

# Water Quality Report

*For Period Ending  
December 2008*



## ***Anniston Water Works & Sewer Board***

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**Este informe contiene la información! Si usted no entiende este informe, pida que alguien lo traduzca usted.**

# Anniston Water Works and Our Environment

I have often said that Water Works folks were environmentalists long before that became a popular term. This Water Quality Report reflects the hard work the employees of the AWWSB do every day to keep our water safe and protect the environment. If you have questions or would like to discuss this report do not hesitate to contact us. We are proud of the work we do and would be happy to discuss it with you.

In addition to our normal work in the environment, this year we have initiated two new programs. The first is our "E-Bill" initiative which uses the internet instead of a paper bill to get your water and sewer bill to you. The "E-Bill" can cut down extensively on the paper we use along with all the other effects to the environment of physical mail delivery. You can sign up for "E-Bill" by going to [www.awwsb.org](http://www.awwsb.org). You can also pay your bill through the same site.

Secondly, along with the Calhoun County Commission the Water Works has developed a Bio-Diesel program called "Stove Top to Road Top." We have begun the collection of spent cooking oils to be converted to diesel fuel for use by the county and water works in our fleet of vehicles. Collection vessels for use in your home are now available. If you would like to contribute your used cooking oil or want more information, please contact the County Commission at 237-8339 or Anniston Water at 236-3429 or by e-mail to [recycle@hiwaay.net](mailto:recycle@hiwaay.net).



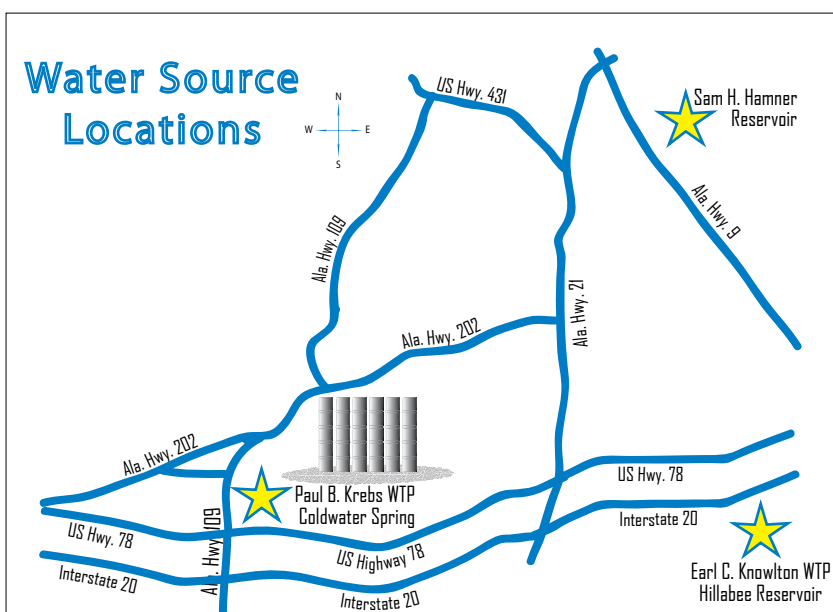
Together we can save money and make a difference in the environment!

*Jim Miller, General Manager*

Drinking water supplied to customers of the Anniston System comes from two sources. Our primary water source is the Coldwater Spring located 7 miles west of Anniston on Tom Burkhardt Drive. The Alabama Department of Environmental Management classifies Coldwater Spring as groundwater under the influence of surface water. Water from the spring is treated at the Paul B. Krebs Water Treatment Plant. The statement "under the influence," in this case, refers to the uncovered spring pool, which is almost two acres in size.

Our secondary source of water is the Hillabee Creek Reservoir located 7 miles southeast of Anniston on Jennifer Lane. Hillabee Reservoir is classified as a surface water source. Water from the reservoir is treated at the Earl C. Knowlton Water Treatment Plant located just to the north of the reservoir.

The Sam H. Hamner Reservoir is located 7 miles east of Anniston near the White Plains Community. Although no water is currently taken from Hamner it is included with Coldwater Spring and Hillabee Reservoir in our Source Water Protection Plan. The current ranking of our source waters by the Alabama Department of Environmental Management is "Low Susceptibility", meaning our water sources are well protected from elements likely to cause contamination. Anniston Water Works completed an update of the plan for Hillabee Reservoir in 2007.



