

Per Gadsden Water's Stage 2 Disinfection Byproduct Monitoring Plan, we, Gadsden Water, are to sample for Disinfection Byproducts (DBPs) in February, May, August, and November, on the week beginning the fourth (4th) Wednesday of the monitoring month. In November 2022, Gadsden Water collected samples for DBP analyses on Tuesday, November 22nd, which was one (1) day early, per the monitoring plan. And, though the samples were taken one (1) day early, which means they were sampled outside of the appropriate time frame by one (1) day, the results of those samples ranged from 7.10 parts per billion (ppb) to 20 ppb for Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) and between 1.9 ppb and 18 ppb for Haloacetic Acids (HAA5s), which were well under the MCLs of 80 ppb for TTHMs and 60 ppb for HAA5s.

Also, our contract lab, Pace Analytical, failed to analyze for and/or report three (3) required parameters (nitrite, nitrate, and fluoride) as part of the annual Inorganic Compounds (IOC), which was properly collected in November of 2022. Because Gadsden Water sampled one (1) day early, and because Pace Analytical failed to perform/report required analyses, which they were contracted to do, we are required by the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) to issue the following statement:

The Gadsden Water Works is required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. During October – December 2022, we did not monitor for disinfection byproducts (DBP) during the required time frame, and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time.

Because DBPS from these quarters will be used in determining compliance with DBP MCLS in the quarters of January – March 2023, April – June 2023, AND July – September 2023 The Gadsden Water Works will incur monitoring violations for those quarters.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

Henceforth, Gadsden Water will follow the sampling/monitoring schedule detailed in the Stage 2 DBP Monitoring Plan, and not deviate from said plan, even if just by one (1) day. Gadsden Water has consistently met MCLS for DBPS, and continually strives to provide quality water to our customers that meets and/or exceeds every regulation. Unfortunately, in this instance, we collected our samples one (1) day early. Every effort will be made to ensure that samples are collected at the appointed time(s). For IOC analysis, Gadsden Water will ensure that, regardless of the contract lab utilized for these analyses, that all analyses are properly performed and/or reported.

Should you have any questions concerning this non-compliance or monitoring requirements, please contact: Mike Lankford at (256) 543-2884, ext. 223 OR mlankford@gadsdenwater.org

Also, Gadsden Water failed to submit February 2022 total organic carbon results to ADEM prior to the March 10, 2022 deadline. The results were submitted on March 11, 2022.

Did you know?

For the average price of one (1) 16.9 ounce bottle of water (\$0.14, when purchased in bulk), you can get about 32.5 gallons (4,160 ounces) of Gadsden Water.

Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The U.S. EPA/CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or <http://water.epa.gov/drink/hotline>.