

2017 JUN 12 PM 12:07

# CERTIFICATION

Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)

Combined Utilities Inc.

Public Water Supply Name

0200001

List PWS ID #s for all Community Water Systems included in this CCR

The Federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) requires each Community public water system to develop and distribute a Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) to its customers each year. Depending on the population served by the public water system, this CCR must be mailed or delivered to the customers, published in a newspaper of local circulation, or provided to the customers upon request. Make sure you follow the proper procedures when distributing the CCR. **You must mail, fax or email a copy of the CCR and Certification to MSDH. Please check all boxes that apply.**

Customers were informed of availability of CCR by: *(Attach copy of publication, water bill or other)*

Advertisement in local paper (attach copy of advertisement)

On water bills (attach copy of bill)

Email message (MUST Email the message to the address below)

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Date(s) customers were informed:         /        /        

CCR was distributed by U.S. Postal Service or other direct delivery. Must specify other direct delivery methods used \_\_\_\_\_

Date Mailed/Distributed:         /        /        

CCR was distributed by Email (MUST Email MSDH a copy) Date Emailed:         /        /        

As a URL (Provide URL \_\_\_\_\_)

As an attachment

As text within the body of the email message

CCR was published in local newspaper. *(Attach copy of published CCR or proof of publication)*

Name of Newspaper: George County Times

Date Published: 5/25/2017

CCR was posted in public places. *(Attach list of locations)* Date Posted: 6/5/2017

CCR was posted on a publicly accessible internet site at the following address **(DIRECT URL REQUIRED)**:  
George County Library

### CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) has been distributed to the customers of this public water system in the form and manner identified above and that I used distribution methods allowed by the SDWA. I further certify that the information included in this CCR is true and correct and is consistent with the water quality monitoring data provided to the public water system officials by the Mississippi State Department of Health, Bureau of Public Water Supply

Ray P. Randall  
Name/Title (President, Mayor, Owner, etc.)

6-9-2017  
Date

### Submission options (Select one method ONLY)

**Mail:** (U.S. Postal Service)  
MSDH, Bureau of Public Water Supply  
P.O. Box 1700  
Jackson, MS 39215

**Fax:** (601) 576 - 7800

**Email:** [water.reports@msdh.ms.gov](mailto:water.reports@msdh.ms.gov)

**CCR Deadline to MSDH & Customers by July 1, 2017!**

STATEMENT  
**George County Times**

PRINTERS AND PUBLISHERS  
 P.O. BOX 238  
 Lucedale, MS 39452  
 601-947-2967  
 Fax: 601-947-6828

DATE: May 25, 2017  
Combined Utilities, Inc.  
P.O. Box 26  
Lucedale, MS 39452

**NOTARY PUBLIC**  
**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI**  
**COUNTY OF GEORGE**

I am authorized in and for the County and State  
 personally appeared GARNETT

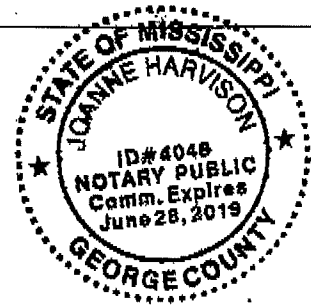
          , who being dually sworn, states on  
**FOR**            of the George County Times, a  
 a City (or Town) of Lucedale, State and  
 a general circulation in said county, and

notice, a copy of which is hereby attached,  
**One** times, at weekly intervals, and in  
 said newspaper for the numbers and dates  
 consecutive weeks, immediately proceed-

in said notice, to-wit:  
25th day of May 2017  
       day of            2017  
       day of            2017  
       day of            2017

*[Signature]*  
 before me, this the 25th

*[Signature]*



2016 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report	
Published 5-25-17c	
Amount Due	\$375.00



