

**PIEDMONT UTILITIES DEPARTMENT  
CITY OF PIEDMONT, ALABAMA**

**ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT-2024**

**INTRODUCTION**

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process, protect our water resources, and to ensure the quality of your water. This report provides background information on your water system and presents water quality data for the year 2023.

**WATER SOURCE**

We now have two water sources one water source is Ladiga Creek, a stream formed from limestone springs east of Highway 278 East. The second water source is our New well we put in service August of 2020. It is located on Sports Complex Rd. The new well is capable of pumping 200 gallons per minute, we will use this well as a back up to our filter plant. A Source Water Assessment (SWA) for Ladiga Creek and the springs was completed in 2002 the one for the new well was completed in 2020 and both were approved by the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM). The Source Water Assessment is a study to define the recharge areas to our water sources and helps us better protect your drinking water. In addition, the City of Piedmont completed a Vulnerability Assessment and Emergency Response Plan in 2004 to keep your water safe and secure.

**TREATMENT AND DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM**

The City of Piedmont has been providing water to citizens in the area since 1898. Components of the original system have been completely replaced. The current Piedmont Utilities Department was first incorporated back in 1948 to ensure a safe, dependable source of water to every home in the area. As of the end of 2021, we were serving approximately 2,727 homes and businesses.

The water from Ladiga Creek is pumped to our Water Treatment Plant for treatment, which includes adding chlorine for disinfection, aluminum sulfate for coagulation and sedimentation, and soda ash for pH control. Next the water flows through a flocculator and two settling basins. The flocculator has recently been upgraded. The water is then filtered through four multi-media filters. Then the finished water is pumped to you. All of the materials and equipment used in the process of treating and distributing water to you has been approved by the National Sanitation Foundation (NSF). The NSF has a general information phone number you can call to get more information (800-673-6275).

In the event of power failure, the Piedmont Water Treatment Plant and the pumps have standby power generation at the creek, which has 100% production capacity.

The Water Treatment Plant has received the **“Best Operated Plant”** award in Alabama eight times in the last 16 years and **“The Safe Drinking Water Excellence Award”** in the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region IV (8 states) in 1993 and 2000. The plant is adequately staffed 16 hours a day, 7 days a week by three State Certified Grade IV operators.

The Piedmont Utility Department currently maintains the following:

- Water Mains in Service – 106 Miles
- Sewer Mains in Service – 28 Miles
- Gas Mains in Service – 76 Miles
- Water Storage Tanks – 3
- Water Storage Capacity – 2.3 Million Gallons
- Water Treatment Capacity – 2.25 Million Gallons per Day
- Water Booster Pump Stations – 7
- Public Fire Hydrants – 389
- Sewage Treatment Capacity – 1.55 Million Gallons per Day

We routinely complete a water storage facility inspection plan, and utilize a Bacteriological Monitoring Plan and a Cross Connection Policy to ensure safe drinking water for our customers.

## **MANAGEMENT**

Our system is governed by a Piedmont City Council. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the first & third Tuesday of every month. The meeting is held at the Municipal Complex beginning at 6:00 P.M. The Council Members are:

**Mayor: Bill Baker**

**City Clerk: Carl Hinton**

**Council Members:**

**John Lawrence, Richard Williams, Jubal Feazell, Caleb Pope, Greg South, David Ivey & Terry Kiser**

If you have any questions about this report or concerns about your water utility, please contact:

**Mr. Byrian Watts, Superintendent**

**P.O. Box 229 – 128 South Center Ave., Piedmont, Alabama 36272**

**Phone: (256) 447-3560 Fax: (256) 447-9067 E-Mail: [abwatts@piedmontcity.org](mailto:abwatts@piedmontcity.org)**

We are also members of the American Water Works Association, Alabama Rural Water Association, Water Environment Federation, Alabama Water Pollution and Control Association, Alabama Natural Gas Association, and Municipal Distributors Group of Alabama.

