

# Tuckaleechee Utility District Water Quality Report for 2024

## Is my drinking water safe?

Yes, our water meets all of EPA's health standards. We have conducted numerous tests for over 80 contaminants that may be in drinking water. As you'll see in the chart on the back, we only detected 9 of these contaminants.

## What is the source of my water?

Your water, which is surface water, comes from the City of Alcoa and Knox-Chapman Utility District. Our goal is to protect our water from contaminants and we are working with the State to determine the vulnerability of our water source to **potential** contamination. The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) has prepared a Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) Report for the untreated water sources serving this water system. The SWAP Report assesses the susceptibility of untreated water sources to **potential** contamination. To ensure safe drinking water, all public water systems treat and routinely test their water. Water sources have been rated as reasonably susceptible, moderately susceptible or slightly susceptible based on geologic factors and human activities in the vicinity of the water source. The Tuckaleechee Utility District sources rated as reasonably susceptible to potential contamination.

An explanation of Tennessee's Source Water Assessment Program, the Source Water Assessment summaries, susceptibility scorings and the overall TDEC report to EPA can be viewed online at

<https://www.tn.gov/environment/program-areas/wr-water-resources/water-quality/source-water-assessment.html>

or you may contact the Water System to obtain copies of specific assessments.

## Why are there contaminants in my water?

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).

Este informe contiene información muy importante. Tradúscalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

**For more information about your drinking water, please call Jordan Young at 865-448-2230.**

## How can I get involved?

Our Water Board meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at 5:30 PM at the office, 7706 Chestnut Hill Rd. Please feel free to participate in these meetings. The Commissioners of Tuckaleechee Utility District serve four year terms. Vacancies on the Board of Commissioners are filled by appointment by the Blount County Mayor from a list of three nominees certified by the Board of Commissioners to the Blount County Mayor to fill a vacancy. Decisions by the Board of Commissioners on customer complaints brought before the Board of Commissioners under the District's customer complaint policy may be reviewed by the Utility Management Review Board of the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation pursuant to Section 7-82-702(7) of Tennessee Code Annotated.

## Is our water system meeting other rules that govern our operations?

The State and EPA require us to test and report on our water on a regular basis to ensure its safety. We have met all of these requirements. Results of unregulated contaminant analysis are available upon request. We want you to know that we pay attention to all the rules.

## Other Information

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, 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 source water:

- 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 by-products 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 be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA and the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation prescribe regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. **The City of Alcoa and Knox-Chapman UD's water treatment processes are designed to reduce any such substances to levels well below any health concern.** FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

## Do I Need To Take Special Precautions?

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 under-gone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about not only their drinking water, but food preparation, personal hygiene, and precautions in handling infants and pets 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).

## Lead in Drinking Water

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. Tuckaleechee Utility District is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to

flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Tuckaleechee Utility District at 865-448-2230. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

### Lead Service Line Inventory

A Lead Service Line Inventory has been completed for our system and is accessible by contacting our office during regular business hours.

### Pharmaceuticals In Drinking Water

Flushing unused or expired medicines can be harmful to your drinking water. Learn more about disposing of <https://tdeconline.tn.gov/rxtakeback/>

## Water Quality Data

### What does this chart mean?

- **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.
- **MRDL**: Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level or MRDL: The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for the control of microbial contaminants.
- **MRDLG**: Maximum residual disinfectant level goal. 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.
- **AL** - Action Level, or the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- **Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l)** – explained as a relation to time and money as 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** - explained as a relation to time and money as one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.
- **Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)** - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.
- **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.
- **RTCR** – Revised Total Coliform Rule. This rule went into effect on April 1, 2016 and replaces the MCL for total coliform with a Treatment Technique Trigger for a system assessment
- **TT** - Treatment Technique, or a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- **Below Detection Level (BDL)** - laboratory analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present at a level that can be detected.

