

2026 Annual Water Quality Report
(Testing Performed January through December 2025)

COKER WATER AUTHORITY
PWSID AL0001299
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205-339-6946

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report which provides information on the sources of our water, the results of our water analyses, plain language definitions, and other important information about water and health. Once again, we had no MCL violations last year.

Water Sources	Three (3) groundwater wells producing from the Coker aquifer Purchased water from the City of Tuscaloosa (source: Lake Tuscaloosa)
Additional Connections	Emergency connections with Buhl-Elrod-Holman Water Authority and Fosters-Ralph Water Authority
Water Treatment	Chlorination, pressure sand filtration, and iron removal
Storage Capacity	Five (5) tanks with a total capacity of 1,400,000 gallons
Number of Customers	Approximately 1600
Board of Directors	Randy Averette, Chairman
	Frank Swindle, Vice Chairman
	Bill Davidson, Secretary
	Paul Fetterly, Member
	Avery Pruitt

Source Water Protection: In compliance with the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM), Coker Water Authority has developed a Wellhead Protection Plan (WHPP) that assists in protecting our water sources. This plan provides information such as potential sources of contamination. It includes a susceptibility analysis, which classifies potential contaminants as high, moderate, or non-susceptible (low) to contaminating the water source. All of the potential contaminants sited in our study area were rated as low, except for a few private wells, which were rated high. The WHPP is available in our office for review upon prior request. We routinely complete water facility inspections, utilize a Bacteriological Monitoring Plan, and have a Cross Connection Control Policy in place to insure good quality drinking water for our customers. Chlorine is added to the water as a disinfectant and the required residual is maintained to protect your drinking water from any possible outside contaminants. Please help us make these efforts worthwhile by protecting our source water. Carefully follow instructions on pesticides and herbicides you use for your lawn and garden, and properly dispose of household chemicals, paints and waste oil.

Health Information about Lead: *As required by ADEM, we conducted a Lead Service Line Inventory during 2024. The purpose of the Inventory is to identify service line materials in the distribution system. Upon completion, we found that no Lead Service Lines are in our system, and there is no history of Lead Service Lines ever being installed in our system. The Lead Service Line Inventory report is available for review in our office upon request.*

We perform lead and copper testing on samples collected within the distribution system every three years as assigned by ADEM. An outside laboratory analyzes the samples, and results are in compliance. You may view the results in our office upon request. If you have any questions about our lead sampling results, contact us at 205-339-6946. There is no safe level of lead in drinking water. If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems or exacerbate existing learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these adverse health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney, or nervous system problems.

Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Your water system is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but we cannot control the variety of materials used in household plumbing components.

When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your kitchen sink tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking, especially if the water has been sitting undisturbed for several hours, as in overnight. In all situations, especially for making baby formula, drink or cook only with water that comes out of the cold tap. Warm or hot tap water is more likely to cause lead to leach from plumbing materials. Periodically remove the aerator on the tip of the faucet and wash out any debris such as metal particles. Remember - Boiling will NOT reduce the amount of lead in your water.

The recommendations above are likely to be effective in reducing lead levels because most of the lead in household water usually comes from the plumbing in your house. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize your family's exposure is available from www.epa.gov/safewater/lead or by calling the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791. Water systems are required to sample for lead in schools and licensed child care facilities as requested by the facility. Contact your school or child care facility for further information about potential sampling results.

General Drinking Water Information: 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 water poses a health risk. 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). MCLs are set at very stringent levels. 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. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the levels of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water.

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

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. Public water systems in Alabama are not generally required to routinely monitor for radon in drinking water under current federal or state regulations. If you are concerned about radon in your home consider having the home tested. Testing is easy and inexpensive. For more information call EPA's Radon Hotline at (800-SOS-RADON).

The water we purchase from City of Tuscaloosa is monitored for pathogens, such as *Cryptosporidium* and *Giardia*. *Cryptosporidium* and *Giardia* are common in the environment, including in surface water, and the finding of an occasional oocyst in raw, unfinished water is not unusual. These pathogens can enter the water from animal or human waste. Any *Cryptosporidium* or *Giardia* in our raw source water is treated and/or removed at the water treatment plant by effective filtration and disinfection processes. *Cryptosporidium* and *Giardia* have not been detected in our finished drinking water.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. People who are immunocompromised 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/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbiological contaminants are available from the EPA's website www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2015-10/documents/cryptosporidium-report.pdf or from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). *Cryptosporidium* and *Giardia* have not been detected in our finished drinking water.

