

Northeast Morgan County Water & Sewer Authority Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2025

We're very pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Quality Water Report. We want to keep you informed about the excellent water and services we have delivered to you over the past year. Our goal is and always has been, to provide to you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We purchase and re-chlorinate our water from Decatur Utilities, which is treated surface water from the Tennessee River. Northeast Morgan County Water & Sewer Authority, nemorganws.com did not incur any violations in year 2024.

This report shows our water quality and what it means to you. If you should have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact, Joey Turner, Plant & Pumping Station Manager, Monday to Friday 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., at 256-778-8915.

We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility, if you want to learn more, please feel free to attend any of our regularly scheduled Board meetings, which are held on the third Tuesday of every month, beginning at 4:00 p.m., in the conference room of the Water Department main office. If anyone needs to address the Board, please contact Carol Scott, in Bookkeeping at 256-778-8915, to be placed on the agenda.

Mr. Chad Brooks is the Chairman of the Board
Mr. David Lee is the Vice-Chairman of the Board
Mr. Geoff Halbrooks is the Secretary & Treasurer of the Board
Mr. Wayne Reed is the General Manager of NEMCWSA

Substances Expected to be in Drinking Water

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, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in the 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 runoff, 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, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive Contamination, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that the 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 and must provide the same protection for public health. Northeast Morgan County Water & Sewer Authority routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Important Information about Lead

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 private service lines and home plumbing. Northeast Morgan County Water & Sewer Authority 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 two minutes before using the water for drinking or cooking.

Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

All Lead and Copper monitoring from the distribution system collected in 2022 resulted below the MCL detection limit. Lead and Copper monitoring will resume June – Sept 2025. Northeast Morgan County Water & Sewer has submitted a Lead and Copper Service Line Inventory to ADEM, and has reported no lead service lines on the water system. The inventory includes information on the service line material for 10,000+ water services on our water system. The inventory is too large to include in this report, but it can be viewed in our office.

Share this Report

Landlords, businesses, schools, hospitals and other groups are encouraged to share this important water quality information with water users at their location.

Table Definitions and Abbreviations

- Action Level:** The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
- HRAA:** Highest Rolling Annual Average; based on seven quarters of testing.
- MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level):** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- MCLG (Maximum Contaminant level Goal):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.
- MFL (Million Fibers per Liter):** The measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers.
- MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level):** The highest level of disinfectant routinely allowed in drinking water. Addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
- MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal):** The level of 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 contamination.
- mrem/year:** Millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body).
- NA:** Not applicable.
- ND:** None detected.
- NTU - Nephelometric Turbidity Units:** measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of water.
- pCi/L (picocuries per liter):** Measurement of the natural rate of disintegration of radioactive contaminants in water (also beta particles).
- Ppm (parts per million):** One part substance per million parts water, or milligrams per liter, explained in terms of money as one penny in \$10,000.
- Ppb (parts per billion):** One part substance per billion parts water, or milligrams per liter, explained in terms of money as one penny in \$10,000,000.
- Ppt (parts per trillion):** One part substance per trillion parts water, or milligrams per liter, explained in terms of money as one penny in \$10,000,000,000.
- Ppq (parts per quadrillion):** One part substance per quadrillion parts water, or milligrams per liter, explained in terms of money as one penny in \$10,000,000,000,000.
- Primary Contaminant:** Primary standards are legally enforceable standards that apply to public water systems. These standards protect drinking water quality by limiting the levels of specific contaminants that can adversely affect public health and which are known or anticipated to occur in public water supplies.
- RAA:** Rolling Annual Average.
- Secondary Contaminant:** Secondary standards are non-mandatory guidelines to assist public water systems in managing their drinking water for aesthetic considerations, such as taste, color and odor. These contaminants are not considered to present a risk to human health.
- SU:** Standard units
- TT (treatment Technique):** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

The following tables show the results of the monitoring and testing for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2024.

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	0.05	ppm	Styrene	100	ppb
Thallium	0.002	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	0.07	ppm
Atrazine	3	ppb	1,1,1-Trichloroethane	200	ppb
Benzene	5	ppb	1,1,2-Trichloroethane	5	ppb
Benzo(a)pyrene (PAHs)	200	ppt	Trichloroethylene	5	ppb
Carbofuran	40	ppb	Vinyl Chloride	2	ppb
Carbon tetrachloride	5	ppb	Xylenes	10	ppm
Chlordane	2	ppb	Disinfectants & Disinfection Byproducts		
Chlorobenzene	100	ppb	Chlorine	4	ppm
Dalapon	200	ppb	Chlorine Dioxide	800	ppb
Dibromochloropropane	200	ppt	Chloramines	4	ppm
o-Dichlorobenzene	600	ppb	Bromate	10	ppb
p-Dichlorobenzene	75	ppb	Chlorite	1	ppm
1,2-Dichloroethane	5	ppb	HAA5 [Total haloacetic acids]	60	ppb
1,1-Dichloroethane	7	ppb	TTHM [Total trihalomethanes]	80	ppb
cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene	70	ppb	Total Organic Carbon	TT	ppm

In order for us to better serve you we would like to ask our customers to lend us a hand. Some of the things that would help us tremendously are listed below.

