Carbon Hill Utilities Board
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Carbon Hill, AL 35549

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Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Carbon Hill Utilities Board

January-December 2008

Is my water safe?

Last year, as in years past, your tap water met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) drinking water health standards. We at Carbon Hill Utilities Board vigilantly safeguard your water supplies and once again we are proud to report that our system has not violated a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standards. We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. The water we supply to our customers comes from the Mulberry Fork of the Warrior River, which is purchased from the Jasper Water Works and Sewer Board, and the Bear Creek Reservoir which is purchased from the Eldridge Water System.

The Carbon Hill Utilities Board routinely completes a water storage facility inspection plan, and utilizes a Bacteriological Monitoring Plan and a Cross Connection Policy is in place to insure good safe drinking water for our customers. We have completed a Source Water Assessment Plan, which is available at our office for review. This report provides information about potential sources of contamination and is set up to help protect our source.

We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Board meetings. They are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm in the Council Chambers of the Carbon Hill Community Center.

The members of the Board of Directors are: Chairman Jerry Nelson, Milton Jackson, Joey Bagwell, Joe Killingsworth and Jack Hinds

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and radioactive material, and it can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activities.

As you can see by the tables, our system had no monitoring violations of allowable limits of contaminants in drinking water. We're proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some contaminants have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels. MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated contaminants, 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.

Total Coliform: The Total Coliform Rule requires water systems to meet a stricter limit for coliform bacteria. Coliform bacteria are usually harmless, but their presence in water can be an indication of disease-causing bacteria. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow-up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. If this limit is exceeded, the water supplier must notify the public by newspaper, television or radio. To comply with the stricter regulation, we have increased the average amount of chlorine in the distribution system.

Health Information- Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. People who are immune-compromised such as cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy, organ transplant recipients, HIV/AIDS positive or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. People at risk should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA (Environmental Protection Agency)/CDC (Center of Disease Control) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline. All Drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

In our continuing efforts to maintain a safe and dependable water supply it may be necessary to make improvements in your water system. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements.

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 sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. These improvements are sometimes reflected as rate structure adjustments. Thank you for understanding.

We at the Carbon Hill Utilities Board work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

For more information contact: Mr. Jackie Stough, Superintendent
Carbon Hill Utilities Board
P.O. Box 459
Carbon Hill, Alabama 35549
Telephone: 205-924-9313 /205-924-9829

UPDATE ON SYSTEM

Due to Federal regulatory changes we have more extensive and costly water quality testing to perform and also changes to our operational procedures to insure quality of water delivered to you our customer. Security of the water system is a top priority. We have taken measures to improve and constantly evaluate our operational procedures. All customers should be partners with Carbon Hill Utilities Board in protecting your water. Report any suspicious activities at pumping stations, tanks, fire hydrants, and meters, to our office at (924-9313) during normal business hours.

In our continuing efforts to maintain quality and dependability, it has been necessary to make improvements in your water system. The following are only a few of these improvements: maintenance and inspections of existing water storage tanks, maintenance and inspections of existing pumping stations, upgrades and maintenance to existing water mains as well as a meter change our program.

TO ALL CARBON HILL UTILITIES BOARD CUSTOMERS;

CARBON HILL UTILITIES BOARD IS A WATER SYSTEM PROVIDING POTABLE WATER TO RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL CUSTOMERS. AS SUCH, CARBON HILL UTILITIES BOARD IS NOT A FIRE PROTECTION WATER SYSTEM. CARBON HILL UTILITIES MAKES NO WARRANTY OF FITNESS FOR ANY PARTICULAR PURPOSES WHATSOEVER WITH RESPECT TO THE WATER PRESSURE AND THE AVAILABILITY OF ANY PARTICULAR VOLUME OF WATER NEEDED FOR FIRE FIGHTING PURPOSES.

IT IS THE POLICY OF CARBON HILL UTILITIES BOARD THAT IF YOU HAVE MORE THAN ONE RESIDENCE ON YOUR WATER SERVICE WE HAVE TO BILL YOU ACCORDINGLY. PLEASE CONTACT US IF YOU HAVE MULTIPLER USERS ON YOUR SERVICE.

