



# VILLAGE NEWS



Small Community • Big Possibilities

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## INCREASES TO WATER/SEWER RATES FOR 2017

Village of Los Lunas water and sewer bills sent in February 2017 will reflect a slight increase as part of a five-year plan approved by the Village Council in December 2014.

The Council approved the five-year water and sanitary sewer rate increase to both the base usage charge (0 – 2000 gallons) as well as the per thousand-gallon usage charge above the base usage charge.

The rate adjustment ensures the Village generates adequate revenue to meet existing water and sanitary sewer operational and maintenance costs; increasing costs for water supply treatment, sanitary sewer treatment, water distribution and sewer collection system maintenance; and proactive management for planned water and sewer system capital improvement projects.

Year Three (2017) of the five-year plan increases are:

- 0-2000 gallon water usage increase of \$1.59 or \$21.43 base rate; and
- 0-2000 gallon sanitary sewer increase of \$2.00 or \$27.08 base rate.
- Water and sewer usage per thousand above 2000 gallons will have no increase to the current calculation of \$4.25 per thousand for water and \$3.75 per thousand for sewer.

The following are the projected increases for years four and five of the approved plan:

Year Four (2018)

- Base rate water increase of \$1.71, and base rate sanitary sewer of \$2.17.

Year Five (2019)

- Base rate water increase of \$1.85, and base rate sanitary sewer of \$2.34.

The Village of Los Lunas water usage charges are based on a metering system. Both residential and commercial users are charged for the water used per the meter reading.

In addition, the Village residential sanitary sewer usage is determined by taking the average water usage from the months of November through February and is reflected in the April statement.

Village commercial sanitary sewer usage is determined as equal to the water meter reading.

For further information, please visit the Village website at [loslunasnm.gov](http://loslunasnm.gov).

## RENEW BUSINESS REGISTRATION

A reminder — if you are doing business in the Village of Los Lunas you should renew your business license before Dec. 31, 2016.

All businesses, whether multi-national or Mom and Pop, pay the same fee of \$25.

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## ALWAYS SHOP/EAT IN THE VILLAGE

When you are shopping for anything, holidays or every day, be sure to shop in Los Lunas.

Shopping in Los Lunas helps the community provide the services that keep our community thriving.

In addition, be sure to enjoy a meal at one of the Village's many restaurants.

More than fifty percent of the Village's general fund revenues are generated through gross receipts tax and property tax revenue.

The general fund pays for the services people depend on including the police and recreation departments, municipal court, library and museum, parks and recreation, community development, and streets, as well as many others.



*Lots of food choices available in Los Lunas*

Village Administration Office: 505 839-3840



*Master Gardening program offered*

## BECOME A MASTER GARDENER

The Valencia County Extension Master Gardening program is accepting applications for 2017.

The New Mexico State University facility trains volunteers to provide science-based information to community members on horticulture and gardening in the arid southwest.

Core classes include soils, composting, turf management, pest management, plant pathology, irrigation, weather and more.

Orientation begins January 9, 2017, with weekly classes through April 2017.

Contact Newt at the extension office, 565-3002 or [jnewton3@nmsu.edu](mailto:jnewton3@nmsu.edu).

## NOVEMBER RECYCLING EVENT SUCCESSFUL

The Village November 2016 America Recycles event took in:

- 33 gallons used oil
- 3.5 gallons antifreeze
- 34 gallons assorted paints
- 24 aerosol cans
- 10 four-yard bins of cardboard estimated at 2,500 pounds
- 4 four-cubic yard bins plastic estimated at 600 pounds
- 8 cubic yards metal
- 75 pounds aluminum
- 25 pounds tin
- 2 yard bins glass estimated at 736 pounds
- Televisions ~ 12
- Electronics – 3,368 pounds
- 2 pounds assorted batteries

Village employees who helped with the recycling included Marcus Montoya, Arturo Romero, Jason Marquez, Joshua Chavez, Dominic Otero, Jesus Montoya, Eric Beach, David Foreman, and Lori Kurtz.



*Everyone works together on recycling day.*

[www.loslunasnm.gov](http://www.loslunasnm.gov)



## WHY ARE FIRE HYDRANT COLORS CHANGING?

Fire hydrants throughout the Village are being painted to match the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards for color coding according to flow.

The lower part of fire hydrants is painted a reflective silver to assist firefighters in locating them, especially at night.

The hydrant tops will be color coded based on the flow under normal operating conditions, expressed in gallons per minute.

NFPA 291 - Standard Color Codes for Flow at 20 pounds per square inch are:

- Class C - less than 500 gallons per minute (GPM) – red
- Class B - 500 to 999 GPM - orange
- Class A – 1000 to 1499 GPM - green
- Class AA - 1500 GPM and above - light blue

NFPA recommends the bodies of municipal hydrants, private hydrants, and non-potable hydrants be distinctively color coded. The NFPA standard calls for private hydrants to be red.

The national color standard for hydrant bodies is yellow; however, silver is also recognized as a standard color.

Consistency is important so fire personnel quickly know the status of a hydrant

Over the next few months the colors will change.