## **WATER QUALITY DATA FOR 2024**

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 your drinking water meets health standards. Your Local Water officials vigilantly safeguard Piedmont water supplies and once again we are proud to report that our system has not violated a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard. We are pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets all federal and state requirements. This section describes our water quality and what it means.

Piedmont Utilities Department routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The following tables show the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024, or from the most recent sampling prior to 2012 (ADEM does not require us to monitor for all constituents every year). Although we are only required to report those constituents that were detected, we are including a list of all the tests that we ran to give you an idea of the extensive testing that is done to ensure the quality of your water. The shaded rows indicate constituents that were detected, although they are all below the

regulatory levels. Please note that all drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk.

The lab data are presented in eight tables, grouped according to EPA requirements. In these tables you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

*Not Required (NR)* – laboratory analysis not required.

*Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l)* - 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* - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

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

*Parts per quadrillion (ppq) or Picograms per liter (picograms/l)* - one part per quadrillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000,000 years or one penny in \$10,000,000,000,000.

*Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)* - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

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

*Million Fibers per Liter (MFL)* - million fibers per liter is a measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers.

*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.

*Action Level (AL)* - the concentration of a contaminant, which if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

*Treatment Technique (TT)* - A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

*Maximum Contaminant Level* - The “Maximum Allowed” (MCL) is 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.

*Maximum Contaminant Level Goal* - The “Goal” (MCLG) is 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.

***UCMR Minimum Reporting Level (MRL):*** The minimum concentration that may be reported by a laboratory as a quantified value for a method analyte following analysis. The MRLs were established based on the capability of the analytical method, not based on a level established as "significant" or "harmful". ***UCMR Reference Concentration:*** The reference concentrations are based on publicly available health information found in the following EPA resources: 2018 Edition of the Drinking Water Standards and Health Advisories Tables [i.e., Health advisories (HA)] and the CCL 4 Contaminant Information Sheets [i.e., ***Health Reference Levels (HRLs)***]. The primary sources of the health

information used to derive the guideline values in the resources referenced above are peer-reviewed assessments from EPA or other governmental agencies. The reference concentrations are subject to change as new health assessments are completed. Reference Concentrations are not legally enforceable federal standards.

**Health Reference Levels (HRL):** The CCL process derives HRLs for screening purposes using available data and can be used in the Regulatory Determination process as risk-derived concentrations against which to evaluate the occurrence data to determine if contaminants may occur at levels of public health concern. HRLs are not final determinations about the level of a contaminant in drinking water that is necessary to protect any particular population and, in some cases, are derived prior to development of a complete exposure assessment using the best available data. HRLs are not legally enforceable federal standards

**Health Advisories (HA):** Has provide information on contaminants that can cause human health effects and are known or anticipated to occur in drinking water. EPA's health advisories are non-enforceable and non-regulatory and provide technical information to State agencies and other public health officials on health effects, analytical methodologies and treatment technologies to assist with risk management decisions.

**Level 1 Assessment:** “A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.”

**Level 2 Assessment:** “A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an *E. coli* MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

Our monitoring results are shown in the table on the following pages.

<b>Table of Primary Contaminants</b>					
At high levels some primary contaminants are known to pose a health risks to humans. This table provides a quick glance of any primary contaminant detections.					
CONTAMINANT	MCL	AMOUNT DETECTED	CONTAMINANT	MCL	AMOUNT DETECTED
<b>Bacteriological</b>			Endothall(ppb)	100	ND
Total Coliform Bacteria	< 5%	0	Endrin(ppb)	2	ND
Turbidity	TT	0.125	Epichlorohydrin	TT	ND
Fecal Coliform & E. coli	0	ND	Ethylbenzene(ppb)	700	ND
Fecal Indicators (enterococci or coliphage)	None	ND	Ethylene dibromide(ppt)	50	ND
<b>Radiological</b>			Glyphosate(ppb)	700	ND
Beta/photon emitters (mrem/yr)	4	ND	Haloacetic Acids(ppb)	60	7.07
Alpha emitters (pci/l)	15	2.73	Heptachlor(ppt)	400	ND
Combined radium (pci/l)	5	0.641	Heptachlor epoxide(ppt)	200	ND
Uranium(pci/l)	30	ND	Hexachlorobenzene(ppb)	1	ND
<b>Inorganic</b>			Hexachlorocyclopentadiene(ppm)	50	ND
Antimony (ppb)	6	ND	Lindane(ppt)	200	ND
Arsenic (ppb)	10	ND	Methoxychlor(ppb)	40	ND

