



**CITY OF MERIDIAN**  
**2020 Annual Drinking Water**  
**Quality Report**  
**April 26, 2021**  
**PWS ID # 0380005**

The City of Meridian is pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of the water we produce and services we deliver to you everyday. 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 to protect our water resources. We are committed to insuring the quality of your drinking water.

Our water source consists of eight wells pumping from the LOWER WILCOX AQUIFER. The depth of these wells range from 747' to 948'. A source water assessment has been completed by the Mississippi State Department of Health and can be reviewed in the utility billing office at 311 27th Ave.

**THE CITY IS PLEASED TO REPORT THAT OUR DRINKING WATER MEETS OR EXCEEDS ALL FEDERAL AND STATE REQUIREMENTS.**

The City of Meridian routinely monitors for 154 constituents or potential contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State Laws. Of these 154 constituents, we had **0 detects in 2020**. The table on the back shows the results of our monitoring for the period of **January 1st to December 31st, 2020**.

**Fluoride.** To comply with the "Regulation Governing Fluoridation of Community Water Supplies", MS0380005 is required to report certain results pertaining to fluoridation of our water system. The number of months in the previous calendar year that the 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%.

**Important Information Regarding Your Drinking Water**

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or manmade. 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 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**.

**VULNERABILITY:**

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-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**).

**Lead.** 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 City of Meridian 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>

**QUESTIONS:**

We at the City of Meridian work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Jimmy Eckman, Chief Utility Plant Operator, at 1598 B-Street or call 601-485-1975. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility.

**If you want to learn more please attend our scheduled meeting on Tuesday, June 15, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. in the Public Works Conference Room located at 311 27th Avenue South.** 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.

Sincerely,  
 Hugh Smith, Public Works Director

**DID YOU KNOW?** The City of Meridian: Was incorporated on February 10, 1860. Has a population of 37,848. Covers 54.3 square miles. Has 330 miles of paved streets with 6,756 street lights. Has approximately 16,636 water services in place with an average of 13,590 active accounts. Maintains approximately 432 miles of water lines, 445 miles of sewer lines and maintains approximately 65 lift stations. Has two freshwater treatment plants that produced 1.6 billion gallons of water in 2020. Has 5 above ground storage tanks that have the total capacity of storing 12 million gallons of water. Has two wastewater treatment plants that treated approximately 1.5 billion gallons of raw sewage last year. Employs 377 full time workers and approximately 156 part time workers throughout 2020. Bad Debt was less than .0099 of 1% of total services billed. For every \$100 billed all but \$ 0.99 cents was collected.

In the data table on the reverse of this page you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions below.

Unit descriptions	
Term	Definition
µg/L	Number of micrograms of substance in one liter of water
ppm	parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
positive samples/yr	the number of positive samples taken that year
% positive samples/month	Percent of samples taken monthly that were positive
NA	not applicable
ND	not detected
NR	Monitoring not required, but recommended

Important Drinking water Definitions	
Term	Definition
MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: 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: 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
TT	Treatment Technique: a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Variances and Exemptions	State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions
MRDLG	Maximum residual disinfection level goal. The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no know or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
MRDL	Maximum residual disinfectant level. The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants
MNR	Monitored Not Regulated
MPL	State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
<b>Disinfectants &amp; Disinfectant By-Products</b>								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)								
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	N/A	80	7.75	7.75	7.75	2020	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	N/A	60	5	5	5	2020	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine (as Cl <sub>2</sub> ) (ppm)	4	4	2.00	1.00	2.70	2020	No	Water additive used to control microbes
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>								
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	< 0.08	<0.08	<0.08	2020	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrite [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	1	1	<0.02	<0.02	<0.02	2020	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate-Nitrite [as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	2020	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Cyanide [as Free Cn] (ppm)	0.2	0.2	<0.015	<0.015	<0.015	2019	No	Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories; discharge from steel/metal factories
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.92	0.842	0.92	2019	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Antimony, Total (ppm)	0.006	0.006	<0.0005	<0.0005	<0.0005	2019	No	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder
Arsenic (ppm)	0	0.010	<0.0005	<0.0005	<0.0005	2019	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards, runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.0355	0.0288	0.0355	2019	No	Discharge of drilling wasters; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Beryllium, Total (ppm)	0.004	0.004	<0.0005	<0.0005	<0.0005	2019	No	Discharge from metal refineries and coal-burning factories; discharge from electrical ,aerospace, and defense industries
Cadmium (ppm)	0.005	0.005	<0.0005	<0.0005	<0.0005	2019	No	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from metal refineries; runoff from waste batteries and paints
Chromium (ppm)	0.1	0.1	<0.005	<0.0005	<0.0005	2019	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Mercury (ppm)	0.002	0.002	<0.0005	<0.0005	<0.0005	2019	No	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills and croplands
Selenium (ppm)	0.05	0.05	<0.0005	<0.0005	<0.0005	2019	No	Discharge from petroleum refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines
Thallium, Total (ppm)	0.0005	0.002	<0.0005	<0.0005	<0.0005	2019	No	Leaching from ore-processing sites; discharge from electronics, glass, and drug factories
<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>								
Total Coliform (%positive samples/month)	0	5	0	N/A	N/A	2019	No	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform/E. coli - in the distribution system (positive samples)	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	2019	No	Human and animal fecal waste
A violation occurs when a routine sample and a repeat sample, in any given month, are total coliform positive, and one is also fecal coliform or E. coli positive.								
<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>								
Uranium (µg/L)	0	30	<0.5	N/A	N/A	2018	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha, Incl. Radium	0	15	1.7	N/A	N/A	2019	No	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Unregulated Contaminants</b>								
(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 regulations are warranted.)								
Manganese (µg/L)	N/A	N/A	4	1.4	4	2019	N/A	Naturally occurring element
Bromide (µg/L)	N/A	N/A	46.4	27.9	46.4	2019	N/A	Naturally occurring element
Total Organic Carbon (µg/L)	N/A	N/A	1020	N/A	N/A	2019	N/A	Naturally occurring element
HAA5 (µg/L)	N/A	N/A	2.81	1.56	2.81	2019	N/A	By-product of drinking water disinfection
HAA6Br (µg/L)	N/A	N/A	3.39	1.82	3.39	2019	N/A	By-product of drinking water disinfection
HAA9 (µg/L)	N/A	N/A	4.89	2.92	4.89	2019	N/A	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Sodium (ppb)	N/A	N/A	35000	25000	35000	2019	N/A	Road salt, Water treatment chemicals, water softeners, and sewage effluents
Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Your Water	Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source	
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>								
Lead - Action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	1	2020	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0	2020	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	