- Our policy requires that the Authority has access to your meter at all times. Please remember that if for any reason you choose to construct a fence surrounding the meter, a gate will be required in order for the Authority to perform routine tasks.
- One thing that may help more than any of these is to report any water theft or tampering of service to the Authority. Thousands of gallons are lost each year due to such acts.
- Make sure you update your account information at the office so we have your current mailing address and phone number on file.

As a reminder, all developers need to contact our office for any changes to the policy and procedures that may apply to the construction and development of new subdivisions.

Unregulated Contaminants			
1,1 – Dichloropropene 1,1,1,2-Tetrachloroethane 1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane 1,1-Dichloroethane 1,2,3 - Trichlorobenzene 1,2,3 - Trichloropropane 1,2,4 - Trimethylbenzene 1,3 – Dichloropropane 1,3 – Dichloropropene 1,3,5 - Trimethylbenzene 2,2 – Dichloropropane 3-Hydroxycarbofuran Alicarb Aldicarb Sulfone Aldicarb Sulfoxide Aldrin Bromobenzene	Bromochloromethane Bromodichloromethane Bromofom Bromomethane Butachlor Carbaryl Chloroethane Chloroform Chlorodibromomethane Chlormethane Dibromomethane Dicamba Dichlorodifluoromethane Dieldrin Hexachlorobutadiene Isopropylbenzene M-Dichlorobenzene	Methomyl MTBE Perfluorobutane sulfonic acid - (PFBS) Perfluorobutanoic acid - (PFBA) Perfluoroheptanoic acid - (PFHpA) Perfluorohexane sulfonic acid - (PFHxS) Perfluorohexanoic acid - (PFHxA) Perfluorononanoic acid - (PFNA) Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid - (PFOS) Perfluorooctanoic acid - (PFOA) Perfluoropentanoic acid - (PFPeA)	Metolachlor Metribuzin N - Butylbenzene Naphthalene N-Propylbenzene O-Chlorotoluene P-Chlorotoluene P-Isopropyltoluene Propachlor Sec - Butylbenzene Tert - Butylbenzene Trichlorofluoromethane
Secondary Contaminants			
Alkalinity, Total (CA, Co3) Aluminum Calcium, as Ca Chloride Color Copper	Corrosivity Foaming agents (MBAS) Hardness Iron Langelier Index	Magnesium Manganese Odor Nickel pH Silver	Sodium Sulfate Total Dissolved Solids Zinc Zinc

The EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 5 (UCMR5) required some water systems to monitor for 30 unregulated contaminants during 2013-2025. Our system began sampling in 2024 and the results are shown below.

UCMR5 DETECTED UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS		
Contaminant	Average amount detected (ppt)	Range (ppt)
Entry Point to the Distribution System		
Perfluorobutanoic Acid (PFBA)	3.3	0 - 7.6
Perfluorobutane Sulfonic Acid (PFBS)	0.8	0 - 3.2

If you have questions about this report or any other water quality issues, please contact Joey Turner, Plant and Pump Station Supervisor from 8:00 am – 3:30 pm Monday - Friday at 256-778-8915.

We work around the clock to provide you with quality water and 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.

