2025 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
East Lowndes Water Association, Inc.
PWS#: 440005 (AL0001809), 440080, 440081, 440100, 440103
April 2026

We are pleased to present to you this year's Annual Quality Water 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 safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

East Lowndes Water Association, Inc. works around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future. The Association has received the highest rating of 5.0 through the Mississippi State Department of Health's Capacity Assessment Program on all five systems. The Association has the ability to notify its customers with an "Immediate Response Information System" for emergencies and critical information pertaining to its water supply. If you have not updated your contact information, please do so.

Please share this information with anyone who drinks this water (or their guardians), especially those who may not have received the report directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses).

ABOUT OUR SYSTEM
East Lowndes Water Association, Inc. has more than 700 miles of distribution mains, serving more than 9,850 active connections. The system has a capacity to provide 7.6 million gallons per day (MGD), with an average daily usage of 2.1 MGD. This is accomplished within five treatment plants, two pump stations, nine underground water wells and eight elevated storage tanks. System improvements over the past year include approximately 6,500 feet of main line extensions throughout the system, various infrastructure upgrades within the plants and distribution system, complete rehabilitation of 2 elevated storage tanks, 75 new meter connections, and 4 new hydrants installed throughout the distribution system for fire protection and flushing purposes. Also, installed the first phase of pressure monitors in portions of distribution system for continuous monitoring to ensure reliable supply, reduction of water loss, and reducing service disruptions. Each improvement reflects the Board of Directors' and Management Team's commitment to provide quality water in the most efficient and cost-effective way. Another reflection of this commitment is that all Board Members have completed the Mississippi Rural Water Association Board Management Training Course, with the Board President and Vice-President having completed Advanced Board Management Training.

CONTACT & MEETING INFORMATION
If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Brad Braddock, General Manager, at 662.328.1065. We encourage 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 fourth Monday of every month except December at 6:30 PM and the Annual Meeting that is held at 5:00 PM on the fourth Monday of August. Both meeting held at the Association's business office located at 1325 Ridge Road, Columbus, MS 39705.

SOURCE OF WATER
Our water source is from ground water from nine (9) wells drawing from the Gordo and Massive Sands Aquifers. The source water assessment has been completed for our public water system to determine the overall susceptibility of its drinking water supply to identify potential sources of contamination. A report containing detailed information on how the susceptibility determinations were made has been furnished to our public water system and is available for viewing upon request. The wells for our system have received a lower to moderate rankings in terms of susceptibility to contamination. If needed on emergency basis our system can purchase water from Columbus Light & Water and the Caledonia Water Association.

PERIOD COVERED BY REPORT
We routinely monitor for contaminants in your drinking water according to federal and state laws. This report is based on results of our monitoring period of January 1st to December 31st , 2025. In cases where monitoring wasn't required in 2025, the table reflects the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations.

As water travels over the surface of land or underground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive materials and can pick up substances or contaminants from the presence of animals or from human activity; microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that 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 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 storm-water 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 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 prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It's important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a monthly basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. In an effort to ensure systems complete all monitoring requirements, MSDH now notifies systems of any missing samples prior to the end of the compliance period.

In addition to the below contaminants, we tested for additional chemicals for which the state and EPA have set standards. We found no detectable levels of those chemicals.

In 2024, our systems #440080 & #440103 also tested for the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule #5 for lithium and polyfluoroalkyl substances, where no detectable levels were found.

On system # 440080, in November of 2025 we had one sample that tested positive for total coliform. The resamples were clear. During the past year we were required to conduct and completed 1 (one) Level 1 assessment. In addition, we were required to take and completed 1 (one) corrective action.

Violations
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 contaminants have been detected.

Lead Educational Statement
Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and your children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Our water system is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact our water system. 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. The MS Public Health Laboratory (MPHL) can provide information on lead and copper testing and/or other laboratories certified to analyze lead and copper in drinking water MPHL can be reached at 601.576.7582.

On January 15, 2021, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) revised the Lead and Copper Rule to improve protection of communities from the risks of lead exposure by identifying potential lead service lines throughout the system. East Lowndes Water Association has completed the initial lead service line inventory required by EPA's Lead and Copper Rule revisions. The deadline for the initial inventories was October 16, 2024.

Through completing a historical records review and field investigations, East Lowndes Water Association has determined it has no lead or galvanized requiring replacement service lines in its distribution system.
East Lowndes Water Association reviewed all applicable sources of information, including:

- All construction and plumbing codes, permits, and existing records or other documentation which indicates the service line materials.
- All water system records, including distribution maps and drawings, historical records on each service connection, meter installation records, historical capital improvement or master plans, and standard operating procedures.
- All inspections and records of the distribution system that indicate service line material, including inspections conducted during the course of normal operations (e.g., checking service line materials when reading water meters or performing maintenance activities).