Asbestos (MFL)	7	ND	Oxamyl [Vydate](ppb)	200	ND
Barium (ppm)	2000	23.0	Pentachlorophenol(ppb)	1	ND
Beryllium (ppb)	4	ND	Picloram(ppb)	500	ND
Bromate(ppb)	10	ND	PCBs(ppt)	500	ND
Cadmium (ppb)	5	ND	Simazine(ppb)	4	ND
Chloramines(ppm)	4	ND	Styrene(ppb)	100	ND
Chlorine(ppm)	4	2.0	Tetrachloroethylene(ppb)	5	ND
Chlorine dioxide(ppb)	800	ND	Toluene(ppm)	1	ND
Chlotite(ppm)	1	ND	TOC	TT	ND
Chromium (ppb)	100	ND	TTHM(ppb)	80	7.0
Copper (ppm) (2023)	AL=1.3	0.056	Toxaphene(ppb)	3	ND
Cyanide (ppb)	200	ND	2,4,5-TP (Silvex)(ppb)	50	ND
Fluoride (ppm)	4	ND	1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene(ppb)	70	ND
Lead (ppb)	AL=15	ND	1,1,1-Trichloroethane(ppb)	200	ND
Mercury (ppb)	2	ND	1,1,2-Trichloroethane(ppb)	5	ND
Nitrate (ppm)	10	0.49	Trichloroethylene(ppb)	5	ND
Nitrite (ppm)	1	ND	Vinyl Chloride(ppb)	2	ND
Total Nitrate & Nitrite	10	0.49	Xylenes(ppm)	10	ND
Selenium(ppb)	50	ND			
Thallium(ppb)	2	ND			
<b>Organic Chemicals</b>					
Acrylamide	TT	ND			
Alachlor(ppb)	2	ND			
Atrazine(ppb)	3	ND			
Benzene(ppbv)	5	ND			
Benzo(a)pyrene[PHAs](ppt)	200	ND			
Carbofuran(ppb)	40	ND			
Carbon Tetrachloride(ppb)	5	ND			
Chlordane(ppb)	2	ND			
Chlorobenzene(ppb)	100	ND			
2,4-D	70	ND			
Dalapon(ppb)	200	ND			
Dibromochloropropane(ppt)	200	ND			
0-Dichlorobenzene(ppb)	600	ND			
p-Dichlorobenzene(ppb)	75	ND			
1,2-Dichloroethane(ppb)	5	ND			
1,1-Dichloroethylene(ppb)	7	ND			
Cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene(ppb)	70	ND			
trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene(ppb)	100	ND			
Dichloromethane(ppb)	5	ND			
1,2-Dichloropropane(ppb)	5	ND			
Di-(2-ethylhexyl)adipate(ppb)	400	ND			
Di(2-ethylhexyl)phthlates(ppb)	6	ND			
Dinoseb(ppb)	7	ND			
Dioxin[2,3,7,8-TCDD](ppq)	30	ND			
Diquat(ppb)	20	ND			

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. Please note the sampling frequency of each of these constituents varies, and the range represents the low and high concentrations detected during the sampling events.

### Secondary Contaminants

National Secondary Drinking Water Regulations (NSDWRs or secondary standards) are non-enforceable guidelines regulating contaminants that may cause cosmetic effects (such as skin or tooth discoloration) or aesthetic effects (such as taste, odor, or color) in drinking water. EPA recommends secondary standards to water systems but does not require systems to comply.

