



2020 Consumer Confidence Report

# Annual Water Quality Report

Pine Bluff Water/White Hall Water  
PWS ID# 272



Providing customers with safe, quality drinking water is a top priority for Liberty, and we are proud to present this Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) that shares detailed information regarding local water service and our compliance with state and federal quality standards during the 2020 calendar year.

Liberty makes significant investments each year to ensure the water we deliver to customers meets all Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) standards established by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). We invest responsibly in order to maintain the local water infrastructure, because strong infrastructure is a key factor in delivering quality water. Additionally, we have a top-notch water quality program that ensures the water delivered to your home or business is thoroughly tested by independent laboratories, and the data is provided to the state to verify compliance with all applicable SDWA water regulations.

We know our customers rely on us to make sure the water at their tap is safe to drink, and we take that responsibility seriously. Our employees live in the local community and take great pride in providing quality water and reliable service to you and your neighbors.

If you have any questions about the information within this report, please don't hesitate to contact us at 1-855-382-6508. We encourage you to visit our website at [libertyutilities.com](http://libertyutilities.com) to stay informed and find tips about water conservation and more.

On behalf of the entire Liberty family, thank you for being a valued customer and neighbor. We are proud to be your water provider.

Sincerely,

Mike Beatty  
Vice President, Liberty

To request a printed copy of this report, please call us at **1-855-382-6508**. This report can also be found on the internet at [www.health.arkansas.gov/eng/ccr/272.pdf](http://www.health.arkansas.gov/eng/ccr/272.pdf)

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

## Where Does My Water Come From?

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and groundwater wells.

The water for the Liberty – Pine Bluff Water / White Hall Water system is obtained from thirteen wells that pump from the Sparta Sand Aquifer to three water treatment plants.

## Source Water Assessment

The Arkansas Department of Health has completed a Source Water Vulnerability Assessment for Liberty. This assessment summarizes the potential for contamination of our drinking water sources and can be used as a basis for developing a source-water protection plan. Based on the various criteria of the assessment, our water sources have been determined to have a medium susceptibility to contamination. You may request a summary of the Source-Water Vulnerability Assessment from our office.

## Substances That Could Be In Water

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. 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). 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 stormwater 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 stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

**Organic Chemical Contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

**Radioactive Contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA has regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

## Is Our Water System Meeting Other Rules That Govern Our Operations?

The Arkansas Department of Health regulates our water system and requires us to test our water on a regular basis to ensure its safety. Our system has been assigned the identification number 272 for the purposes of tracking our test results. Last year, we tested for a variety of contaminants. The detectable results of these tests are on the following pages of this report. Any violations of state requirements or standards will be further explained later in this report.

## How Can I Learn More About Our Drinking Water?

If you have questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact us at 1-855-382-6508 to inquire about scheduled meetings or contact persons.

## Am I At Risk?

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, persons with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly persons, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. In addition, EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

## Testing Results

During the year, Liberty - Pine Bluff Water / White Hall Water routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. All of the substances listed here tested under the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL). Liberty believes it is important you know what was detected and how much of the substance was present.

The test results in the table below show the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2020. Terms and abbreviations found in the table are explained in the section "Terms and Abbreviations" located at the end of this report.

## Regulated Contaminants - Your Water Quality Meets or Exceeds All Regulations

Radioactive Contaminants						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit	MCLG (Public Health Goal)	MCL (Allowable Level)	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Alpha Emitters (old treatment plant)	N	4.5	pCi/L	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium (228) (old treatment plant)	N	1.2	pCi/L	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits

Inorganic Contaminants						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit	MCLG (Public Health Goal)	MCL (Allowable Level)	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Fluoride	N	Highest 12 Month Running Average: 1.06 Range: 0.88 - 1.45 (Old WTP)	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth
		Highest 12 Month Running Average: 0.99 Range: 0.5 - 1.23 (New WTP)				
		Highest 12 Month Running Average: 0.90 Range: 0 - 1.08 (Industrial Area WTP)				

Lead and Copper Tap Monitoring						
Contaminant	Number of Sites Sampled	Number of Sites Over Action Level	90th Percentile Result	Unit	Action Level	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Lead	30	0	<0.001	ppm	0.015	Corrosion from household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Copper	30	0	0.53	ppm	1.3	

We are currently on a reduced monitoring schedule requiring us to sample once every three years for lead and copper at the customers' taps. The results above are from our last monitoring period in 2019. Our next required monitoring period is in 2022.