### 2024 Tuckaleechee Utility District Water Quality Data

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Range of Detections	Date of Sample	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria (RTCR)	No			2024		0	TT Trigger	Naturally present in the environment
Copper <sup>1</sup>	No	90 <sup>th</sup> % = 0.172	< 0.001-1.24	2023	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead <sup>1</sup>	No	90 <sup>th</sup> % = 4.00	< 2.0 -22.2	2023	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
TTHM <sup>2</sup> [Total trihalomethanes]	No	52.53	15.00-81.80	2024	ppb	n/a	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids <sup>2</sup> (HAA5)	No	58.33	15.90-90.30	2024	ppb	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Level Found	Range of Detections	Date of Sample	Unit Measurement	MRDLG	MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine	No	1.73 Avg.	0.93-2.61	2024	ppm	4	4	Water additive used to control microbes.

<sup>1</sup> During the most recent round of Lead and Copper testing, 1 out of 30 households sampled contained concentrations exceeding the action level for Lead. 0 out of 30 households sampled contained concentrations exceeding the action level for Copper. 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. The lead level is the lowest the lab can detect accurately.

<sup>2</sup> TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes]. Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

HAA [Haloacetic Acids]. Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

## Monitoring Requirement Not Met for Tuckaleechee Utility District

The Tuckaleechee Utility District violated drinking water standards. Even though this was not an emergency, you as a customer have a right to know what happened and what we are doing to correct this situation.

*We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During 2022 and 2023, we did not monitor for Asbestos and a Public Notice Violation as required and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.*

### What should you do?

There is nothing you need to do at this time.

The table below lists the contaminants we did not test for, how often we are supposed to sample, how many samples we are supposed to take, how many samples we took, when samples should have been taken, and the date on which follow-up samples will be taken.

Contaminant	Required Sampling Frequency	Number of Samples Required	When Samples Should Have Been Taken	When Samples Were Taken
Asbestos	1 Every 9 Years	1	1/1/2022-12/31/2022	12/19/2022 Results were not Submitted to TDEC by Laboratory in 2022
Public Notice Violation (Asbestos Violation)			2/10/2023-2/10/2024	June 2024 by CCR

**As a result of the Asbestos violation, this Public Notice was required to have been provided to our customers on/before 2/10/2024. We failed to meet that deadline and incurred a Public Notice violation.**

### What is being done?

The identified violations occurred during the tenure of the prior board/management. The newly appointed board is working with current management to review sampling requirements and coordinate with our contract laboratory to ensure compliance with drinking water regulations/requirements.

*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 condos, rentals, apartments, etc.). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.*

This notice is being sent to you by *the*:

Tuckaleechee Utility District  
7706 Chestnut Hill Rd.  
Townsend, TN 37882

State Water System ID#: TN0000714

Date Distributed: June 2025 by CCR

## 2024 City of Alcoa Water Quality Data

TEST RESULTS						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>						
Total Coliform Bacteria (RTCR)	No	0	Presence or Absence	0	TT Trigger	Naturally present in the environment.
<i>E. coli</i> Bacteria	No	0	Presence or Absence	0	See Footnote <u>1</u>	Human and animal fecal waste.
Turbidity	No	Level Detected 0.02 Range 0.01-0.08 <u>2</u> 100%	NTU	N/A	TT - ≤ 0.3 NTU in 95% of monthly measurements	Soil runoff.
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>						
<sup>3</sup> Lead	No	Level Detected 1.0 Range 1-1.8 Sample year 2023	ppb	0	AL = 15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
<sup>3</sup> Copper	No	Level Detected 0.079 Range 0.08-0.12 Sample Year 2023	ppm	1.3	AL = 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Fluoride	No	Level Detected 0.46 Range 0.00-0.81	ppm	4	4	Water additive, which promotes strong teeth; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	No	Level Detected 0.25	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
Sodium	No	7.15	ppm	None	None	Erosion of natural deposits.
<b>Disinfectants</b>						
Chlorine	No	Level Detected 1.85 Range 1.01-2.55	ppm	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	Water additive used to control microbes
<b>Organic Contaminants</b>						
Haloacetic Acids (HAA <sub>5</sub> ) <sup>4</sup>	No	Highest LRAA 24 Range 10-24	ppb	0	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) <sup>4</sup>	No	Highest LRAA 25 Range 12-49	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination.

1: *E. coli*: A system is in compliance with the MCL for *E. coli* for samples unless any of the conditions identified in parts 1 through 4 occur.

1. The system has an *E. coli*-positive repeat sample following a total coliform positive routine sample.
2. The system has a total coliform positive repeat sample following an *E. coli*-positive routine sample.
3. The system fails to take all required repeat samples following an *E. coli*-positive routine sample.
4. The system fails to test for *E. coli* when any repeat sample tests positive for total coliform.