#### Explanation for reasons for variance/exemption

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.

The tables below list all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in these tables is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or ADEM requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

Table of Detected Drinking Water Contaminants								
CONTAMINANT	MCLG	MCL	Range			Amount Detected	Likely Source of Contamination	
<b>Bacteriological Contaminants      January - December 2024</b>								
Turbidity	0	TT				0.40	NTU	Soil runoff
<b>Radiological Contaminants      January - December 2024</b>								
Combined Radium 226 & 228 (2020)	0	5	0	-	ND	0.366 ± 0.349	pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Inorganic Contaminants      January - December 2024</b>								
Barium	2000	2000	23.0	-	23.0	23.0	ppb	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine	MRDLG 4	MRDL 4	1.0	-	3.0	2.0	ppm	Water additive used to control microbes
Copper (2023)	1.3	AL=1.3	No. of Sites above action level 0			0.056	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

Lead (2023)	0	AL=15	No. of Sites above action level 0			ND	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (as N)	10	10	0.56	-	0.93	0.49	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Total Nitrate & Nitrite	10	10	0.93	-	0.93	0.93	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
<b>Organic Contaminants January - December 2024</b>								
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	N/A	60	ND	-	15.0	7.07	ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	N/A	TT	ND	-	ND	ND	ppm	Naturally present in the environment
Total trihalomethanes (TTHM)	0	80	ND	-	14.0	7.0	ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination
<b>Secondary Contaminants January - December 2024</b>								
Aluminum	N/A	0.2	0.043	-	0.043	0.043	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits or as a result of treatment with water additives
Chloride	N/A	250	ND	-	ND	ND	ppm	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of agricultural runoff
Iron	N/A	0.3	ND	-	ND	ND	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
Manganese	N/A	0.05	ND	-	ND	ND	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
Odor	N/A	3	ND	-	ND	ND	T.O.N.	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of treatment with water additives
Sulfate	N/A	250	11.7	-	11.7	11.7	ppm	Naturally occurring in the environment
Total Dissolved Solids	N/A	500	129.0	-	129.0	129.0	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
Zinc	N/A	5	ND	-	ND	ND	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Special Contaminants January - December 2024</b>								
Calcium	N/A	N/A	25.7	-	25.7	25.7	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
Carbon Dioxide	N/A	N/A	15.7	-	15.7	15.7	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
Magnesium	N/A	N/A	12.8	-	12.8	12.8	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits

pH	N/A	N/A	7.6	-	7.6	7.6	SU	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of treatment with water additives
Sodium	N/A	N/A	ND	-	ND	ND	ppm	Naturally occurring in the environment
Specific Conductance	N/A	<500	241.0	-	241.0	241.0	umhos	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of treatment with water additives
Sulfate	N/A	N/A	11.7	-	11.7	11.7	ppm	Naturally occurring in the environment
Total Alkalinity	N/A	N/A	103.00	-	103.00	103.0	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
Total Hardness (as CaCO3)	N/A	N/A	117.0	-	117.0	117.0	ppm	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of treatment with water additives
<b>Unregulated Contaminants January - December 2024</b>								
Bromodichloromethane	N/A	N/A	ND	-	2.8	1.4	ppb	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of industrial discharge or agricultural runoff; by-product of chlorination
Chloroform	N/A	N/A	ND	-	7.9	3.95	ppb	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of industrial discharge or agricultural runoff; by-product of chlorination
Dibromochloromethane	N/A	N/A	ND	-	1.0	0.5	ppm	Naturally occurring in the environment

*Note: Analytical results are from the last test performed, and were not necessarily tested in 2024.*

