: 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. Author: Joe Alan Power Statutory Authority: History: Adopted June 7, 2000

### Standard List of Primary Drinking Water Contaminants

Contaminant Test	MCL mg/L	Amt Detected R.A Betts mg/L	Amt Detected Saugahatchee mg/L	MDL mg/L	Collected R.A Betts	Collected Saugahatchee
<b>VOLATILE ORGANIC CHEMICALS (VOCs)</b>						
1,1,1-Trichloroethane	0.2	BMDL	BMDL	0.000311	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
1,1,2-Trichloroethane	0.005	BMDL	BMDL	0.000104	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
1,1-Dichloroethylene	0.007	BMDL	BMDL	0.000261	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene	0.07	BMDL	BMDL	0.000498	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
1,2-Dichloroethane	0.005	BMDL	BMDL	0.000249	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
1,2-Dichloropropane	0.005	BMDL	BMDL	0.000113	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
Benzene	0.005	BMDL	BMDL	0.000155	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
Carbon Tetrachloride	0.005	BMDL	BMDL	0.000377	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
Cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene	0.07	BMDL	BMDL	0.000152	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
Ethylbenzene	0.7	BMDL	BMDL	0.000418	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
Methylene Chloride (Dichloromethane)	0.005	BMDL	BMDL	0.000153	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
Chlorobenzene	0.1	BMDL	BMDL	0.00024	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
1,2-Dichlorobenzene	0.6	BMDL	BMDL	0.00031	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
1,4-Dichlorobenzene	0.075	BMDL	BMDL	0.00023	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
Styrene	0.1	BMDL	BMDL	0.000406	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
TCE (Trichloroethylene)	0.005	BMDL	BMDL	0.000214	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
Tetrachloroethene	0.005	BMDL	BMDL	0.00018	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
Toluene	1	BMDL	BMDL	0.00024	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
Trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene	0.1	BMDL	BMDL	0.000332	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
Vinyl Chloride	0.002	BMDL	BMDL	0.000214	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
Xylenes	10	BMDL	BMDL	0.000492	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
1,1-Dichloropropene	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.000262	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
1,1,1,2-Tetrachloroethane	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.000097	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.00025	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
1,1-Dichloroethane	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.000228	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
1,2,3-Trichlorobenzene	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.00043	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
1,2,3-Trichloropropane	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.00043	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
1,2,4-Trimethylbenzene	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.000392	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
1,3-Dichloropropane	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.000138	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
Cis-1,3-Dichloropropene	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.000229	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
Trans-1,3-Dichloropropene	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.000209	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
1,3,5-Trimethylbenzene	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.000485	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
2,2-Dichloropropane	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.000356	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
Bromobenzene	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.000299	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
Bromochloromethane	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.000488	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
Bromodichloromethane	N/A	0.00359	0.00229	0.000123	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
Bromoform	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.000135	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
Bromomethane	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.000397	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
Chloroethane	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.00039	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
Chloroform	N/A	0.0141	0.00545	0.000105	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
Chloromethane	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.000248	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
Dibromochloromethane	N/A	BMDL	0.00062	0.000151	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
Dibromomethane	N/A	0.00063	BMDL	0.00016	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
Dichlorodifluoromethane	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.000201	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
Hexachlorobutadiene	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.000192	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
Isopropylbenzene	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.000458	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
1,3-Dichlorobenzene	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.00037	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
Methyl-Tertiary Butyl Ether (MTBE)	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.000215	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
N-Butylbenzene	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.00041	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
Naphthalene	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.000343	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
N-Propylbenzene	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.000441	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
2-Chlorotoluene	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.000403	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
4-Chlorotoluene	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.000425	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
4-Isopropyltoluene	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.000467	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
Sec-Butylbenzene	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.000466	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
Teri-Butylbenzene	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.000481	02/14/2019	04/21/2021
Trichlorofluoromethane	N/A	BMDL	BMDL	0.000128	02/14/2019	04/21/2021

**(NO VIOLATIONS OF MCLs OCCURRED IN 2021)**

Contaminant	MCL	Amt/Detected R.A Betts	Amt/Detected Saugahatchee	Unit	MDL	Test Date Betts	Test Date Saugahatchee
<b>RADIOLOGICALS</b>							
Radium-228	5	BMDL	BMDL	pCi/L	0.6	5/25/2016	03/4/2014
Gross Alpha	15	BMDL	BMDL	pCi/L	2.5	5/23/2016	03/4/2014
<b>Bacteriologicals</b>							
	<b>MCL</b>	<b>Amount Detected</b>		<b>Unit</b>	<b>MDL</b>	<b>Test/Date</b>	
Total Coliform Bacteria	<5%	0			0	Monthly	
Turbidity	.30	0.024		NTU	0.001	Hourly	



# Required Listing of Detected Contaminants

CONTAMINANT	MCLG	MCL	Major Sources
Cadmium	5 ppb	5 ppb	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from metal refineries; runoff from waste batteries and paints.
Chromium	100 ppb	100 ppb	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits.
Turbidity	N/A	TT	Soil Runoff
Fluoride	4 ppm	4 ppm	Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate	10 ppm	10 ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrite	1 ppm	1 ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Lead	0	AL=15ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
TTHM (Total trihalomethanes)	N/A	80 ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Total Organic Carbon	N/A	TT	Naturally present in the environment.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	N/A	60 ppb	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Chlorine	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4ppm	Water additive used to control microbials.