Important Drinking Water Definitions:

Action Level (AL) - The concentration of a contaminant that triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system shall follow.
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 (MCLG) - 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. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
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.
Millirems per year (mrem/yr) - Measure of radiation absorbed by the body.
Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - Nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.
Non-Detects (ND) - Laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.
Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/L) - One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in $10,000.
Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (µg/L) - One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in $10,000,000.
Parts per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (ng/L) - One part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in $10,000,000,000.
Parts per quadrillion (ppq) or Picograms per liter (pg/L) - One part per quadrillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000,000 years or one penny in $10,000,000,000,000.
Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - Picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.
Treatment Technique (TT) - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
Threshold Odor Number (T.O.N.)- The greatest dilution of a sample with odor-free water that still yields a just-detectable odor.
Variances & Exemptions - ADEM or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

Explanation of reasons for variance/exemptions

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.

The Carbon Hill Utilities Board routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in the following tables show the results of our monitoring period of January 1st to December 31st 2008.

Table of Primary Drinking Water Contaminants

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

CONTAMINANT	MCL	AMOUNT DETECTED	CONTAMINANT	MCL	AMOUNT DETECTED
Bacteriological			Endrin	2	ND
Total Coliform Bacteria	< 5%	0	Epichlorohydrin (ppb)	TT	ND
Turbidity (NTU)	TT	ND	Glyphosate (ppb)	700	ND
Radiological			Heptachlor (ppt)	400	ND
Beta/photo emitters (mrem/yr)	4	ND	Heptachlor Epoxide (ppt)	200	ND
Alpha emitters (pci/l)	15	ND	Hexachlorobenzene (ppb)	1	ND
Combined radium (pci/L)	5	.13	Hexachlorocyclopentadiene (ppb)	1	ND
Uranium	30	ND	Lindane (ppt)	200	ND
Inorganic			Methoxychlor (ppb)	40	ND
Antimony (ppb)	6	ND	Oxamyl [Vydate] (ppb)	200	ND
Arsenic (ppb)	50	ND	Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) (ppt)	500	ND
Asbestos (MFL)	7	ND	Pentachlorophenol (ppb)	1	ND
Barium (ppm)	2	ND	Picloram (ppb)	500	ND
Beryllium (ppb)	4	ND	Simazine (ppb)	4	ND
Cadmium (ppb)	5	ND	Toxaphene (ppb)	3	ND
Chromium (ppb)	100	ND	Benzene (ppb)	5	ND
Copper (ppm)	AL=1.3	ND	Carbon Tetrachloride (ppb)	5	ND
Cyanide (ppb)	200	ND	Chlorobenzene	100	ND
Fluoride (ppm)	4	.83	Dibromochloropropane (ppt)	200	ND
Lead (ppb)	AL=15	ND	0-Dichlorobenzene (ppb)	600	ND
Mercury (ppb)	2	ND	Para-dichlorobenzene (ppb)	75	ND
Nitrate (as N)(ppm)	10	1.63	1,2-Dichloroethane (ppb)	5	ND
Nitrite (as N)(ppm)	1	ND	1,1-Dichloroethylene (ppb)	7	ND
Selenium (ppb)	50	ND	Cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene (ppb)	70	ND
Thallium (ppb)	2	ND	Trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene (ppb)	100	ND
Organic Chemicals			Dichloromethane (ppb)	5	ND
2,4-D (ppb)	70	ND	1,2-Dichloropropane (ppb)	5	ND
2,4,5-TP (Silvex) (ppb)	50	ND	Ethylbenzene (ppb)	700	ND
Acrylamide (ppm)	TT	ND	Ethylene Dibromide (EDB)(ppt)	50	ND
Alachlor (ppb)	2	ND	Styrene (ppb)	100	ND
Atrazine (ppb)	3	ND	Tetrachloroethylene (ppb)	5	ND
Benzo(a)pyrene[PHAs] (ppt)	200	ND	1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene (ppb)	70	ND
Carbofuran (ppb)	40	ND	1,1,1-Trichloroethane (ppb)	200	ND
Chlordane (ppb)	2	ND	1,1,2-Trichloroethane (ppb)	5	ND
Dalapon (ppb)	200	ND	Trichloroethylene (TCE)(ppb)	5	ND
Di-(2-ethylhexyl) adipate (ppb)	400	ND	Total trihalomethanes (TTHM)(ppb)	80	61.10
Di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalates (ppb)	6	ND	Toluene (ppm)	1	ND
Dinoseb (ppb)	7	ND	Vinyl Chloride (ppb)	2	ND
Diquat (ppb)	20	4.51	Xylenes	10	ND
Dioxin[2,3,7,8-TCDD] (ppq)	30	ND	TOC	TT	ND
Chloramines (MRDLG)	4	ND	Chlorine (MRDLG)	4	ND
Chlorite	800	ND	Bromate (ppb)	10	ND
Haloacetic Acids	60	34.90			
Chlorine Dioxide (MRDLG)	800	ND			
Endothall	100	ND			

