

2024 Annual Water Quality Report
(Testing Performed January through December 2023)

KUSHLA WATER DISTRICT

PWSID AL0000993
6210 Hwy 45
Eight Mile, AL 36613
Phone 251-675-2297
kushlawater.com

As a convenience to you, payments are now being accepted on our website! Just click the "PAY NOW" button on our home page and follow instructions. Alternatively, you may mail your remittance and bill to the office or use the after-hours depository box, located at the left of the drive-up window. Current office hours are 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply, we continually need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. Some of those improvements include extending our water lines to new customers, replacing old or damaged water lines, cleaning and painting our storage tanks, replacing old or defective water meters, and upgrading our pumping stations. These improvements sometimes require interruptions in service. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Thank you for understanding.

Water Source	Two (2) groundwater wells producing from the Miocene series
Water Treatment	Chlorination for disinfection
Number of Customers	Approximately 2212
Superintendent	Chad Hennis
Water Board	Christopher Williams, Sr., Chairman Karen Payne-Taylor, Vice Chairman William Andrews Nathaniel Cotton Earl Hudson Shane McClain Jennie Reese Nanny Rolison

Source Water Assessment

In compliance with the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM), Kushla Water District has developed a Source Water Assessment plan that will assist in protecting our water sources. This plan provides additional information such as potential sources of contamination. It includes a susceptibility analysis, which classifies potential contaminants as high, moderate, or non-susceptible to contaminating the water source. The assessment has been performed, public notification has been completed, and the plan has been approved by ADEM. A copy of the report is available in our office for review during normal business hours, or you may purchase a copy upon request for a nominal reproduction fee.

Please help us make this effort 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.

Questions?

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Chad Hennis, Superintendent, at 251-675-2297 or via email at kushla13@bellsouth.net. 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 meetings. They are held the last Tuesday of each month at the water office at 4:00 p.m. at the water office at 6210 Hwy 45, Eight Mile. Please call the water office for the exact day of the month.

General Information

All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs - defined in the 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 levels 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. People who are immunocompromised such as cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy, organ transplant recipients, HIV/AIDS positive or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. People at risk should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the 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.

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 (1-800-426-4791) or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Definitions

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

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

Disinfection byproducts (DBPs)- disinfection byproducts for which regulations have been established include trihalomethanes (TTHM), haloacetic acids (HAA5), bromate, and chlorite.

Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA)-yearly average of all the DPB results at each specific sampling site in the distribution system. The highest distribution site LRAA is reported in the Table of Detected Contaminants.

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

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) - the level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG's do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

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.

Non-Detects (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 ($\mu\text{g/l}$)-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.

RAA-Running annual average

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.

Monitoring Schedule and Results

Kushla Water District *routinely* monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws in accordance with the regulatory schedule. This report contains results from monitoring as listed below:

Constituents Monitored	Date Monitored
Inorganic Contaminants	2023
Lead/Copper	2022
Microbiological Contaminants	current
Nitrates	2023
Radioactive Contaminants	2020
Synthetic Organic Contaminants	2023
Volatile Organic Contaminants	2023
Disinfection By-products	2023
PFAS Contaminants	2020

As you can see by the table below, our system had no MCL violations. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. We are pleased to report that our drinking water meets or exceeds federal and state requirements.

TABLE OF DETECTED DRINKING WATER CONTAMINANTS						
Contaminants	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Msmt	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium	NO	0.016	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Copper	NO	0.239 ¹ 0>AL	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead	NO	0.0015 ² 1>AL	ppm	0	AL=0.015	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
TTHM [Total trihalomethanes]	NO	LRAA Range 58.8-62.3	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 [Total haloacetic acids]	NO	LRAA Range 15.5-20.0	ppb	0	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Unregulated Contaminants						
Chloroform	NO	17.0	ppb	70	n/a	Naturally occurring; industrial discharge; agricultural runoff
Bromodichloromethane	NO	21.0	ppb	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring; industrial discharge; agricultural runoff
Chlorodibromomethane	NO	22.0	ppb	60	n/a	Naturally occurring; industrial discharge; agricultural runoff
Bromoform	NO	3.10	ppb	0	n/a	Naturally occurring; industrial discharge; agricultural runoff
Secondary Contaminants						
Chloride	NO	146	ppm	n/a	250	Naturally occurring; agricultural runoff
Hardness	NO	7.2	ppm	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring or from treatment with water additives
Iron	NO	0.72 ³	ppm	n/a	0.30	Naturally occurring; erosion; leaching from pipes
pH	NO	7.5-8.0	S.U.	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring or from treatment with water additives
Sodium	NO	140	ppm	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring in the environment
Total Dissolved Solids	NO	433	ppm	n/a	500	Naturally occurring; industrial discharge; agricultural runoff
Zinc	NO	0.02	ppm	n/a	5	Erosion; factory & refinery discharge; landfill runoff

¹ Figure shown is 90th percentile and # of sites above Action Level = 0

² Figure shown is 90th percentile and # of sites above Action Level = 1

³ Figure shown is a Secondary Contaminant exceedance and is *not* a primary drinking water MCL violation.

