



NEWS RELEASE

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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CDC recognizes 73 Alabama water systems for water fluoridation quality

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Alabama Department of Public Health announces that 73 Alabama public water systems will receive Water Fluoridation Quality Awards from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Fluoridation is the adjustment of fluoride in the water to a level that is optimal for preventing tooth decay. The award recognizes those communities that maintained a consistent level of optimally fluoridated water throughout 2007. According to CDC's Water Fluoridation Reporting System, Alabama has 121 public water systems that provide adjusted fluoride to their water supplies.

"We are very pleased to announce that Alabama water systems have shown marked increases in maintaining optimal fluoridation in the past three years," said Dr. Donald Williamson, state health officer. The number of systems which have received this honor grew from just 4 in 2005, to 53 in 2006, to 73 in 2007.

The CDC recognized community water fluoridation as one of 10 great public health achievements of the 20th Century. CDC recommends water fluoridation as a safe, effective and inexpensive method of preventing decay; every \$1 invested in fluoridation saves approximately \$38 in costs for dental treatment. In addition, studies have shown that tooth decay is prevented among all age groups, not just children.

More than 184 million people, or 69.2 percent of the United States population served by public water supplies, currently drink water with optimal fluoride levels for preventing decay.

"Our latest national and state fluoridation statistics show us that we have made significant progress towards our national objective of reaching 75 percent of U.S. residents," stated Dr. William R. Maas, DDS, MPH, director of the CDC Division of Oral Health. "This is largely due to the efforts of the states and communities who are receiving these quality awards for fluoridation.

Alabama Department of Public Health's county environmental and oral health staff, Alabama Department of Environmental Management staff, local water plant staffs and CDC made this achievement possible by submitting or collecting data to report in the Water Fluoridation Reporting System.

For more information contact Shellie Lyles, Oral Health Program, Alabama Department of Public Health, at (334) 206-3896 or visit www.adph.org/oralhealth/.

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Water Fluoridation Quality Award Recipients – 2007

Abbeville Water Works & Sewer Board	Livingston Water Works
Aliceville Water & Sewer Board	Loxley Water Department
Athens Water Department	Luverne Water & Sewer Board
Atmore Utility Board	Marion Water Department
Belforest Water System	Montgomery Water Works
Bessemer (G. U. S. C.)	Muscle Shoals Water Department
Butler Water Works	North Baldwin Utilities Bay Minette
Central Elmore Water Authority	Northport Water Treatment Facility
Centre Water & Sewer Board	Opelika Water Works Board
Chattahoochee Valley Water Supply Dist.	Orange Beach Water System
Childersburg Water & Sewer Board	Pell City Water Works
Clanton Water Department	Phenix City Utilities
Colbert County Rural Water System	Piedmont Utilities Board
Cullman Utilities Board	Pine Hill Water Department
Daleville Water & Sewer Board	Red Bay Water & Gas Board
Daphne Utilities Board	Russellville Water Works
Dothan Water Department	Rutledge Water Works
Eufaula Water Works	Section - Dutton Water System
Evergreen Water Works	Sheffield Utilities Department
Fairhope Water Department	Smith Water & Sewer Authority
Fayette Water Works Board	Summerdale Water Works
Five Star Water	Sylacauga Utilities Board
Flomaton Water Works	Talladega Water & Sewer Board
Florence Water/ Waste Water Department	Talladega - Shelby Water Treatment Plant
Fort Deposit Water & Sewer Board	The Utilities Board of the City of Roanoke
Fort Payne Water Works Board	Tri Community Water System
Freemanville Water System	Tuscaloosa Water & Sewer
Gadsden Water Works	Tuscumbia Water Works
Grand Bay Water Works Board	Tuskegee Utilities Board
Guin Water & Sewer Board	Upper Bear Creek Water Authority
Guntersville Water Works & Sewer Board	Warrior River Water Authority
Hamilton Water Works & Sewer Board	Water Works Board of Prattville
Harvest - Monrovia Water System	Water Works Board of the Town of Grant

Heflin Water Works	Winfield Water Works & Sewer Board
Holtville Water System	York Water System/ City of York
Irondale Water System	
Jasper Utilities Board	
LaFayette Water Works	