Interesting Water Facts

- Of all the earth's water, 97% is the oceans, 2% is frozen, and 1% is suitable for drinking water.
- A human can survive for about a month without food, but can live only about a week without water.
- The average five minute shower uses 15-25 gallons of water
- The average toilet uses 2-7 gallons per flush
- An automatic dishwasher average between 9-12 gallons per load.
- Hand-washing dishes average between 9-20 gallons of water.
- 1 gallon of water weighs 8.34 pounds.
- Each individual uses 100 gallons of water per day on average.
- The average household uses 100,000 gallons (indoor and outdoor) each year.
- 2.5 quarts of water must be consumed each day to maintain health (i.e. food, water).

REMEMBER IF YOUR BILL IS NOT PAID BY THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS ON THE 20TH OF EACH MONTH A 10% LATE CHARGE IS ADDED AND IF YOUR BILL IS NOT PAID BY THE 25TH OF EACH MONTH A $75.00 DELINQUENT FEES IS CHARGED AND YOUR SERVICE WILL BE DISCONNECTED.

AS OF JANUARY 1, 2009
RATES AND FEES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

RESIDENTIAL RATES

WATER	
0-2000 GALLONS	$19.25 TANK I
0-2000 GALLONS	$23.10TANK II
ADDITIONAL 1000 GALLONS TANK I or II	$9.33
SEWER	
0-2000 GALLONS	$10.50
ADDITIONAL 1000 GALLONS	$4.00

COMMERICAL RATES

WATER	
0-24,000 GALLONS	$85.00
ADDITIONAL 1000 GALLONS TANK I or II	$6.33
SEWER	
0-24,000 GALLONS	$85.80
ADDITIONAL 1000 GALLONS	$4.00

FEES

WATER TAP	$250.00
WATER TAP BUSINESS/INDUSTRIAL	FEES BASED ON COST
DEPOSIT RESIDENTIAL	$75.00
DEPOSIT RENTAL	$125.00
DEPOSITS COMMERICAL	$250.00
SEWER TAP	$250.00
SEWER TAP BUSINESS/INDUSTRIAL	FEES BASED ON COST
WATER ON/OFF	$30.00
DISCONNECT FEE	$75.00

Detected Secondary Contaminants

Contaminant	Amount Detected	MCL	Unit of Measure-ment
Aluminum	ND	.02	ppm
Chloride	16.43	250	ppm
Iron	ND	.3	ppm
Manganese	ND	.05	ppm
Silver	.0016	.1	ppm
Total Dissolved Solids	68	500	ppm
Zinc	ND	5	ppm

Detected Special Contaminants

Contaminant	Amount Detected	MCL	Unit of Measurement
Calcium	20	n/a	ppm
Carbon Dioxide	1.3	n/a	ppm
Foaming Agents	ND	n/a	ppm
Magnesium	3.7	n/a	ppm
Nickel	ND	n/a	ppm
pH	7.8	n/a	ppm
Specific Conductance	165.5	n/a	ppm
Sodium	3.7	n/a	ppm
Sulfate	13.86	500	ppm
Total Alkalinity	33.2	n/a	ppm
Total Hardness (CaCo3)	65	na	Ppm

Disinfection Byproducts for IDSE

TTHM (Total Trihalomethanes)	NO	Highest 122	ppb	n/a	By-Product of drinking water chlorination
		Range 3.0-122.0			
HAA5 (Total Haloacetic Acids)					
	No	Highest 32.5			
		Range 1.0-32.5	ppb	n/a	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Result from the test in the Level Detected column in the table were performed by the Alabama Department of Environment Laboratory and ADEM certified private laboratories

** Copper and Lead samples were taken in August 2008

Trace Concentration Put Into Perspective;

1 part per million	1 part per billion
Is the same as:	Is the same as:
1" in 16 miles	1" in 16, 000 miles
1 minute in 2 years	1 second in 32 years
1 cent in $10,000 dollars	1 cent in $10,000,000