2: We met the Treatment Technique for Turbidity. 100% of all samples were less than 0.3 NTU. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.

3: 0 out of 30 sampling sites exceeded the Lead action level and 0 sites exceeded the Copper action level. 1 is the lowest detectable limit for Lead.

4: HAA<sub>5</sub> and TTHMs are the highest Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA) for all quarters of 2024.

5: **UCMR 5** We have completed the 5th "Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule". This was focused on forever chemicals i.e. PFOS, PFAS, Etc.

We are pleased to say that all results were Non Detects or <MRL less than "Method Reporting Limit". 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. For additional information call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791

**2024 Knox Chapman Utility District Water Quality Data**

Contaminants	MCLG in CCR Units	MCL in CCR Units	Level Found CCR Units	Detection Range	Violation	Sample Date	Typical Source of Contaminants
Chlorine	MRDLG < 4 ppm	MRDL 4 ppm	1.59 ppm (Avg.)	0.48 – 2.06 ppm	No	2024	Disinfectant added to water to inactivate microorganisms.
Total Coliform	0	5% positive samples	*0	NA	No	2024	Naturally present in the environment.
Turbidity	N/A	< .3 NTU	.04 NTU	.01-.04 NTU	No	2024	Soil runoff.
Radioactive Contaminants:							
Inorganic Contaminants:							
Copper	< 1.3 ppm	AL=1.3 ppm	90 <sup>th</sup> % = .07640ppm	.001-0.210 ppm	No	2023	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	2.0 ppm	4.0 ppm	0.66 ppm (Avg.)	0.60-0.75 ppm	No	2024	Erosion of natural deposits, water additive, promotes strong teeth, discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Lead	0 ppb	AL=15 ppb	90 <sup>th</sup> % = 3.64ppb	.002-15.2ppb	No	2023	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	N/A	N/A	7.11 ppm	N/A	No	2024	Naturally present in the environment
Organic Contaminants:							
TTHM Trihalomethanes	N/A	80 ppb	50.15 ppb (LRAA)	20.9-79.7 ppb	No	2024	By - Product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 Haloacetic Acids	N/A	60 ppb	52.65ppb (LRAA)	17.8-70.7 ppb	No	2024	By – Product of drinking water chlorination

About the data:

The data presented in this table is from testing done between Jan 1, 2024, thru Dec 31, 2024. We monitor for some contaminants less than once per year and for those contaminants, the date of the last sample is shown in the table. We met the treatment technique for turbidity, which is an indicator of filtration effectiveness, in 2024 with 100% of the samples less than 0.3 NTU. Out of 480 sites sampled for total coliform and E.Coli, we had 0 samples test positive in 2024. In our most recent round of lead and copper sampling, 1 out of 30 households exceeded the action level for lead, and 0 out of 30 households exceeded the action level for copper.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER**

Our water system violated drinking water requirement over the past year. Even though these were not emergencies, as our customers, you have the right to know what happened and what we are doing or did to correct these situations. We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results

of regular monitoring are an indication of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024 we did not monitor or test for Total Haloacetic Acids and Total Trihalomethanes and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during this time.

Knox Chapman Utility District was required to monitor for Total Haloacetic Acids and Total Trihalomethanes during the second quarter of 2024 according to our Stage 2 Disinfection Byproduct (DBP) Locational Running Annual Averages (LRAA) Monitoring Plan. Knox Chapman Utility District sampled on 4/9/2024 instead of during the week of 5/8/2024 as scheduled in our Stage 2 DBP monitoring plan, indicating a monitoring violation.

THIS NOTICE IS BEING SENT BY KNOX CHAPMAN UTILITY DISTRICT, STATE WATER SYSTEM ID#:TN0000367, DATE DISTRIBUTED APRIL 2025.

There is nothing you need to do at this time. Total Haloacetic Acids and Total Trihalmethanes (DBP of Chlorine) requires that Knox Chapman Utility District collect 4 samples from different sites, every 3 months during the second week of the second month of each quarter and should have been taken May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024 instead of April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024. We have since reviewed our sampling plan schedule and are strictly staying on schedule.