

# Our Daily Water



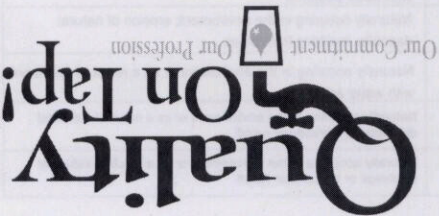
**WATER QUALITY REPORT**  
 Oxford Water Works is proud to report that we met or exceeded all Federal and State Standards for drinking water during the reporting period.

# Quality On Tap!

Our Commitment  Our Profession



600 Barry Street  
 P.O. Box 3663  
 Oxford, Alabama 36203



## Safe Drinking Water Act What does this mean for you?

The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) was signed into law on December 16, 1974. The purpose of the law is to assure that the nation's water supply systems serving the public meet the minimum national standards for the protection of public health.

The SDWA covers all public water systems with piped water for human consumption with at least 15 service connections or a system that regularly serves at least 25 individuals. The SDWA directed the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to establish national drinking water standards. These standards limit the amount of certain contaminants provided by public water. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water. 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 the water poses a high risk. However, some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infection. These people 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).

## Definitions You Need to Know

**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** - 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 (nanograms/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 (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.

**Picocuries per liter (pCi/l)** - Picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

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

**Million Fibers per Liter (MFL)** - Million fibers per liter is a measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers.

**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.

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

**Action Level** - The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

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

**Maximum Contaminant Level - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL)** is the highest level 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 "Goal" (MCLG)** is the level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk of health. MCLGs allow for margin of safety.

# ANNUAL REPORT DRINKING WATER QUALITY

## Information about your water services from OXFORD WATER WORKS & SEWER BOARD

We are pleased to present to you our year 2008 water quality report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and service we deliver to you on a daily basis, and our constant goal being to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water.

### BANK DRAFT IS AVAILABLE FROM OXFORD WATER WORKS!

Saves you: Time - Postage - Checks  
Contact our Office at 831-5618 for more information.

### THE OXFORD WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM:

Water Mains in Service ..... 306 miles  
Sewer Mains in Service ..... 81 miles  
Water Storage Tanks ..... 5.4 Million Gallons  
Water Storage Capacity ..... 9.0 Million Gal Per Day  
Water Production Capacity ..... 9.0 Million Gal Per Day  
Booster Pumping Stations ..... 4  
Public Fire Hydrants ..... 548  
Sewer Treatment Capacity ..... 6.4 Million Gal Per Day  
Sewer Pumping Stations ..... 23  
Metered Connections ..... 9675

### WHERE DOES OUR WATER COME FROM?

Oxford's Water Supply is classified as Groundwater. Groundwater classification means the water is pumped from below the surface of the ground.

Drinking water is supplied to customers of Oxford Water by five production wells that draw water from The Knox Group, Shady Dolomite Aquifer. Each well is approx. 300 feet deep and the water from each well meets all regulations without any treatment required; however, we do add some chlorine to protect the water in tanks and distribution lines.

Oxford Water Works & Sewer Board is a member of American Water Works Association (AWWA), Alabama Rural Water Association (ARWA), the National Rural Water Association (NRWA), Alabama's Water Environment Association (AWEA), and the Groundwater Foundation.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact our main office. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility.

#### Main Office:

Hours 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday - Friday

#### Location:

Oxford Water and Sewer Board  
600 Barry Street (P.O. Box 3663) • Oxford, AL 36203

#### Phone:

256-831-5618

Water Board Meets 3rd Wednesday of each month at 12:00 p.m.

General Manager ..... Wayne Livingston

Controller ..... Patrick Prater

Engineer ..... Meredith Holzer

The Oxford Water Works routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water. We had tests performed for 90 constituents and only 8 were at detectable levels. All monitoring and testing were performed according to Federal and State Laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1, 2004 to December 31, 2004 for Microbiological, Radioactive, Inorganic, Lead/Copper, Nitrates, synthetic Organic (including pesticides and herbicides), Disinfection By-Products, and Volatile Organic Contaminants. All of these tests were performed in accordance with the regulatory schedule.

All drinking water, including bottled water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

**As you can see by the table, our system had no violations. We are proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements.** We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents 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 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.

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.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemo-therapy, 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 infection. These people 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).

Please call our office if you have any questions.

### MONITORING SCHEDULE

Constituent Monitored	Date Monitored
Inorganic Contaminants	2007
Lead/Copper	2007
Microbiological Contaminants	2007
Nitrates	2007
Radioactive Contaminants	2007
Synthetic Organic Contaminants (incl. pesticides & herbicides)	2007
Volatile Organic Contaminants	2007
Disinfection By-products	2007

TABLE OF DETECTED DRINKING WATER CONTAMINANTS

Contaminants	Violation	Level Detected	Units	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	NO	C 165 0 sites above action level	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing system; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	NO	0.95 Range 0.040 - 0.95	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
Trichloroethylene	NO	1.89 Range ND - 1.89	ppb	0	5	Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories.
<b>Secondary Contaminants</b>						
Chloride	NO	Avg. 3.16 Range 2.46 - 4.80	ppm	N/A	250	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of industrial discharge or agricultural runoff.
Hardness	NO	Avg. 1.26 Range 104 - 146	ppm	N/A		Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of treatment with water additives
Iron	NO	Avg. .05 Range ND 0.13	ppm	N/A	0.30	Naturally occurring in the environment; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from pipes
pH	NO	Avg. 7.85 Range 7.62 - 8.04	S.U.	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of treatment with water additives
Sulfate	NO	Avg. 2.57 Range 1.48 - 6.26	ppm	N/A	250	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of industrial discharge or agricultural runoff.
Total Dissolved Solids	NO	Avg. 137 Range 108 - 188	ppm	N/A	500	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of industrial discharge or agricultural runoff.

\*90th percentile = 0.154 and # of sites above action level (1.3 ppm) = 0