Detected Secondary Contaminants				Detected Special Contaminants			
Aluminum	ND	.02	ppm	Calcium	20	n/a	ppm
Chloride	16.43	250	ppm	Carbon Dioxide	1.3	n/a	ppm
Iron	ND	.3	ppm	Magnesium	3.7	n/a	ppm
Manganese	ND	.05	ppm	pH	7.8	n/a	ppm
Silver	.0016	.1	ppm	Specific Conductance	165.5	n/a	ppm
Total Dissolved Solids	68	500	ppm	Sodium	3.7	n/a	ppm
Zinc	ND	5	ppm	Sulfate	13.86	500	ppm
				Total Alkalinity	33.2	n/a	ppm
				Total Hardness (CaCo3)	65	na	Ppm

Table of Detected Contaminants

CONTAMINANT	MCLG	MCL	Range			Amount Detected		Likely Source of Contamination
Bacteriological	**Jan. – Dec. 2008**							
Total Coliform Bacteria	0	< 5%				0	Present or Absent	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity	0	TT				0.25	NTU	Soil runoff
Radiological	**Jan. – Dec. 2008**							
Combined radium	0	5				0.1	PCI/YR	Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Chemicals	**Jan. – Dec. 2008**							
Fluoride	4	4	ND	-	0.83	0.83	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate	10	10	ND	-	1.63	1.63	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Organic Chemicals	**Jan. – Dec. 2008**							
Diquat	20	20	ND	-	4.51	4.51	ppb	Runoff from herbicide use
HAA5	N/A	60	1.00	-	34.90	34.90	ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM	0	80	1.00	-	109.00	61.10	ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Detected Unregulated Contaminants Table

CONTAMINANT	Average	Range			CONTAMINANT	Average	Range		
Bromodichloromethane	7.4	0.000	-	14.890	Chloroform	6.0	0.000	-	33.390

Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.

Detected Unregulated Contaminants Table

CONTAMINANT	Average	Range			CONTAMINANT	Average	Range		
1,1 - Dichloropropene	ND	0.000	-	0.000	Chloroform	16.7	0.000	-	33.390
1,1,1,2-Tetrachloroethane	ND	0.000	-	0.000	Chloromethane	ND	0.000	-	0.000
1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane	ND	0.000	-	0.000	Dibromochloro-methane	ND	0.000	-	0.000
1,1-Dichloroethane	ND	0.000	-	0.000	Dibromomethane	ND	0.000	-	0.000
1,2,3 - Trichlorobenzene	ND	0.000	-	0.000	Dicamba	ND	0.000	-	0.000
1,2,3 - Trichloropropane	ND	0.000	-	0.000	Dichlorodifluoro-methane	ND	0.000	-	0.000
1,2,4 - Trimethylbenzene	ND	0.000	-	0.000	Dieldrin	ND	0.000	-	0.000
1,3 - Dichloropropane	ND	0.000	-	0.000	Hexachlorobuta-diene	ND	0.000	-	0.000
1,3 - Dichloropropene	ND	0.000	-	0.000	Isoprpylbenzene	ND	0.000	-	0.000
1,3,5 - Trimethylbenzene	ND	0.000	-	0.000	M-Dichlorobenzene	ND	0.000	-	0.000
2,2 - Dichloropropane	ND	0.000	-	0.000	Methomyl	ND	0.000	-	0.000
3-Hydroxycarbofuran	ND	0.000	-	0.000	MTBE	ND	0.000	-	0.000
Aldicarb	ND	0.000	-	0.000	Metolachlor	ND	0.000	-	0.000
Aldicarb Sulfone	ND	0.000	-	0.000	Metribuzin	ND	0.000	-	0.000
Aldicarb Sulfoxide	ND	0.000	-	0.000	N - Butylbenzene	ND	0.000	-	0.000
Aldrin	ND	0.000	-	0.000	Naphthalene	ND	0.000	-	0.000
Bromobenzene	ND	0.000	-	0.000	N-Propylbenzene	ND	0.000	-	0.000
Bromochloromethane	ND	0.000	-	0.000	O-Chlorotoluene	ND	0.000	-	0.000
Bromodichloromethane	7.4	0.000	-	14.890	P-Chlorotoluene	ND	0.000	-	0.000
Bromoform	ND	0.000	-	0.000	P-Isopropyltoluene	ND	0.000	-	0.000
Bromomethane	ND	0.000	-	0.000	Propachlor	ND	0.000	-	0.000
Butachlor	ND	0.000	-	0.000	Sec - Butylben-zene	ND	0.000	-	0.000
Carbaryl	ND	0.000	-	0.000	Tert - Butylben-zene	ND	0.000	-	0.000
Chloroethane	ND	0.000	-	0.000	Trichlorfluoro-methane	ND	0.000	-	0.000