The EPA's Lead and Copper Rule aims to protect public health by reducing lead and copper levels in drinking water. Our commitment to maintaining a safe water supply aligns with these regulations, and will continue to monitor and assess our infrastructure to ensure compliance.

Should you have any questions or require further information about our water quality, please do not hesitate to reach out to us at (662) 328-1065 or customerservice@eastlowndes.com. You can also find additional resources on our website at: www.eastlowndes.com
Thank you for your continued trust in our water service. We are dedicated to providing you with safe and reliable drinking water.

FLUORIDE INFORMATION
To comply with the "Regulation Governing Fluoridation of Community Water Supplies", our system is required to report certain results pertaining to fluoridation of our water system.

East Lowndes #1 – Lee Stokes Road
The number of months in the previous calendar year in which average fluoride sample results were within the optimal range of 0.6-1.2 ppm was 11. The percentage of fluoride samples collected in the previous calendar year that was within the optimal range of 0.6-1.2 ppm was 92%. The number of months samples were collected and analyzed in the previous calendar year was 12.

East Lowndes #2 – Huckleberry Lane
The number of months in the previous calendar year in which average fluoride sample results were within the optimal range of 0.6-1.2 ppm was 6. The percentage of fluoride samples collected in the previous calendar year that was within the optimal range of 0.6-1.2 ppm was 58%. The number of months samples were collected and analyzed in the previous calendar year was 12.

East Lowndes #3A – East Old Yorkville Road
The number of months in the previous calendar year in which average fluoride sample results were within the optimal range of 0.6-1.2 ppm was 12. The percentage of fluoride samples collected in the previous calendar year that was within the optimal range of 0.6-1.2 ppm was 100%. The number of months samples were collected and analyzed in the previous calendar year was 121.

East Lowndes #3B – West Old Yorkville Road
The number of months in the previous calendar year in which average fluoride sample results were within the optimal range of 0.6-1.2 ppm was 10. The percentage of fluoride samples collected in the previous calendar year that was within the optimal range of 0.6-1.2 ppm was 92%. The number of months samples were collected and analyzed in the previous calendar year was 12.

East Lowndes #4 – Herman Vaughn Road
The number of months in the previous calendar year in which average fluoride sample results were within the optimal range of 0.6-1.2 ppm was 7. The percentage of fluoride samples collected in the previous calendar year that was within the optimal range of 0.6-1.2 ppm was 58%. The number of months samples were collected and analyzed in the previous calendar year was 12.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man-made. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. 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 1.800.426.4791.

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 undergone 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 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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1.800.426.4791.

PWS ID # MS0440005 – AL0001809 Plant One – Lee Stokes Road- TEST RESULTS

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Date Collected	Level Detected	Range of Detects or # of Samples Exceeding MCL/ACL/MRDL	Unit Measure -ment	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants – Salts and metals which can occur naturally in the soil or groundwater or may result from urban stormwater runoff. Industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.								
10. Barium	N	2025	.0692	No Range	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
14. Copper	N	2021/23*	0	0	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
16. Fluoride	N	2025	.881	No Range	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
17. Lead	N	2021/23*	0	0	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	N	2025	4.49	No Range	ppm	20		Road Salt, Water Treatment Chemicals, Water Softeners and Sewage Effluents.
Disinfection By-Products – Substances formed when disinfectants, like Chlorine, used to treat drinking water react with naturally occurring materials in the water.								
81. Chlorine	N	2025	1.3 - RAA	.8 – 1.53	mg/l	0	MRDL = 4	Water additive used to control microbes

PWS ID # 0440080 Plant Two - Huckleberry Lane - TEST RESULTS

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Date Collected	Level Detected	Range of Detects or # of Samples Exceeding MCL/ACL/MRDL	Unit Measure-ment	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Microbiological Contaminants – Viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.								
1. Total Coliform Bacteria	N	November	Positive	1	NA	0	presence of coliform bacteria in 5% of monthly samples	Naturally present in the environment
Inorganic Contaminants – Salts and metals which can occur naturally in the soil or groundwater or may result from urban stormwater runoff. Industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.								
10. Barium	N	2025	.0503	No Range	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
14. Copper	N	2022/24*	0	0	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
16. Fluoride	N	2025	.767	No Range	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
17. Lead	N	2022/24*	0	0	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	N	2025	2.99	No Range	ppm	20		Road Salt, Water Treatment Chemicals, Water Softeners and Sewage Effluents.
Disinfection By-Products – Substances formed when disinfectants, like Chlorine, used to treat drinking water react with naturally occurring materials in the water.								
82. TTHM [Total trihalomethanes]	N	2025	3.69	No Range	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Chlorine	N	2025	1.3 - RAA	1 – 1.5	ppm	0	MRDL = 4	Water additive used to control microbes

