2013

Facilities and Services Operations and Utilities

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE WATER REPORT

Live, Learn and Thrive.™

ESPAÑOL (Spanish)

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua potable. Por favor lea este informe y comuniquese con NMSU EH&S (575-646-3327) si require mas información.

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT - WHAT IS IT?

The following report describes the water system operated by New Mexico State University. It provides details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies.

This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality (and may include previous years results, where applicable), and meets requirements of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, under the Safe Drinking Water regulations.

NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY PROVIDES GOOD SAFE DRINKING WATER

New Mexico State University provides high quality drinking water that is safe and has not exceeded any contaminant levels established by the United States Environmental Protection Agency's "Safe Drinking Water Standards" during the past year. In order to ensure the quality of our water, the Facilities & Services Department at New Mexico State University routinely samples the water supply and tests for over 125 contaminants. These contaminants include 10 heavy metals, 50 semi-volatile organic compounds (SOC), 58 volatile organic compounds (VOCs), pH, hardness, iron, nitrates, fluoride, lead, copper, sulfates, total trihalomethanes, haloacetic acids and alkalinity. The tables located on pages two and three contain a listing of contaminants that were detected over the past year, as well as select non-detected constituents. None of these contaminants exceeded "Safe Drinking Water Standards."

STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES MONITOR WATER QUALITY

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the United States Environmental Protection Agency prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water that is provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water. 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 (800-426-4791), or by visiting http://water.epa.gov/drink/hotline/.

TEST RESULTS

MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS							
Contaminant	Units	MCL	MCLG	Highest Detected Level	Sample Date	Likely Source of Contaminants	Violations
Total Coliform Bacteria		Presence of coliform bacteria in 5% of monthly samples	NA	ND	Monthly	Naturally present in the environment	None
Fecal Coliform and *E.coli*		A routine sample and repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one is also fecal coliform or *E.coli positive.*	NA	ND	Monthly	E. coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Human pathogens in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms.	None

RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS							
Contaminant	Units	MCL	MCLG	Highest Detected Level	Sample Date	Likely Source of Contaminants	Violations
Beta/photon emitters	(pCi/l)	50	0	6.9	9/16/2013	Decay of natural and man-made deposits	None
Alpha emitters	(pCi/l)	15	0	5.7	3/13/2013	Erosion of natural deposits	None
Combined radium	(pCi/l)	5	0	0.51	3/13/2013	Erosion of natural deposits	None
Combined Uranium (Well14)	ppb	30	0	7.0	3/13/2013	Erosion of natural deposits	None
Combined Uranium (Well17)	ppb	30	0	6.0	9/16/2013	Erosion of natural deposits	None

INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS							
Contaminant	Units	MCL	MCLG	Highest Detected Level	Sample Date	Likely Source of Contaminants	Violations
Antimony	ppb	6	6	ND	3/13/2013	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder	None
Arsenic	ppb	10	0	2.2	3/13/2013	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards	None
Asbestos	MFL	7	7	ND	12/3/2012	Decay of asbestos cement water mains; erosion of natural deposits	None
Barium	ppm	2	2	0.069	3/13/2013	Erosion of natural deposits	None
Beryllium	ppb	4	4	ND	3/13/2013	Discharge from electrical, aerospace, and defense industries	None
Cadmium	ppb	5	5	ND	3/13/2013	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; erosion of natural deposits	None
Chromium	ppb	100	100	ND	3/13/2013	Erosion of natural deposits	None
Cyanide	ppb	200	200	ND	3/13/2013	Discharge from steel/metal factories; discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories	None
Fluoride	ppm	4	4	0.34	3/13/2013	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories	None
Mercury (inorganic)	ppb	2	2	ND	3/13/2013	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills; runoff from croplands	None
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	ppm	10	10	ND	9/16/2013	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits	None
Nitrite (as Nitrogen)	ppm	1	1	ND	9/16/2013	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits	None

DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS							
Contaminant	Units	MCL	MCLG	Highest Detected Level	Sample Date	Likely Source of Contaminants	Violations
Selenium	ppb	50	50	ND	3/13/2013	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines	None
Thallium	ppb	2	0.5	ND	3/13/2013	Leaching from ore-processing sites	None
Total Trihalo-methanes	ppb	80	0	26.7	2/19/2013	By-products of chlorinated drinking water	None
Total Haloacetic Acids	ppb	60	30	5.2	2/19/2013	By-products of chlorinated drinking water	None

LEAD AND COPPER RULE						
Parameter	Units	Action Level (AL)	Highest Detected Level	Sample Date	Likely Source of Contaminants	Violations
Lead	ppb	15	2.5 (1)	6/19/2012	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits	NA
Copper	ppm	1.3	0.17 (1)	6/19/2012	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits	NA

(1) There are no MCL's for copper or lead. Result reported is highest value based on 10 samples; none exceeded the action level.

Unit Descriptions

Term	Definition
NA	NA: Not Applicable
ND	ND: Not Detected

Important Drinking Water Definitions

Term	Definition
MCLG	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	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.
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

For more information please contact:

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Copies of this report may be requested by e-mailing the New Mexico State University Environmental Health & Safety Office at ehs@nmsu.edu, or by calling (575) 646-3327.

WATER CONSERVATION TIPS

Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 400 gallons of water per day or 100 gallons per person per day? Luckily, there are many low-cost and no-cost ways to conserve water. Small changes can make a big difference – try one today and soon it will become second nature.

- Take short showers - a 5 minute shower uses 4 to 5 gallons of water compared to up to 50 gallons for a bath.
- Shut off water while brushing your teeth, washing your hair, and shaving and save up to 500 gallons a month.
- Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Apply water to plants and lawns only when necessary and during the cooler parts of the day to reduce evaporation. See http://www.las-cruces.org/Departments/Utilities/Services/Water%20Conservation.aspx for conservation tips from the City of Las Cruces.
- Make sure leaky toilets and faucets are promptly repaired
- Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely. Make it a family effort to reduce next month's water bill!
- Visit www.epa.gov/watersense for more information.

New Mexico State University provides high quality potable water that meets all applicable state and federal drinking water standards.

New Mexico State University recognizes that our water source not only supplies our campus community but the local Las Cruces community as well. We take pride in supplying our campus community with safe, great tasting drinking water.

NMSU Facilities and Services strives to ensure that not only the water we pump out of the ground is safe, but the source is protected in every way possible through ground-water protection measures.

WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD?

NMSU obtains all of its water from the Lower Rio Grande basin, an underground aquifer. This water is currently produced from our four domestic supply wells (#10, #14, #16 and #17). Depending on which well, the production capability ranges from 1,600 gallons per minute (GPM) to 2,500 GPM.

Prior to the water entering the main distribution system, chlorine is added to disinfect and destroy bacteria or viruses. Supplemental chlorine may be added at the storage tanks to maintain domestic water supply chlorine levels that meet New Mexico Environmental Department criteria..

New Mexico State University took several steps to improve our water supply and storage infrastructure during 2013; the Well #16 automatic chlorination system project and the design for Phase 2 of the primary transmission line from the west campus wells to our storage tanks were both completed.

New Mexico State University
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