Questions? If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Justin Hewitt at 205-339-6946. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend one of our regularly scheduled monthly meetings. The meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 4:00 p.m. at the water office.

Monitoring Schedule and Results: This report contains test results from the most recent monitoring which was performed in accordance with the regulatory schedule set forth by the EPA and ADEM. Every water system has individually assigned monitoring requirements. The regulations allow monitoring of some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

Constituent Monitored	Coker	Tuscaloosa
Inorganic Contaminants	2025	2025
Lead/Copper	2025	2025
Microbiological Contaminants	current	current
Nitrates	2025	2025
Radioactive Contaminants	2025	2025
Synthetic Organic Contaminants (including pesticides & herbicides)	2024	2025
Volatile Organic Contaminants	2025	2025
Disinfection By-products	2025	2025
<i>Cryptosporidium</i>	Not Required	2025
Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 5 Contaminants (UCMR5)	Not Required	2024
PFAS Contaminants	2020	2021

DETECTED DRINKING WATER CONTAMINANTS							
Contaminants	Violation Y/N	Coker	Tuscaloosa	Unit Msm	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine as Cl ₂	NO		0.2-2.4	ppm	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4	Water additive used to control microbes
Chlorite as ClO ₂	NO		0.16-0.83	ppm	1	1	Water additive used to control microbes
Turbidity	NO		1.037 *	NTU	none	TT	Soil runoff
Total Organic Carbon	NO		1.1-1.7	ppm	n/a	TT	Soil runoff
Gross Alpha	NO	2.8	2.92	pCi/l	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium	NO	0.15	0.020-0.021	ppm	2	2	Drilling and refinery discharge; erosion
Copper	NO	0.0079** (0.0045-0.13)	0.056** (0.0029 - 0.068)	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Household plumbing corrosion; erosion; leaching of preservatives
Fluoride	NO	0.17	0.57-0.60	ppm	4	4	Erosion; water additive for teeth; factory discharge
Lead	NO	0.001** (ND-0.0013)	ND**	ppm	0	AL=0.015	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate	NO	ND	ND-0.11	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
THM -Total trihalomethanes	NO	4.3-7.2	13.4-67.3	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 -Total haloacetic acids	NO	ND	12.5-44.3	ppb	0	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Unregulated Contaminants							
Chloroform	NO	ND	6.4-13.0	ppb	none	none	Naturally occurring in the environment or from runoff
Bromodichloromethane	NO	ND	2.6-3.4	ppb	none	none	Naturally occurring in the environment or from runoff
Secondary Contaminants **							
Aluminum	NO	0.029	NR	ppm	none	0.2	Erosion; treatment with water additives
Chloride	NO	7.9	NR	ppm	none	250	Naturally occurring in the environment or from runoff
Hardness	NO	95.1	NR	ppm	none	none	Naturally occurring or from water additives
pH	NO	7.0	NR	S.U.	none	none	Naturally occurring or from water additives
Sodium	NO	2.8	NR	ppm	none	none	Naturally occurring in the environment
Sulfate	NO	10.8	10.9-14.2	ppm	none	250	Naturally occurring; erosion of natural deposits
Total Dissolved Solids	NO	133	NR	ppm	none	500	Naturally occurring in the environment or from runoff

* The single 1.037 turbidity reading on June 19th, 2025 was caused by equipment error and was deemed an operational deviation and not a TT violation by ADEM

** Figure shown is 90th percentile of latest round of sampling, and number of sample sites exceeding the Action Level (AL) is 0.

UCMR5 - Tuscaloosa: The Fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5) requires monitoring by certain water systems for 30 unregulated contaminants during 2022 - 2026 on assigned schedules. UCMR 5 specifies monitoring for 29 PFAS and one metal (lithium). *Our monitoring during our assigned schedules yielded no detections of the 30 unregulated contaminants.*

UCMR5 Contaminants					
11CI-PF3OUdS	ADONA	Perfluorododecanoic acid	Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid	PFHpS	NEtFOSAA
4:2 FTS	HFPO-DA	Perfluoroheptanoic acid	Perfluorooctanoic acid	PFMBA	N NMeFOSAA
6:2 FTS	NFDHA	Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid	Perfluoroundecanoic acid	PFMPA	perfluorotetradecanoic acid (PFTA)
8:2 FTS	Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid	Perfluorohexanoic acid	PFBA	PFPeA	perfluorotridecanoic acid (PFTTrDA)
9CI-PF3ONS	Perfluorodecanoic acid	Perfluorononanoic acid	PFEESA	PFPeS	Lithium

For more information UCMR5 contaminants, see <https://www.epa.gov/dwucmr>.