PFAS: Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of man-made chemicals that were used in the manufacture of nonstick cookware, stain-resistant carpet and textiles, firefighting foams, food wrappers, and other industrial and consumer applications. Below is a list of PFAS contaminants for which our system monitored in 2020 as required and the results of that monitoring. For more information on PFAS contaminants, please consult www.epa.gov/pfas

PFAS Contaminants					
Contaminant	Unit Msmt	Level Detected	Contaminant	Unit Msmt	Level Detected
11Cl-PF3OUdS (11-chloroeicosafuoro-3-oxaundecane-1-sulfonic acid)	ppb	ND	Perfluoroheptanoic acid	ppb	ND
9Cl-PF3ONS (9-chlorohexadecafluoro-3-oxanone-1-sulfonic acid)	ppb	ND	Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid	ppb	ND
ADONA (4,8-dioxa-3H-perfluorononanoic acid)	ppb	ND	Perfluorononanoic acid	ppb	ND
HFPO-DA (Hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acidA)	ppb	ND	Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid	ppb	ND
NEFOSAA (N-ethylperfluorooctanesulfonamidoacetic acid)	ppb	ND	Perfluorooctanoic acid	ppb	ND
NMeFOSAA (N-methylperfluorooctanesulfonamidoacetic acid)	ppb	ND	Perfluorotetradecanoic acid	ppb	ND
Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid	ppb	ND	Perfluorotridecanoic acid	ppb	ND
Perfluorodecanoic acid	ppb	ND	Perfluoroundecanoic acid	ppb	ND
Perfluorohexanoic acid	ppb	ND	Total PFAS	ppb	ND
Perfluorododecanoic acid	ppb	ND			

Reporting Non-compliance 2023

Kushla Water District incurred a synthetic organic contaminants (SOC) reporting non-compliance during 2023 resulting from a failure to submit the January 2020 – December 2022 SOC results for the Chunchula-Georgetown Road well plant to ADEM by January 10, 2023.

We did monitor for SOCs during the correct time frame, and there was no detection of the contaminants; however, due to lab error, the results were not reported by the 10th day of the month following the sample period. If you have any questions about this non-compliance or your water quality, please contact Chad Hennis, Superintendent, at 251-675-2297 or via email at kushla13@bellsouth.net.

Below is a table of contaminants for which the Environmental Protection Agency and the Alabama Department of Environmental Management require testing. These contaminants were not detected in your drinking water unless they are also listed in the Detected Drinking Water Contaminants table elsewhere in this report.

STANDARD LIST OF PRIMARY DRINKING WATER CONTAMINANTS					
Contaminant	MCL	Unit of Msmt	Contaminant	MCL	Unit of Msmt
Bacteriological Contaminants			trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene	100	ppb
Total Coliform Bacteria	<5%	present/absent	Dichloromethane	5	ppb
Fecal Coliform and E. coli	0	present/absent	1,2-Dichloropropane	5	ppb
Turbidity	TT	NTU	Di (2-ethylhexyl)adipate	400	ppb
Cryptosporidium	TT	Calc.organisms/l	Di (2-ethylhexyl)phthalate	6	ppb
Radiological Contaminants			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
Inorganic Chemicals			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	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
Organic Contaminants			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
1,2-Dichlorobenzene	1000	ppb	Chloramines	4	ppm
1,4-Dichlorobenzene (para)	75	ppb	Bromate	10	ppb
o-Dichlorobenzene	600	ppb	Chlorite	1	ppm
1,2-Dichloroethane	5	ppb	HAA5 [Total haloacetic acids]	60	ppb
1,1-Dichloroethylene	7	ppb	TTHM [Total trihalomethanes]	80	ppb
cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene	70	ppb			
LIST OF UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS					
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		
LIST OF SECONDARY CONTAMINANTS					
Alkalinity, Total (as CA, CO ₃)	Copper	Magnesium	Silver		
Aluminum	Corrosivity	Manganese	Sodium		
Calcium, as Ca	Foaming agents (MBAS)	Odor	Sulfate		
Chloride	Hardness	Nickel	Total Dissolved Solids		
Color	Iron	pH	Zinc		