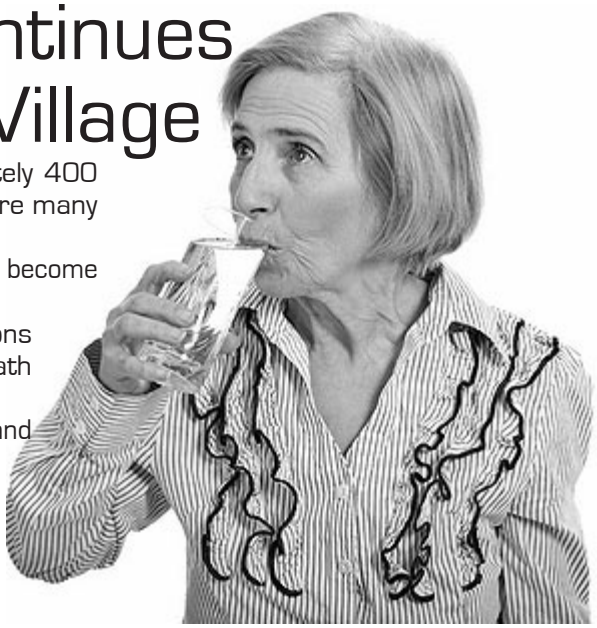
Village of Los Lunas

2010 Water Report

Water Conservation Continues to Be Important in the Village



Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 400 gallons of water or 100 gallons per person per day? Luckily, there are many low-cost and no-cost ways to conserve water.

Small changes make a big difference – try one today and soon it will become second nature.

- Take short showers - a five minute shower uses four to five gallons of water compared to up to 50 gallons for a bath. If you prefer a bath take a shallow bath.
- Shut off the water while brushing your teeth, washing your hair and shaving and save up to 500 gallons a month.
- Use a water-efficient shower head. They are inexpensive, easy to install, and can save you up to 750 gallons of water monthly.
- Run the clothes washer and dishwasher only when full which can save up to 1,000 gallons per month.
- Water plants only when necessary.
- Fix leaky toilets and faucets. Faucet washers are inexpensive and take only a few minutes to replace. To check your toilet for a leak, place a few drops of food coloring in the tank and wait. If it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Fixing it or replacing it with a new, more efficient model can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered. Apply water only as fast as the soil can absorb it and during the cooler parts of the day to reduce evaporation.
- Teach your children about water conservation to ensure a future generation uses water wisely. Make conservation a family effort to reduce the monthly water bill.
- Visit www.epa.gov/watersense for more information.

Is My Water Safe?

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA).

This report is designed to provide 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.

We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

Last year, we conducted tests for over 80 contaminants. We only detected 10 of those contaminants, and found only 1 at a level higher than the EPA allows.

As we informed you at the time, our water temporarily exceeded drinking water standards. (For more information see the section labeled Violations in this report.)

For more information about topics in this report contact:
Utilities Director James Blasing
P.O. Box 1209 Main Street & Don Pasqual
Phone: 505 352-7629 Fax: 505 352-3580
Website: www.loslunasnm.gov

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua potable. Por favor lea este informe o comuniquese con alguien que pueda traducir la informacion.

The Los Lunas Water Department is a member of:
The American Water Works Association
New Mexico Water & Wastewater Association
New Mexico Environmental Quality Association

The Village of Los Lunas' 2010 Water Quality Report

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The Water We Drink in Los Lunas
2010 Village of Los Lunas Water Summary
Water Quality Data Table

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report.

Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health.

A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table 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 elsewhere in this report.

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Your Water	Range Low	Range High	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products	— There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.							
Chlorine (as Cl2) (ppm)	4	4	0.58	0.2	0.58	2010	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	15.8	NA		2010	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	7.2	NA		2010	No	By-product of drinking water disinfectant
Inorganic Contaminants								
Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	11	5	11	2010	Yes	Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (ppb)	100	100	3	ND	3	2009	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.96	0.72	0.96	2010	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	0.31	0	0.31	2010	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Radioactive Contaminants								
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	0	15	3.28	1.58	3.28	2006	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (ug/L)	0	30	8	6	8	2006	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Your Water	Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source
Inorganic Contaminants							
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.05	2008	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Source Water Assessment and Its Availability

A Source Water Assessment has been performed for the Village of Los Lunas Water System and is available for review at the office of the Utility Director at the Village Administration Building, Don Pasqual and Main Street.