## ADDITIONAL HEALTH INFORMATION

**Cadmium:** Some people who drink water containing cadmium in excess of the MCL over many years could experience kidney damage.

**Chromium:** Some people who use water containing chromium well in excess of the MCL over many years could experience allergic dermatitis.

**Turbidity:** 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.

**Fluoride:** Some people who drink water containing fluoride in excess of the MCL over many years could get bone disease, including pain and tenderness of the bones. Fluoride in drinking water at half the MCL or more may cause mottling of children's teeth, usually in children less than nine years old. Mottling, also known as dental fluorosis, may include brown staining and/or pitting of the teeth, and occurs only in developing teeth, before they erupt from the gums.

**Nitrate:** Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue-baby syndrome.

**Nitrite:** Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrite in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue-baby syndrome.

**Lead:** Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical and mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

**TTHM:** Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

**TOC:** Total organic carbon has no health effects. However, total organic carbon provides a medium for the formation of disinfection byproducts. These byproducts include trihalomethanes and haloacetic acids. Drinking water containing these byproducts in excess of the MCL may lead to adverse health effects, liver or kidney problems, or nervous system effects, and may lead to an increased risk of getting cancer.

**HAA:** Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

**Chlorine:** Some people who use drinking water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience irritating effects to their eyes and nose. Some people who drink water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience stomach discomfort.

## 2021 Total Organic Carbon (TOCs) R.A.BETTS WTP

Month	Sample Set Date	Raw	Treated	Alkalinity	%Removed	%Required	Ratio	Alternate	Compliance
Jan	1/5/2021	3.09	1.67	24.0	46.0	35	1.31	1.00	1.31
Feb	2/2/2021	2.15	1.01	22.3	53.1	35	1.52	1.00	1.52
Mar	3/3/2021	2.84	1.29	24.0	54.6	35	1.56	1.00	1.56
Apr	4/5/2021	2.35	1.16	20.3	50.7	35	1.45	1.00	1.45
May	5/5/2021	7.06	1.64	25.4	76.8	45	1.71	1.00	1.71
Jun	6/2/2021	2.94	1.36	22.3	53.8	35	1.54	1.00	1.54
Jul	7/6/2021	3.00	1.78	24.4	40.7	35	1.16	1.00	1.16
Aug	8/3/2021	3.63	1.89	24.4	48.0	35	1.37	1.00	1.37
Sep	9/7/2021	2.64	1.34	22.3	49.3	35	1.41	1.00	1.41
Oct	10/8/2021	5.79	1.80	27.2	69.0	45	1.53	1.00	1.53
Nov	11/3/2021	2.62	1.36	22.3	48.1	35	1.37	1.00	1.37
Dec	12/7/2021	2.18	1.29	24.4	40.9	35	1.17	1.00	1.17
Average		3.36	1.47	23.6	52.6	36.6	1.44		1.43
Was TOC removal attained				Yes	Running Annual Average		1.43	(Must be greater than 1.00)	

## 2021 Total Organic Carbon (TOCs) SAUGAHATCHEE LAKE WTP

Month	Sample Set Date	Raw	Treated	Alkalinity	%Removed	%Required	Ratio	Alternate	Compliance
Jan	1/5/2021	4.13	1.95	17.3	52.8	45	1.17	1.00	1.17
Feb	2/2/2021	3.31	1.64	17.1	50.5	35	1.44	1.00	1.44
Mar	3/3/2021	3.03	1.65	18.9	45.6	35	1.30	1.00	1.30
Apr	4/5/2021	3.75	1.88	18.4	49.9	35	1.43	1.00	1.43
May	5/5/2021	3.77	1.76	18.9	53.4	35	1.53	1.00	1.53
Jun	6/2/2021	4.07	2.19	20.7	46.2	45	1.03	1.00	1.03
Jul	7/6/2021	3.91	1.98	20.3	49.4	35	1.41	1.00	1.41
Aug	8/3/2021	4.20	2.02	23.3	52.0	45	1.16	1.00	1.16
Sep	9/7/2021	3.39	1.89	20.3	44.3	35	1.27	1.00	1.27
Oct	10/8/2021	3.91	2.26	17.5	42.2	35	1.21	1.00	1.21
Nov	11/3/2021	4.48	2.31	17.5	48.5	45	1.08	1.00	1.08
Dec	12/7/2021	3.83	1.98	17.7	48.4	35	1.38	1.00	1.38
Average		3.82	1.96	19.0	48.6	38.3	1.27		1.28
Was TOC removal attained				Yes	Running Annual Average		1.28	(Must be greater than 1.00)	

