

VILLAGE OF LOS LUNAS 2001 WATER QUALITY REPORT

Dear Citizens of Los Lunas,

The Village of Los Lunas Water Department as well as Mayor Louis F. Huning and the village council are proud of the village's water system. The department has never had a violation of a contaminant level or any water quality standards. This brochure provides a summary of the quality of the village's drinking water and shows the source of the water, the test results and important information about water and health.

We are proud that the village's water exceeded the strict standards set forth by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the New Mexico Environment Department.

This brochure includes contacts for more information about your drinking water.

The Los Lunas Water Department will notify citizens immediately if there is any reason for concern about the village's water.

Public interest and participation in the community's decision affecting drinking water is encouraged. Regular village council meetings occur every two weeks on Thursday evening at 6 p.m. at the Village administrative building, Don Pasqual and Main Street. The public is welcome. All meetings are advertised or check the village's website at ci.los-lunas.nm.us



Village Mayor Louis F. Huning, center, and Councilors Charles Griego, Cecilia CC Castillo, Gerard Saiz and Robert Vialpando.

Bulk Rate
Permit
#70
Los Lunas NM
87031

WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS IN 2001

1. A leak survey of the water distribution system was performed and the system was given an outstanding rating with no leaks detected.
2. Property was acquired for a new well and preliminary engineering completed on a north loop water line to provide a backup water supply for Well No. 4 service area which will allow Well No. 4 to be taken off-line for maintenance.

DROUGHT -- WHAT CAN WE ALL DO TO HELP THE SITUATION?

Due to the severe drought conditions and dwindling water supplies across New Mexico, it is especially important for everyone to appreciate and take care of our valuable resource — water.

Conservation and wise water use are among the educational tools the Los Lunas Water Department uses to help ensure a continued and reliable water supply for all citizens.

Here's some tips that, if followed, will mean a giant step toward protecting our water supply:

Outdoor Tips:

- 1) Don't water pavement. If it doesn't grow, don't water it.
- 2) Landscape with plants that require less water.
- 3) Sweeping driveways and sidewalks will save gallons of water.
- 4) Don't let the water run while washing your car.

Indoor Tips:

- 1) Check all faucets, pipes and toilets periodically for leaks. A small faucet leak can waste 20 gallons of water a day.
- 2) Install a low-flow toilet — this can cut indoor use by 20 percent.
- 3) Turn water off while shaving or brushing teeth as

this can save about seven gallons per minute.

- 4) Low-flow shower heads can save about 3.5 to four gallons per minute when the shower is running.

North Loop Water Line

The North Loop Water Line is intended to convey water from the existing eighteen-inch water line located on the west side of I-25, across from Tank No. 3 (the Tiger Tank) north to the existing Tank No. 4 site. This project will provide a supplemental water supply to the Village areas located east of I-25 and north of NM Highway 6.

The most important benefit of the North Loop Water Line is to provide a new water supply to Tank No. 4 to allow for future maintenance of Well No. 4 and Tank No. 4. Failure to increase maintenance could result in disrupted service to a large portion of the project area.

Una traducción de este folleto en español es obtenible en la sala de sesiones de la municipalidad del Pueblo de Los Lunas en Don Pasqual y Main Street.

Village of Los Lunas
P.O. Box 1209
Los Lunas, NM
87031

THE WATER WE DRINK THE WATER WE CONSERVE 2001 WATER QUALITY REPORT



Village of Los Lunas

Don Pasqual & Main Street
P.O. Box 1209

Los Lunas, New Mexico 87031

505 865-9689

FAX 505 865-6063

This report was first printed and distributed in June, 2002.

The Water We Drink

SUMMARY OF 2001 VILLAGE OF LOS LUNAS WATER

AN EXPLANATION OF THE WATER-QUALITY DATA TABLE

It's easy! The Village of Los Lunas water is tested to assure that it is safe and healthy. The results of tests performed in 2001 in accordance with regulations are presented in the table to the left. The table contains the name of each substance, the highest level allowed by regulations (MCL), the ideal goals for public health (MCLG), the amount detected, the usual sources of each contaminant, footnotes explaining our findings, and a key to units of measure. Please note the following definitions:

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

Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL: 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 treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG: The level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Range: The lowest and highest test results detected in all samples taken.