DETECTED DRINKING WATER CONTAMINATES							
Level Detected	Violation YES/NO	Level Detected	Range	Unit Msmt	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Primary Contaminants							
Barium	NO	0.019	0.019	ppm	2.0	2.0	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine	NO	RAA 1.98	1.51-3.61	ppm	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4	Water additive used to control microbes
Chromium	NO	ND	ND	ppb	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Total Organic Carbon	NO	RAA 1.4	1.2-1.7	ppm	n/a	TT	Soil runoff
Turbidity (filtered)	NO	Highest 0.198	0.025–0.198	NTU	n/a	TT	Soil runoff
Copper	NO	0.24*	0.015-0.43	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from preservatives;
Fluoride - WTP	NO	0.91	0.41-0.91	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from factories
Lead	NO	ND**	ND-1.4	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	NO	0.54	0.54	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
TTHM [Total trihalomethanes]	NO	HRRA 38.0	20.0 - 51.0	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 [Total haloacetic acids]	NO	HRRA 37.0	28.0 - 53.0	ppb	0	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Gross Alpha	NO	0.114	0.114	pCi/L	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium-228	NO	0.62	0.62	pCi/L	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Unregulated Contaminants							
Chloroform	NO	0.0042	0.0042	ppm	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring in the environment or from runoff
Bromodichloromethane	NO	0.0026	0.0026	ppm	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring in the environment or from runoff
Perfluorobutane sulfonic acid (PFBS)	NO	3.37	2.19-3.37	ppt	n/a	n/a	
Perfluoroheptanoic acid (PFHpA)	NO	0.97	0.84-0.97	ppt	n/a	n/a	
Perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS)	NO	0.70	0.69-0.70	ppt	n/a	n/a	
Perfluorohexanoic acid (PFHxA)	NO	2.04	1.50-2.04	ppt	n/a	n/a	
Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS)	NO	3.13	2.22-3.13	ppt	n/a	n/a	
Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)	NO	2.22	1.89-2.22	ppt	n/a	n/a	
Secondary Contaminants							
Alkalinity, Total (as CA, Co3)	NO	60	30-76	ppm	n/a	none	Caused by carbonates, bicarbonates, hydroxides, phosphates, silicates
Aluminum	NO	0.02	0.02	ppm	n/a	0.2	Erosion of natural deposits: treatment with additives
Calcium, as Ca	NO	19.5	19.4	ppm	n/a	none	Naturally occurring in the environment; dissolved minerals
Carbon Dioxide	NO	ND	ND	ppm	n/a	none	Naturally occurring in the environment
Chloride	NO	13.2	13.2	ppm	n/a	250	Naturally occurring in the environment or from runoff
Color	NO	6.0	ND-6.0	units	none	15	Naturally occurring in the environment or water treatment
Hardness, as CaCO3	NO	65.8	685.8	ppm	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring in the environment or from runoff
Iron	NO	0.075	ND-0.075	ppm	none	0.3	Naturally occurring in the environment; erosion; leaching from pipes
Magnesium, as Mg	NO	4.2	4.2	ppm	none	none	Naturally occurring in the environment; dissolved minerals
Manganese, as Mn	NO	0.035	ND-0.035	ppm	none	0.05	Naturally occurring in the environment
pH	NO	6.99	6.30-7.20	S.U	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring in the environment or from runoff
Sodium	NO	4.2	4.2	ppm	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring in the environment
Specific Conductance	NO	167	167	umhos/cm	n/a	n/a	Measure of how well water can conduct an electrical current
Sulfate	NO	8.3	8.3	ppm	n/a	250	Naturally occurring in the environment or from runoff
Total Dissolved Solid	NO	75.0	75.0	ppm	n/a	500	Naturally occurring in the environment or from runoff

*Fig. shown is 90th percentile. **Fig. shown is 90th percentile.

- Turbidity is a measurement of the cloudiness of the water. DU monitors this parameter because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of the filtration system.
- DU has 40 filters where finished water turbidity is measured continuously and recorded every 15 minutes.
- Chlorine in finished water is measured continuously. Chlorine Residuals in the distribution system are measured approximately 20 times per week at various locations.
- This is an average of all the 2024 sites TTHM sample results.
- This is an average of all the 2024 sites HAA5 sample results.
- Secondary standards are non-mandatory guidelines to assist public water systems in managing their drinking water for aesthetic considerations, such as taste, color and odor. These contaminants are not considered to present a risk to human health.
- Finished water pH is monitored continuously.

Payments are accepted through one of the following methods:

- Online – www.nemorganws.com – click on the “Pay My Bill” button at the bottom left corner. (Online payments require your customer # and pin # located on your bill) Convenience fee \$2.95 * Monthly scheduled payments can be set up online as well.
- By Telephone – Through the IVR # 1-844-830-6230. Automated phone payments required your customer # and pin # located on your bill) Convenience fee \$2.95
- Automatic Bank Draft – Bill will draft each month on the due date. Apply at the office with a voided check. Monthly fee .25 cents
- Drive through Window – The drive-through window remains open 8am-4:30pm
- Night Deposit
- Online Bill Pay – Check with you bank or credit union to see if they offer electronic payments from your account.
- Mail – You can mail your payment to: NE Morgan Co Water Authority, P O Box 67, Somerville, AL 35670
- Office – Monday through Friday 8am – 4:30pm, 5439 Hwy 67S, S