STATE OF MISSISSIPPI  
COUNTY OF GEORGE

**LUCEDALE GARDEN CH**  
**What's Blooming in Geor**

By Jo Ann Vaz

George County is blessed with lots of great gardens. Most of us have wonderful memories of plants from our Mom's or Grandma's gardens. One of these good memory plants is blooming right now: the hydrangea. Large shrubs with big green leaves blooming in shady yards covered with huge pink or blue clusters of flowers. These clusters appear to be the size of mop heads. There are many different names for them: Mop Head Hydrangea, Another Name is Big Leaf Hydrangea, the scientific name is Hydrangea macrophylla. Whenever the name "hydrangea" has been blooming in George County for decades. Hydrangeas are very easy to grow. They can be planted in a pot or in the ground. They will grow well in any soil. As the plant comes out of dormancy, you'll notice a new plant growing at the end of the branch you pulled down the summer before. All you need do now is carefully dig it up and

share it with a friend. With our hot summers, they prefer a shady, moist spot but will grow in some sun if given plenty of water. In George County the older varieties of hydrangeas are mostly blue, that's because of the soil in this county is acidic. Hydrangeas need aluminum to bloom pink. Acid soils make it hard for plants to use aluminum, so we have to deal with the acidity. If you want pink flowers, you can add a little iron if you want blue. You can also use products like such as pH-Bark. There are great new varieties available that are called mop-bloom hydrangeas which will bloom blue in very acidic soil they will bloom a pale pink in shade. The new hydrangeas only bloom once a year on last year's growth but new varieties such as Endless Summer are repeat bloomers blooming on current year growth. Older types of hydrangeas should be pruned in the summer right after blooming. Even though hydrangea is only bloom once a year, most flowers will stay pretty on the shrub for months. You can gather

Before me, the undersigned authority in and for the County and State aforesaid, this day personally appeared GARNETT

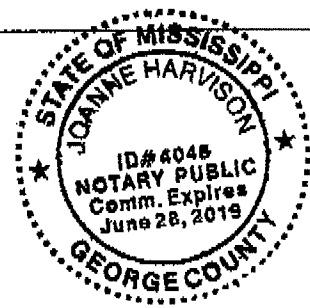
COLBURN, who being dually sworn, states on oath that he is the EDITOR of the George County Times, a newspaper published in the City (or Town) of Lucedale, State and County aforesaid, and with a general circulation in said county, and that the publication of the notice, a copy of which is hereby attached, has been made in said paper One times, at weekly intervals, and in the regular entire issue of said newspaper for the numbers and dates hereinafter name One consecutive weeks, immediately proceeding the date of sale named in said notice, to-wit:

- Vol. 113 No. 21 on the 25th day of May 2017
- Vol. \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2017
- Vol. \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2017
- Vol. \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2017

*[Signature]*

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this the 25th day of May, 2017

*[Signature]*



## 2016 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Combined Utilities

PWS ID#: 0200001

May 2017

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We're 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.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Dale Keel at 601.508.9716. 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 second Tuesday of each month at 5:00 PM at 9147 Old Hwy 63 South.

Our water source is from wells drawing from the Tipper Catahoula Formation and the Miocene Series 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 the Combined Utilities have received lower susceptibility rankings to contamination.

We routinely monitor for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016. In cases where monitoring wasn't required in 2016, the table reflects the most recent results. 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.

In this table 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:

*Action Level* - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which 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 (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 for 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.

## TEST RESULTS

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Date Collected	Level Detected	Range of Detects or # of Samples Exceeding MCL/ACL	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>								
8. Arsenic	N	2014*	1.3	.6 - 1.3	ppb	n/a	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
10. Barium	N	2014*	.0322	.0092 - .0322	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits

13. Chromium	N	2014*	3	.5 - 3	ppb	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
14. Copper	N	2014/16	.3	0	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
16. Fluoride	N	2014*	.735	.302 - .735	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
17. Lead	N	2014/16	2	0	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
21. Selenium	N	2014*	4.8	No Range	ppb	50	50	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines

### Disinfection By-Products

81. HAA5	N	2014*	23	No Range	ppb	0	60	By-Product of drinking water disinfection.
82. TTHM [Total trihalomethanes]	N	2014*	51	No Range	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Chlorine	N	2016	1	.50 - 1.6	mg/l	0	MDRL = 4	Water additive used to control microbes

\* Most recent sample. No sample required for 2016.

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, however, the EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels.

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.

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. Our water system 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>. The Mississippi State Department of Health Public Health Laboratory offers lead testing. Please contact 601.576.7582 if you wish to have your water tested.

To comply with the "Regulation Governing Fluoridation of Community Water Supplies", the Combined Utilities is required to report certain results pertaining to fluoridation of our water system. The number of months in the previous calendar year in which average fluoride sample results were within the optimal range of 0.7-1.3 ppm was 4. The percentage of fluoride samples collected in the previous calendar year that was within the optimal range of 0.7-1.3 ppm was 43%.

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.

The Combined Utilities 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.