Regulated Disinfectants						
Disinfectant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit	MRDLG (Public Health Goal)	MRDL (Allowable Level)	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Chlorine	N	Average: 1.13 Range: 0.3 - 2.5	ppm	4	4	Water additive used to control microbes

By-Products of Drinking Water Disinfection						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit	MCLG (Public Health Goal)	MCL (Allowable Level)	
HAA5 (Haloacetic Acids)	N	Average: 4.4 Range: 0 - 26.9	ppb	0	60	
TTHM (Total Trihalomethanes)	N	Average: 1.6 Range: 0 - 3.5	ppb	NA	80	

Unregulated Contaminants						
Contaminant	Level Detected	Unit	MCLG (Public Health Goal)	MCL (Allowable Level)	Major Sources in Drinking Water	
Chloroform	Average: 2.52 Range: 0 - 6.78	ppb	70		By-product of drinking water disinfection	
Bromodichloromethane	Average: 1.07 Range: 0 - 3.22	ppb	0			
Dibromochloromethane	Average: 0.71 Range: 0 - 2.14	ppb	60			
Bromoform	Average: 0.22 Range: 0 - 0.67	ppb	0			

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. MCLs (Maximum Contaminant Levels) and MCLGs (Maximum Contaminant Level Goals) have not been established for all unregulated contaminants.

## Significant Deficiencies

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Storage tanks overdue for inspection. The system has stated that it will place all the storage tanks on a five-year plan to have them inspected. The system needs to submit a schedule for the tank inspections and to submit copies of the tank inspections as they are completed.	
Nature of Deficiencies	Progress to Date
Water system has been advised to add tank inspection as a goal for the immediate future.	Liberty has identified issues with tank inspection and is addressing them with priority.

## Important Health Information

### Special Lead and Drinking Water Notice

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 service lines and home plumbing. Liberty – Pine Bluff Water / White Hall Water 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. 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 exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) or at <http://water.epa.gov/drink/info/lead/index.cfm>.

## Terms and Abbreviations

**90th percentile:** For Lead and Copper testing. 10% of test results are above this level, and 90% are below this level.

**AL:** Action Level, or the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

**HAA5:** Haloacetic Acids (mono-, di- and tri-chloroacetic acid, and mono- and di-bromoacetic acid) as a group.

**LRAA:** Locational Running Annual Average, or the locational average of sample analytical results for samples taken during the previous four calendar quarters.

**MCLG:** Maximum Contaminant Level Goal, or 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.

**MCL:** Maximum Contaminant Level, or 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.

**NA:** not applicable.

**ppb:** parts per billion or micrograms per liter.

**ppm:** parts per million or milligrams per liter.

**RAA:** Running Annual Average, or the average of sample analytical results for samples taken during the previous four calendar quarters.

**Range of Results:** Shows the lowest and highest levels found during a testing period. If only one sample was taken, then this number equals the Highest Test Result or Highest Value.

**SMCL:** Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level, or the secondary standards that are non-enforceable guidelines for contaminants and may cause cosmetic effects (such as skin or tooth discoloration) or aesthetic effects (such as taste, odor, or color) in drinking water. EPA recommends these standards but does not require water systems to comply.

**TTHM:** Total Trihalomethanes (chloroform, bromodichloromethane, dibromochloromethane, and bromoform) as a group.