<b>PFAS Compounds</b>								
CONTAMINANT	RESULTS	UNITS	CONTAMINANT	RESULTS	UNITS	CONTAMINANT	RESULTS	UNITS
11CI-PF3OUdS	ND	ug/L	Perfluorodecanoic Acid	ND	ug/L	Perfluorooctanoic Acid	ND	ug/L
9CI-PF3ONS	ND	ug/L	Perfluorohexanoic Acid	ND	ug/L	Perfluorotetradecanoic Acid	ND	ug/L
ADONA	ND	ug/L	Perfluorododecanoic Acid	ND	ug/L	Perfluorotridecanoic Acid	ND	ug/L
HFPO-DA	ND	ug/L	Perfluoroheptanoic Acid	ND	ug/L	Perfluoroundecanoic Acid	ND	ug/L
NEIFOSAA	ND	ug/L	Perfluorohexanesulfonic Acid	ND	ug/L	Total PFAs	ND	ug/L
NMeFOSAA	ND	ug/L	Perfluorononanoic Acid	ND	ug/L			ug/L

Perfluorobutanesulfonic Acid	ND	ug/L	Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid	ND	ug/L			ug/L
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## GENERAL INFORMATION

**Total Coliform:** The Total Coliform Rule requires water systems to meet a stricter limit for coliform bacteria. Coliform bacteria are usually harmless, but their presence in water can be an indication of disease-causing bacteria. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow-up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. If this limit is exceeded, the water supplier must notify the public by newspaper, television or radio. To comply with the stricter regulation, we have increased the average amount of chlorine in the distribution system.

### What does this mean?

As you can see by the table, our system had no violations. We're proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected.

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 activities.

As noted before, 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 the 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 at (800) 426-4791, or by visiting their website at <http://www.epa.gov>.

MCLs are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, 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.

Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea and associated headaches.

Radon is a naturally occurring gas present in some groundwater. Inhaled radon has been linked to lung cancer and may pose a health risk when inhaled after the release from water into the air. This inhalation could occur during showering, bathing, washing dishes, or washing clothes. The radon gas release from drinking water is a relatively small part of the total radon found in air. One major source of radon gas is from the soil, where the gas can seep through the foundations of homes. It is not clear whether ingested (i.e. taken through the mouth) radon contributes to cancer or other adverse health conditions. If you are concerned about radon in your home, tests are available to determine the total exposure level. For additional information on home testing contact the local Health Department. Note 300 Pci/l proposed MCL.

**Cryptosporidium** is a microbial pathogen found in surface water throughout the U.S. Although filtration removes Cryptosporidium, the most commonly used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100 percent removal. Ingestion of Cryptosporidium may cause cryptosporidiosis, an abdominal infection. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within a few weeks. However, immune-compromised individuals, infants and small children, and the elderly are at greater risk of developing life-threatening illnesses. We encourage immune-compromised individuals to consult

their doctor regarding appropriate precautions to take to avoid infection. Cryptosporidium must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread through other means than drinking water. We currently monitor for Cryptosporidium and have had none detected

Some people who drink water contaminated with trihalomethanes (TTHMs) and haloacetic acids (HAA5's) in **excess of the MCL** over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer. Since most surface water treatment plants use chlorine for disinfection, TTHMs and HAA5's has become a national problem. As you can see from the report we did not exceed the contaminate levels for TTHMS and HAA5s for 2013. We are constantly working at Piedmont Utilities to control the amount of TTHMS and HAA5s in our drinking water.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. People who are immuno-compromised 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 (Center of Disease Control) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline. All Drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants.

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. The Piedmont Utilities Department 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 2 minutes before using 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 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

**Lead in Drinking Water:** 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 Service Line Inventory:** Our Lead Service Line Inventory was completed and submitted by the deadline of October 16, 2024, and a copy of it is in our office as required by EPA. If any would like to review it or have any questions, please feel free to contact our office.

Upon completing the lead service line inventory, Piedmont Utilities had 0 – Lead Service Lines, 1165 – Galvanize Required Replacement Service Lines, 3 – Unknown, and 1770- Non- Lead Service Lines.

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. These improvements are sometimes reflected as rate structure adjustments. Thank you for understanding.

Please call our office if you have questions.