The Susceptibility Analysis for the Los Lunas Water System reveals that the utility is well maintained and operated and the sources of drinking water are generally protected from potential sources of contamination based on well construction, hydrogeologic settings and system operations and management. The susceptibility rank of the entire water system is MODERATE.

Although throughout the United States it is common to find potential sources of contamination located atop wellheads, continued regulatory oversight, wellhead protection plans and other planning efforts continue to be the primary methods of protecting and ensuring high quality drinking water.

Copies may also be requested by calling Glenn DeGuzman in the New Mexico Environment Department Drinking Water Bureau (NMED DWB) Albuquerque Office at 505 222-9538 or by e-mailing him at Glenn.DeGuzman@state.nm.us. Please include your name, address, telephone number, e-mail address and the name of the water utility for which you are requesting information.

Copies may also be requested by e-mailing the Drinking Water Bureau at SWAPP@nmenv.state.nm.us or by calling (505) 827-7536 (toll free: 1-877-654-8720).

Please include your name, address, telephone number, your e-mail address and the name of the water utility. A nominal fee may be charged for paper copies.

Where does my water come from?

The Village of Los Lunas is supplied by ground water pumped from the Santa Fe Group aquifer in the Albuquerque Basin by four wells located within the Village of Los Lunas.

Units Description

ug/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 (ug/L)
pCi/L — picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
NA — not applicable
ND — not detected
NR — monitoring not required, but recommended

Important Drinking Water Definitions

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 of New Mexico or Environmental Protection Agency 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 known 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

Violations and Exceedances — Arsenic

Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

The violation of our running average occurred as a result of higher first and second quarter sample results. Third and fourth quarter samples were below the standard limits for arsenic. Adjustments were made to the treatment process bringing results below standard limits, and back into compliance.

Additional Information for 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 Village of Los Lunas 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.

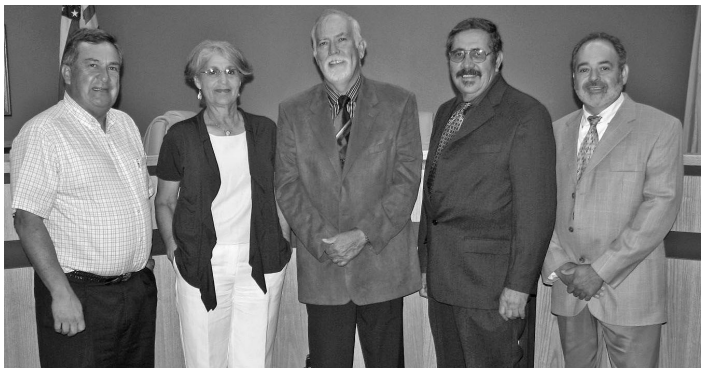
The Village of Los Lunas will be conducting testing for lead and copper for compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act during the months of July-September 2011.

Why Are There Contaminants in My Drinking Water?

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 (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

These substances can include 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 stormwater 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 stormwater runoff, and residential uses. Water may also pick up substances such as 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, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems; and 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. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.



Los Lunas Mayor Robert Vialpando, center, with Councilors Charles Griego, Cecilia CC Castillo, Richard Lovato and Gerard Saiz, left to right.

How Can I Get Involved?

The Mayor and Council of the Village of Los Lunas encourage public interest and participation in the community's decisions affecting drinking water. Regular Village Council meetings occur every two weeks on Thursdays at 6 p.m. at the Village Administration Building, Don Pasqual and Main Street. The public is welcome.

All meetings are advertised in the Valencia County News-Bulletin and on the village website at www.loslunas-nm.gov. The Village of Los Lunas council and staff encourage customers to continue water conservation efforts and implement additional efforts if at all possible.

Do I Need To Take Special Precautions?

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/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

Source Water Protection Tips

Protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility. You can help protect our community's drinking water source in several ways.

- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides as they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water source.
- Pick up after your pets.
- If you have your own septic system, properly maintain your system to reduce leaching to water sources or consider connecting to a public water system.
- Dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center.
- Volunteer in our community. Find a watershed or wellhead protection organization in our community and volunteer to help. If there are no active groups, consider starting one. Use the EPA's Adopt Your Watershed (www.epa.gov/adopt/) to locate groups in your community or visit the Watershed Information Network's How to Start a Watershed Team.
- Organize a storm drain stenciling project with our local government or water supplier. Stencil a message next to the street drain reminding people "Dump No Waste - Drains to River" or "Protect Your Water." Produce and distribute a flyer for households to remind residents that storm drains dump directly into our local water body.