Key To Table

AL = Action Level

MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level

MCLG = Maximum Contaminant Level Goal

NA = not applicable ND = not detected

pCi/l = picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

ppm = parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)

ppb = parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/l)

Additional Health Information

To ensure tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes limits on the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled 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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800 426-4791.

Water Source

The Los Lunas Water Department is supplied by ground water pumped from the Santa Fe Group aquifer in the Albuquerque Basin by three wells located within the Village of Los Lunas. Two wells are located east of Interstate 25 west and north of Los Lunas High School. The third well is located west of I-25 and just south of New Mexico Highway 6.

The Los Lunas Water Department is a member of:

The American Water Works Association
New Mexico Water & Wastewater Association
New Mexico Environmental Quality Association

CONTAMINANT	Date Tested	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Detected Level	Range Detected	Major Source	Violation
INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS								
Arsenic	1/18/00	ppb	10*	0*	19	13-19	Erosion of natural volcanic deposits.	NO
Chromium	12/13/00	ppb	100	100	3	ND-3	Erosion of natural deposits.	NO
Fluoride	1/18/00	ppm	4	4	1	.87-1.03	Erosion of natural deposits.	NO
Copper	8/24/99	ppm	AL=1.3	AL=1.3	0.07	ND - 0.07	Corrosion of household plumbing systems. Erosion of natural deposits.	NO
Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)	4/18/01	ppm	10	10	0.28	ND-0.28	Runoff from fertilizer use, septic tanks, sewage. Erosion of natural deposits.	NO
ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS								
Oxamyl	4/17/01	ppb	200	None	1.7	ND-1.7	Runoff/leaching from insecticide used on apples, potatoes and tomatoes	NO
RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS								
Alpha emitters	1/18/00	pCi/L	15	0	7.10	3.64-7.1**	Erosion of natural deposits.	NO
Radium 226	1/18/00	pCi/L	5	0	ND	ND	Erosion of natural deposits.	NO

* These arsenic values are effective January 23, 2006. Until then, the MCL is 50 ppb and there is no MCLG. Health Effects Language: Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the new MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

** Range of test results on wells 4 and 5 taken prior to or in 1999. Detected level was taken in 2000 on well 3.

Although the Village ran many tests, only the substances listed above were found. They are all below the Maximum Contaminant Level, therefore exceeding water quality standards.

Unregulated Contaminants

The Los Lunas Water Department was not required to test for Cryptosporidium which is a microscopic organism more commonly found in surface waters. Los Lunas's water is pumped from ground water.

The Los Lunas Water Department was not required to test for Radon during 2001. Radon is a radioactive gas that cannot be seen, tasted or smelled. Radon is found throughout the United States. Radon can move up through the ground and into a home through cracks and holes in the foundation. Radon can build up to high levels in all types of homes. Radon can also get into indoor air when released from tap water from showering, washing dishes and other household activities. Compared to radon entering the home through soil, radon entering the home through tap water will, in most cases, be a small source of radon in indoor air. Radon is a known human carcinogen. Breathing air containing radon can lead to lung cancer. Drinking water containing radon may also cause increased risk of stomach cancer. If you are concerned about radon in your home, test the air in your home. Testing is inexpensive and easy. It is possible for you to fix your home if the level of radon in your air is one picocuries per liter of air (pCi/L) or higher. There are simple ways to fix a radon problem that aren't too costly. For additional information, call EPA's Radon Hotline at 800 SOS-RADON.

Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than is 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 are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800 426-4791.

If you have questions about the Los Lunas Water Department or water quality, call Betty Behrend at the Village of Los Lunas 865-1377.

WHY IS ANYTHING IN MY WATER?

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) includes 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 radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

(A) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.

(B) Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

(C) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, storm water runoff and residential uses.

(D) Organic chemical contaminants including synthetic and volatile organics, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff and septic systems.

(E) 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 which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems.

FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