PFAS – Coker and Tuscaloosa: Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of man-made chemicals for which the EPA has not established national primary drinking water regulations for PFAS substances. Below is a list of PFAS contaminants for which our water sources were monitored as required and the results of that monitoring. *Our monitoring yielded no detections of PFAS.*

PFAS Contaminants						
Contaminant	Detected (in ppb)	Contaminant	Detected (in ppb)	Contaminant	Detected (in ppb)	Detected (in ppb)
11-chloroeicosafluoro-3-oxaundecane-1-sulfonic acid	ND	Perfluorodecanoic acid	ND	Perfluorooctanoic acid		ND
9-chlorohexadecafluoro-3-oxanone-1-sulfonic acid	ND	Perfluorohexanoic acid	ND	Perfluorotetradecanoic acid		ND
4,8-dioxo-3H-perfluorononanoic acid	ND	Perfluorododecanoic acid	ND	Perfluorotridecanoic acid		ND
Hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acidA	ND	Perfluoroheptanoic acid	ND	Perfluoroundecanoic acid		ND
N-ethylperfluorooctanesulfonamidoacetic acid	ND	Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid	ND	Total PFAS		ND
N-methylperfluorooctanesulfonamidoacetic acid	ND	Perfluorononanoic acid	ND			
Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid	ND	Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid	ND			

For more information on PFAS contaminants, see www.epa.gov/pfas

Plain Language Definitions

Action Level: the concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements.

Coliform Absent (ca): laboratory analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present.

Disinfection byproducts (DBPs): formed when disinfectants react with bromide or natural organic matter present in the source water.

Distribution System Evaluation (DSE): a 4-quarter study to test for disinfection byproducts in different areas of the distribution

Hazard Index (HI): used to determine health concerns associated with mixtures of certain PFAS in finished drinking water. An HI greater than 1 requires a system to take action.

Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA) – yearly average of all the DPB results at each specific sampling site

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water.

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): highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that disinfection 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.

Micrograms per liter (µg/L): equivalent to parts per billion (ppb) since one liter of water is equal in weight to one billion micrograms.

Microsiemens per centimeter (µs/cm): unit of measurement for Specific Conductance.

Milligrams per liter (mg/L): equivalent to parts per million

Millirems per year (mrem/yr): a measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU): a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

Not Detected (ND): laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present above detection limits of lab equipment.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (µg/L): corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/L): corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per quadrillion (ppq) or Picograms per liter (picograms/L): corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000,000.

Parts per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (nanograms/L): corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L): a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Running Annual Average (RAA): yearly average of all the DPB results at each specific sampling site in the distribution system.

Standard Units (S.U.): pH of water measures the water's balances of acids and bases.

Treatment Technique (TT): a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Unregulated Contaminants: contaminants for which the EPA has not established MCLs.

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

Below is a table of contaminants for which we monitor as required on a schedule set by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Alabama Department of Environmental Management.