## List of Non-Detect Contaminants (Anniston Water Works tested for the following contaminants in 2008 but none were detected.)

1,1 - Dichloropropene	1,3,5 - Trimethylbenzene	Beryllium	cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene	Endothall	Lindane	Nitrite	Simazine
1,1,2-Tetrachloroethane	2,2 - Dichloropropane	Bromobenzene	Cryptosporidium	Endrin	Manganese	N-Propylbenzene	Styrene
1,1,1-Trichloroethane	2,4,5-TP (Silvex)	Bromochloromethane	Cyanide	Ethylbenzene	M-Dichlorobenzene	O-Chlorotoluene	Tert - Butylbenzene
1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane	2,4-D	Bromoform	Dalapon	Ethylene dibromide	Mercury	O-Dichlorobenzene	Tetrachloroethylene
1,1,2-Trichloroethane	3-Hydroxycarbofuran	Bromoform	Di-(2-ethylhexyl)adipate	Fecal Coliform Bacteria	Methomyl	Oxamyl (Vydate)	Thallium
1,1-Dichloroethane	Alachlor	Bromomethane	Di-(2-ethylhexyl)phthalates	Foaming Agents	Methoxychlor	PCBs	Toluene
1,1-Dichloroethylene	Aldicarb	Butachlor	Dibromoacetic Acid	Giardia lamblia	Metolachlor	P-Chlorotoluene	Total Coliform Bacteria
1,2,3 - Trichlorobenzene	Aldicarb Sulfone	Cadmium	Dibromochloropropane	Glyphosate	Metribuzin	p-Dichlorobenzene	Toxaphene
1,2,3 - Trichloropropane	Aldicarb Sulfoxide	Carbaryl	Dibromomethane	Heptachlor	Monobromoacetic Acid	Pentachlorophenol	Trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene
1,2,4 - Trimethylbenzene	Aldrin	Carbofuran	Dicamba	Heptachlor epoxide	Monochloroacetic Acid	Picloram	trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene
1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene	Antimony	Carbon Tetrachloride	Dichlorodifluoromethane	Hexachlorobenzene	MTBE	P-Isopropyltoluene	Trichlorofluoromethane
1,2-Dichloroethane	Arsenic	Chlordane	Dichloromethane	Hexachlorobutadiene	N - Butylbenzene	Propachlor	Trichloroethylene
1,2-Dichloropropane	Atrazine	Chlorobenzene	Dieldrin	Hexachlorocyclopentadiene	Naphthalene	Sec - Butylbenzene	Vinyl Chloride
1,3 - Dichloropropane	Benzene	Chloroethane	Dinoseb	Isopropylbenzene	Nickel	Selenium	Xylenes
1,3 - Dichloropropene	Benzo(a)pyrene(PAHs)	Chloromethane	Diquat	Lead	Nitrate	Silver	