PWS ID # 0440081 Plant Three A – Old Yorkville Rd - TEST RESULTS

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Date Collected	Level Detected	Range of Detects or # of Samples Exceeding MCL/ACL/MRDL	Unit Measure-ment	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants – Salts and metals which can occur naturally in the soil or groundwater or may result from urban stormwater runoff. Industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.								
10. Barium	N	2025	.0914	No Range	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
14. Copper	N	2022/24*	0	0	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
16. Fluoride	N	2025	.37	No Range	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
17. Lead	N	2022/24*	1	0	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	N	2025	4.96	No Range	ppm	20		Road Salt, Water Treatment Chemicals, Water Softeners and Sewage Effluents.
Disinfection By-Products – Substances formed when disinfectants, like Chlorine, used to treat drinking water react with naturally occurring materials in the water.								
84. TTHM [Total trihalomethanes]	N	2025	7 - LRAA	0 – 4.9	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
81. Chlorine	N	2025	1.4 - RAA	1.17 – 1.76	mg/l	0	MRDL = 4	Water additive used to control microbes

PWS ID # 0440100 – Herman Vaughn Road - TEST RESULTS

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Date Collected	Level Detected	Range of Detects or # of Samples Exceeding MCL/ACL/MRDL	Unit Measure-ment	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants – Salts and metals which can occur naturally in the soil or groundwater or may result from urban stormwater runoff. Industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.								
10. Barium	N	2025	.0089	No Range	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
14. Copper	N	2022/24*	0	0	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
16. Fluoride	N	2025	1.24	No Range	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
17. Lead	N	2022/24*	0	0	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
20. Nitrite (as Nitrogen)	N	2025	.0205	No Range	ppm	1	1	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	N	2025	2.05	No Range	ppm	20		Road Salt, Water Treatment Chemicals, Water Softeners and Sewage Effluents.
Disinfection By-Products – Substances formed when disinfectants, like Chlorine, used to treat drinking water react with naturally occurring materials in the water.								
83. HAA5	N	2025	6.1	No Range	ppb	0	60	By-Product of drinking water disinfection.
82. TTHM [Total trihalomethanes]	N	2025	13.74	No Range	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
81. Chlorine	N	2025	1.3 - RAA	1 - 1.5	ppm	0	MRDL = 4	Water additive used to control microbes

PWS ID # 0440103 – Plant 3B West Old Yorkville Road - TEST RESULTS

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Date Collected	Level Detected	Range of Detects or # of Samples Exceeding MCL/ACL/MRDL	Unit Measure-ment	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants – Salts and metals which can occur naturally in the soil or groundwater or may result from urban stormwater runoff. Industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.								
10. Barium	N	2025*	.0876	No Range	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
14. Copper	N	2022/24*	0	0	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
16. Fluoride	N	2025*	.31	No Range	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
17. Lead	N	2022/24*	0	0	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	N	2025	4.09	No Range	ppm	20		Road Salt, Water Treatment Chemicals, Water Softeners and Sewage Effluents.
Disinfection By-Products – Substances formed when disinfectants, like Chlorine, used to treat drinking water react with naturally occurring materials in the water.								
81. Chlorine	N	2025	1.5 - RAA	1.21 – 1.81	mg/l	0	MRDL = 4	Water additive used to control microbes

**Most recent sample. No sample required for 2025.*
*** Fluoride level is routinely adjusted to the MS State Dept of Health's recommended level of 0.6 – 1.2 mg/l.*
Microbiological Contaminants:
(1) Total Coliform/E Coli. Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, waterborne pathogens may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system.

TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS
In the table you may find unfamiliar terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

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

Level 1 Assessment: 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 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.

Locational Running Annual Average(LRAA): The average of sample analytical results for samples taken at a particular monitoring location during the previous four calendar quarters.

LSLI: Lead Service Line Inventory

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): 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 (MCLG): 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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary to control microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk of health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Parts per billion (ppb) or micrograms per liter (ug/L): one part by weight of analyte to 1 billion parts by weight of the water sample.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l): one part by weight of analyte to 1 million parts by weight of the water sample.

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

RAA: Running Annual Average

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