### UCMR4 (Fourth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule)

Contaminant	MCL Mg/L	Amt Detected RA Betts mg/L	Amt Detected Saugahatchee mg/L	MRL mg/L	Collected Date R.A. Betts	Collected Date Saugahatchee
<b>Metals</b>						
Germanium	N/A	BMRL	BMRL	0.0003	02/14/2019	02/14/2019
Manganese	N/A	BMRL	0.00136	0.0004	02/14/2019	02/14/2019
<b>Pesticides and a Pesticide Manufacturing Byproduct</b>						
Alpha-hexachlorocyclohexane	N/A	BMRL	BMRL	0.00001	02/14/2019	02/14/2019
Chlorpyrifos	N/A	BMRL	BMRL	0.00003	02/14/2019	02/14/2019
Dimethipin	N/A	BMRL	BMRL	0.0002	02/14/2019	02/14/2019
Ethoprop	N/A	BMRL	BMRL	0.00003	02/14/2019	02/14/2019
Oxyfluorfen	N/A	BMRL	BMRL	0.00005	02/14/2019	02/14/2019
Profenofos	N/A	BMRL	BMRL	0.0003	02/14/2019	02/14/2019
Tebuconazole	N/A	BMRL	BMRL	0.0002	02/14/2019	02/14/2019
Total permethrin (cis-& Trans-)	N/A	BMRL	BMRL	0.00004	02/14/2019	02/14/2019
Tribufos	N/A	BMRL	BMRL	0.00007	02/14/2019	02/14/2019
<b>Alcohols</b>						
1-Butanol	N/A	BMRL	BMRL	0.002	02/14/2019	02/14/2019
2-Methoxyethanol	N/A	BMRL	BMRL	0.0004	02/14/2019	02/14/2019
2-Propen-1-ol	N/A	BMRL	BMRL	0.0005	02/14/2019	02/14/2019
<b>Semivolatile Chemicals</b>						
Butylated hydroxyanisole	N/A	BMRL	BMRL	0.00003	02/14/2019	02/14/2019
toluidine	N/A	BMRL	BMRL	0.000007	02/14/2019	02/14/2019
Quinoline	N/A	BMRL	BMRL	0.00002	02/14/2019	02/14/2019
<b>Cyanotoxins</b>						
Anatoxin-a	N/A	BMRL	BMRL	0.00003	07/22/2019	07/22/2019
Cylindrospermopsin	N/A	BMRL	BMRL	0.00009	07/22/2019	07/22/2019
Total Microcystins and Nodularins	N/A	BMRL	BMRL	0.0003	07/22/2019	07/22/2019

### UCMR4 (Fourth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule)

Contaminant	Amt Detected Sector 1 mg/l	Amt Detected Sector 2 mg/L	Amt Detected Sector 3 mg/L	Amt Detected Sector 4 mg/L	MRL mg/l	Collected Date All Sites
<b>HAA Groups</b>						
Bromochloroacetic acid	0.00256	0.00259	0.00271	0.00265	0.0003	02/14/2019
Bromodichloroacetic acid	0.00362	0.00369	0.00348	0.00346	0.0005	02/14/2019
Chlorodibromoacetic acid	0.000452	0.000391	0.000462	0.000507	0.0003	02/14/2019
Dibromoacetic acid	BMRL	BMRL	BMRL	BMRL	0.0003	02/14/2019
Dichloroacetic acid	0.0115	0.0128	0.0108	0.0101	0.0002	02/14/2019
Monobromoacetic acid	BMRL	BMRL	BMRL	BMRL	0.0003	02/14/2019
Monochloroacetic acid	BMRL	BMRL	BMRL	BMRL	0.002	02/14/2019
Tribromoacetic acid	BMRL	BMRL	BMRL	BMRL	0.002	02/14/2019
Trichloroacetic acid	0.0119	0.0149	0.011	0.00998	0.0005	02/14/2019

The 1996 Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) amendments require that once every five years EPA issue a new list of no more than 30 unregulated contaminants to be monitored by public water systems (PWSs).

The fourth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 4) was published in the Federal Register on December 20, 2016. UCMR 4 requires monitoring for 30 chemical contaminants between 2018 and 2020 using analytical methods developed by EPA and consensus organizations. This monitoring provides a basis for future regulatory actions to protect public health.

For more information on UCMR4 please visit <https://www.epa.gov/dwucmr/fourth-unregulated-contaminant-monitoring-rule>

Testing for UCMR4 occurred in February, April, May, June and July of 2019



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# 2022 WATER QUALITY REPORT



VOLUME 23 JUNE 2022