## DETECTED SUBSTANCES TABLE FOR PERIOD JANUARY -- DECEMBER 2008

Water Source				Coldwater Spring	Hillabee Reservoir		
Primary Inorganic Substances	Units	MCL	MCLG	Highest Level Last 12 Months		Violation (Yes/No)	Source of Substance
Barium	ppb	2000	2000	22.3	9.7	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metals refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	ppb	100	100	2.6	1.2	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate	ppb	4000	4000	900.0	700.0	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Sulfate	ppm	500	--	2	15.1	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Secondary Inorganic Substances	Units	MCL	MCLG	Highest Level Last 12 Months		Violation (Yes/No)	Source of Substance
Alkalinity, Total	ppm	--	--	90.8	28.5	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Aluminum	ppb	200	--	<3.0	91	No	Water additive for removing organics; Erosion of natural deposits
Calcium	ppm	--	--	21.2	12.8	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Carbon Dioxide	ppm	--	--	4.4	1.76	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Chloride	ppm	250	--	3.40	7.00	No	An inorganic constituent in water affecting taste
Copper	ppb	1300	1300	226	3.5	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Hardness, Total (As CaCO <sub>3</sub> )	ppm	--	--	97.3	43.1	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Iron	ppb	300	--	<2	20	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Magnesium	ppm	--	--	10.8	2.7	No	Erosion of natural deposits
pH	ppm	--	--	8.19	7.65	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	ppm	500	--	0.98	1.95	No	An indicator of acidity or alkalinity levels of water
Total Dissolved Solids	ppb	5000		89	55.5	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Zinc	ppm	5000	NS	<5.0	<5.0	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Disinfection By-Products (at the Plants)	Units	MCL	MCLG	Highest Level Last 12 Months		Violation (Yes/No)	Source of Substance
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM's)	ppb	80	0	79.0		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5's)	ppb	60	0	27.0		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Disinfection By-Products (in Distribution System)	Units	MCL	MCLG	Highest Level Last 12 Months		Violation (Yes/No)	Source of Substance
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM's)	ppb	80	0	2.9	37.2	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5's)	ppb	60	0	Less than 6.0	27	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Regulated Volatile Chemicals	Units	MCL	MCLG	Highest Level Last 12 Months		Violation (Yes/No)	Source of Substance
TCE (Trichloroethylene)	ppb	5	0	Less than 0.5	Less than 0.5	No	Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories
cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene	ppb	70	70	Less than 0.5	Less than 0.5	No	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
Non-Regulated Contaminants Table	Units	MCL	MCLG	Highest Level Last 12 Months		Violation (Yes/No)	Source of Substance
MTBE (Methyl tertiary-Butyl Ether)	ppb	Not Regulated		Not Detected	Not Detected	No	Petroleum products
Total Organic Carbon	ppb	Not Regulated		Not Detected	1.4	No	Natural sources
Primary Inorganic Substances	Units	MCL	MCLG	Highest Level Last 12 Months		Violation (Yes/No)	Source of Substance
Arsenic	ppb	50	0	Not Detected	Not Detected	No	Geological, pesticide residue, and industrial waste
Radionuclides	Units	MCL	MCLG	Water Sources: Coldwater Spring and Hillabee Reservoir		Violation (Yes/No)	Source of Substance
Gross Alpha	pCi/l	15	0	Sampling not required in 2008		No	Erosion of natural deposits
Turbidity	Units	MCL	MCLG	Highest Level Last 12 Months	Highest Level Last 12 Months	Violation (Yes/No)	Source of Substance
Turbidity	NTU	0.3	NS	0.09	0.08	No	Erosion of natural deposits
100% of samples were below the turbidity limits. .							
Lead & Copper Monitoring	Units	MCL	MCLG	Distribution System Violations		Violation (Yes/No)	Source of Substance
Lead	ppb	15	0	0		No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper	ppb	1300	1300	0		No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Federal and state regulations require that 90% of the distribution samples be below the MCL. During the last 12 month period 100% of Anniston's distribution samples were below the MCL.

### MICROBIOLOGICAL SUBSTANCES TABLE FOR PERIOD JANUARY -- DECEMBER 2008

Water Source				Coldwater Spring	Hillabee Reservoir		
Total Coliforms	Units	MCL	MCLG	Highest Level Last 12 Months		Violation (Yes/No)	Source of Substance
Not more than 5% of the 70 monthly bacteriological samples taken during the month can test positive for total coliform. No sample can test positive for fecal coliform or E. Coli.		<5%	0	Not Detected		No	Human and animal fecal waste