Village hydrants will be tested and serviced during the process.

If you have questions, contact: Ray Vigil, Water/Sewer Superintendent at 352-7657 or [vigilr@loslunasnm.gov](mailto:vigilr@loslunasnm.gov).



*Color coding Village fire hydrants*

## NEW WATER CONSERVATION PLAN

The Village is working on a new water conservation plan for the community.

The new plan will update the Village's original 2006 conservation plan.

The new plan continues conservation progress, preparing for future growth (including that caused by additional high water users), meeting eligibility requirements for state water-related funding, and dealing with potential future water issues. Public input is sought on the new plan. A community survey on water conservation will be created for public response.

Conservation actions may include wastewater reuse; rebates or other incentive programs; improving the ability to detect unusual usage patterns; and providing high usage/leakage reports to water users. Contact Public Works Director Michael Jaramillo, 352-7629, for comments or questions.

## SUBDIVISION ORDINANCE REVISION

The Village of Los Lunas is revising its subdivision ordinance, and you are invited to be a part of this process!

The proposed ordinance revisions will be presented and discussed before the Planning and Zoning Commission beginning on January 18, 2017, and continuing on the dates listed below.

All meetings are held in the Village Council Chambers, located at 660 Main St. NW, at 6:00 PM.

The following is a schedule of topics that will be discussed:

**January 18, 2017:** Updated Subdivision Ordinance Outline

**February 15, 2017:** Definitions Section

**March 15, 2017:** General Provisions, Administration and Enforcement, Plat Vacation Procedure, and Design Standards Sections

**April 19, 2017:** Pre-Application Procedure and NEW Replat Procedure Sections

**May 17, 2017:** Preliminary Plat Procedure and Final Plat Procedure Sections

**June 21, 2017:** Improvements, Public Parks and Water Rights Sections

**August 16, 2017:** Full review of Draft Subdivision Ordinance

Additional public notice will be provided in the Valencia County News Bulletin at least 15 days before each hearing date.

Anyone wishing to comment may attend any of the public hearings or write to the Village of Los Lunas Community Development Department at PO Box 1209, Los Lunas, NM 87031.

If you have questions, contact Erin Callahan, Special Projects Planner, at 505 352-7630 or [callahane@loslunasnm.gov](mailto:callahane@loslunasnm.gov).

[www.loslunasnm.gov](http://www.loslunasnm.gov)

## ARCHITECT OFFERS SERVICES

Alex Griego has retired from full time work as an architect, but he is operating from his home as an independent architect in Los Lunas.

A registered New Mexico architect, Griego has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Architecture from the University of New Mexico.

He works especially on small commercial or residential plans, but can work on other architectural plans.

He has a wide range of architectural experience and can be reached at 505 804-8171.



*Alex Griego*

## LOS LUNAS CHAMBER MEETS

The Los Lunas Chamber of Commerce continues meeting on the third Thursday of the month, registration at 11:30 a.m., at Teofilo's Restaurant, 144 Main St. NW. in Los Lunas.

Village Administration Office: 505 839-3840

## LOCAL EVENTS

**Museum of Heritage and Arts**  
Main Street and Luna Avenue  
505 352-7720

Birds of the Rio Grande:  
Photographs by Chris Tafoya  
Jan. 1 – April 29, 2017

American Illustrators Exhibition  
Jan. 7 – May 29, 2017  
Opening Reception 2-4 p.m.  
Jan. 7

New Mexico Author Mike McGarrity  
Lectures and Signs Books  
Saturday, Jan. 21, 2017 2 p.m.

Civil War Exhibit  
Jan. 25 – May 27, 2017

600 Generations of Changing  
Land Use in the San Clemente  
Land Grant Region  
Jan. 28, 2017 2 – 4 p.m.  
A Lecture by Dr. David Edward Stuart

Story and Craft Time  
for Preschoolers (age 3-5)  
Fridays at 10:30 a.m.

**Los Lunas Public Library**  
460 Main St. NE

Adult Coloring Night  
Every Tuesday 5-6:30 p.m.

**Attend a Village Council Meeting**

Dec. 15, 2016 Jan. 12 & 26, 2017  
660 Main St NW  
Main Street and Don Pasqual

## VILLAGE OFFICES HOLIDAY CLOSURES

Friday and Monday, Dec. 23 & 26  
Village Offices Closed

Friday trash pickup Thursday, Dec. 22

Monday trash pickup Tuesday, Dec. 27

Offices closed Monday, Jan. 2, for the New Year's Holiday

Trash pickup Tuesday, Jan. 3

Village Offices Closed Monday, Jan. 16, 2017, for Martin Luther King Holiday

Trash pickup Tuesday, Jan. 17, 2017



## AVOID DRAIN DISASTERS

Holidays mean lots of cooking and that can result in clogged drains if care is not taken when clearing food off dishes.

Water that contains fats, cooking oils, and grease can clog drains, pipes, and the sewer system.

Wipe grease and food particles off pots, pans and plates using paper towels. Dispose of the paper towels in the trash.