STANDARD LIST OF PRIMARY DRINKING WATER CONTAMINANTS							
Contaminant	MCL	Unit of Msmt	Detections	Contaminant	MCL	Unit of Msmt	Detections
Bacteriological Contaminants				1,1-Dichloroethylene	7	ppb	ND
Total Coliform Bacteria	<5%	Present or absent	absent	cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene	70	ppb	ND
Fecal Coliform and E. coli	0	Present or absent	absent	trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene	100	ppb	ND
Radiological Contaminants				Dichloromethane	5	ppb	ND
Beta/photon emitters	4	mrem/yr	ND	1,2-Dichloropropane	5	ppb	ND
Alpha emitters	15	pCi/l	2.8	Di (2-ethylhexyl) adipate	400	ppb	ND
Combined radium	5	pCi/l	ND	Di (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate	6	ppb	ND
Uranium	30	pCi/l	ND	Dinoseb	7	ppb	ND
Inorganic Chemicals				Dioxin [2,3,7,8-TCDD]	30	ppb	ND
Antimony	6	ppb	ND	Diquat	20	ppb	ND
Arsenic	10	ppb	ND	Endothall	100	ppb	ND
Asbestos	7	MFL	ND	Endrin	2	ppb	ND
Barium	2	ppm	0.15	Epichlorohydrin	TT	ppb	ND
Beryllium	4	ppb	ND	Ethylbenzene	700	ppb	ND
Cadmium	5	ppb	ND	Ethylene dibromide	50	ppb	ND
Chromium	100	ppb	ND	Glyphosate	700	ppb	ND
Copper	AL=1.3	ppm	(0.0045-0.13)	Heptachlor	400	ppb	ND
Cyanide	200	ppb	ND	Heptachlor epoxide	200	ppb	ND
Fluoride	4	ppm	0.17	Hexachlorobenzene	1	ppb	ND
Lead	AL=15	ppb	ND-0.0013	Hexachlorocyclopentadiene	50	ppb	ND
Mercury	2	ppb	ND	Lindane	200	ppb	ND
Nitrate	10	ppm	ND	Methoxychlor	40	ppb	ND
Nitrite	1	ppm	ND	Oxamyl [Vydate]	200	ppb	ND
Selenium	.05	ppm	ND	Polychlorinated biphenyls	0.5	ppb	ND
Thallium	.002	ppm	ND	Pentachlorophenol	1	ppb	ND
Organic Contaminants				Picloram	500	ppb	ND
2,4-D	70	ppb	ND	Simazine	4	ppb	ND
Acrylamide	TT	TT	ND	Styrene	100	ppb	ND
Alachlor	2	ppb	ND	Tetrachloroethylene	5	ppb	ND
Benzene	5	ppb	ND	Toluene	1	ppb	ND
Benzo(a)pyrene (PAHs)	200	ppt	ND	Toxaphene	3	ppb	ND
Carbofuran	40	ppb	ND	2,4,5-TP(Silvex)	50	ppb	ND
Carbon tetrachloride	5	ppb	ND	1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene	.07	ppb	ND
Chlordane	2	ppb	ND	1,1,1-Trichloroethane	200	ppb	ND
Chlorobenzene	100	ppb	ND	1,1,2-Trichloroethane	5	ppb	ND
Dalapon	200	ppb	ND	Trichloroethylene	5	ppb	ND
Dibromochloropropane	200	ppt	ND	Vinyl Chloride	2	ppb	ND
1,2-Dichlorobenzene	1000	ppb	ND	Xylenes	10	ppb	ND
1,4-Dichlorobenzene (para)	75	ppb	ND	Disinfection Byproducts			
o-Dichlorobenzene	600	ppb	ND	TTHM [Total trihalomethanes]	80	ppb	4.3-7.2
1,2-Dichloroethane	5	ppb	ND	HAA5 [Total haloacetic acids]	60	ppb	ND
LIST OF SECONDARY CONTAMINANTS							
Alkalinity, Total (as CA, Co3) Aluminum Calcium, as Ca Carbon Dioxide Chloride Color	Copper Corrosivity Foaming agents (MBAS) Hardness Iron Magnesium			Manganese Odor Nickel pH Silver Sodium		Specific Conductance Sulfate Total Dissolved Solids Zinc	
LIST OF UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS							
Aldicarb Aldicarb Sulfone Aldicarb Sulfoxide Aldrin Bromoacetic Acid Bromobenzene Bromochloromethane Bromodichloromethane Bromoform Bromomethane Butachlor N-Butylbenzene Sec-Butylbenzene Tert - Butylbenzene Carbaryl	Chloroethane Chloroform Chloromethane O-Chlorotoluene P-Chlorotoluene Dibromochloromethane Dibromomethane 1,1-Dichloroethane 1,3-Dichloropropane 2,2-Dichloropropane 1,1-Dichloropropene 1,3-Dichloropropene Dicamba Dichlorodifluoromethane Dieldrin			Hexachlorobutadiene 3-Hydroxycarbofuran Isopropylbenzene p-Isopropyltoluene M-Dichlorobenzene Methomyl Methomyl Methylene chloride Methyl tert-butyl ether Metolachlor Metribuzin MTBE Naphthalene 1-Naphthol Paraquat		Propachlor N-Propylbenzene Propachlor 1,1,1,2-Tetrachloroethane 1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane Tetrachloroethene Trichloroacetic Acid 1,2,3-Trichlorobenzene Trichloroethene Trichlorofluoromethane 1,2,3-Trichloropropane 1,2,4-Trimethylbenzene 1,3,5-Trimethylbenzene	

More information about contaminants to drinking water and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (1-800-426-4791).