#### CRYPTOSPORIDIUM

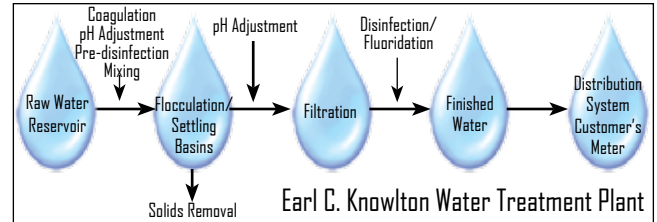
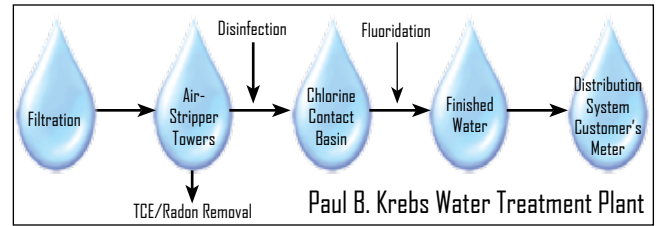
Water systems serving greater than 100,000 people were required by EPA to begin a two-year monthly sampling regimen of raw water (un-treated source water) for Cryptosporidium in 2006. Cryptosporidium is a pathogen that is sometimes found in drinking water and can cause gastrointestinal illness. Additional treatment of drinking water may be required by EPA depending on the results of the sampling. Anniston Water Works did not detect Cryptosporidium in its raw water in 2006, 2007 or 2008.

The Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM), with the approval of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), issued a statewide waiver on monitoring for asbestos and dioxin. Accordingly, Anniston Water Works was not required to monitor for these during the reporting period. Due to the exceptional quality of raw water at Coldwater Spring, the treatment technique at the Paul B. Krebs Water Treatment Plant employs a variance of the filtration rule which was granted by ADEM.

## Important Information to Know about Water

- Substances that may be present in source water include: Microbial contaminates, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminates, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring, or as result from urban run-off, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil or gas production, mining or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water run-off, and residential uses, organic chemical contaminates, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm run-off, and septic tanks.
- Radioactive contaminates, 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, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminates in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminates in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.
- 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. Those 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). This information is being provided in addition to other information or notices that may be required by law.

## Water Treatment Process



### Definitions/Abbreviations Used in this Report

AL	Action Level	The concentration of a contaminant which triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level	The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water.
MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected health risk.
NS	None Set	No MCL has been set.
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Units	A measure of 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.
pCi/L	Picocuries Per Liter	A measure of radioactivity.
PPM	Parts per Million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)	<b>What is a PPM?</b> Compares to 8 hours and 45 seconds out of a millennium (1000 years).
PPB	Parts per Billion or micrograms per liter (mg/L)	<b>What is a PPB?</b> Compares to 31 seconds out of a millennium (1000 years).
SU	Standard Unit	A measure of pH or acidity.
TT	Treatment Technique	A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

### Anniston Water Works Board of Directors and Management Personnel

James Miller, General Manager	Rodney Owens, Assistant General Manager
Jimmy O'Dell, Chairman	James Carlisle, Director
Jerome Freeman, Vice Chairman	Betty Merriweather, Director
William Robison, Secretary-Treasurer	Ann Welch, Director
Thomas Burkhart, Chairman Emeritus	Robert Dillon, Counsel

The Board of Directors of the Anniston Water Works consists of four directors appointed by the City of Anniston and three directors appointed by the Calhoun County legislative delegation. The Directors serve for a period of six years with reappointments being made on a staggered basis so all of the members are not replaced during the same year. Board meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at three o'clock in the afternoon at the Main Office located at 131 West 11th Street, Anniston, Alabama. Questions concerning meetings or requests for additional information should be directed to the General Manager and/or Assistant General Manager during normal business hours (Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) by calling 256-236-3429.

### Mission Statement

#### OUR MISSION IS:

**SERVICE** – by providing high quality drinking water to our customers on demand while maintaining our plants and equipment to facilitate economic growth and development.

**PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC HEALTH** – through responsible wastewater treatment and source water protection

**CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT** – of our processes and personnel to achieve the highest standards of customer satisfaction and to meet or exceed all water and wastewater quality standards.

This report is being furnished to you as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act. We are proud to report that your drinking water is safe and meets all requirements of state and federal regulations.

You will receive a new report covering the next reporting period before July 1, 2010. Information on your water system is available, Monday through Friday, 7:30 AM to 4:30 PM, by calling Anniston Water Works Customer Service at 256-236-3429 or at [www.awwsb.org](http://www.awwsb.org).

The United States Environmental Protection Agency maintains a Safe Drinking Water Hotline, 800-426-4791, where you can obtain more information about drinking water.