

2015

*FACILITIES AND SERVICES
OPERATIONS AND UTILITIES*

**CONSUMER CONFIDENCE
WATER
REPORT**

**NM
STATE
UNIVERSITY**

Transforming Lives Through Discovery

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 <i>E.coli</i>		A routine sample and repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one is also fecal coliform or <i>E.coli</i> positive.	NA	ND	Monthly	<i>E. coli</i> 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

In addition to monitoring for bacteria, NMSU regularly monitors disinfectant levels in our drinking water distribution system. All 2015 results indicated disinfectant concentrations within allowable regulatory limits.

RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS							
Contaminant	Units	MCL	MCLG	Highest Detected Level	Sample Date	Likely Source of Contaminants	Violations
Beta/photon emitters	(pCi/l)	50	0	10.7	3/27/2014	Decay of natural and man-made deposits	None
Alpha emitters	(pCi/l)	15	0	5.3	3/27/2014	Erosion of natural deposits	None
Combined radium	(pCi/l)	5	0	0.37	3/27/2014	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	8.0	3/27/2014	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	12/16/2014	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder	None
Arsenic	ppb	10	0	2.1-3.8	6/19/2014	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	0.051-0.074	3/27/2014	Erosion of natural deposits	None
Beryllium	ppb	4	4	ND	12/16/2014	Discharge from electrical, aerospace, and defense industries	None
Cadmium	ppb	5	5	ND	12/16/2014	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; erosion of natural deposits	None
Chromium	ppb	100	100	ND	12/16/2014	Erosion of natural deposits	None
Cyanide	ppb	200	200	ND	12/16/2014	Discharge from steel/metal factories; discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories	None

INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS (continued)

Contaminant	Units	MCL	MCLG	Highest Detected Level	Sample Date	Likely Source of Contaminants	Violations
Fluoride ⁽¹⁾	ppm	4	4	0.38-0.45	8/6/2014	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories	None
Mercury (inorganic)	ppb	2	2	ND	12/16/2014	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills; runoff from croplands	None
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	ppm	10	10	ND	12/18/2015	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits	None
Nitrite (as Nitrogen)	ppm	1	1	ND	12/16/2014	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits	None
Selenium	ppb	50	50	ND	12/16/2014	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines	None
Thallium	ppb	2	0.5	ND	12/16/2014	Leaching from ore-processing sites	None

DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS

Contaminant	Units	MCL	MCLG	Highest Detected Level	Sample Date	Likely Source of Contaminants	Violations
Chlorine	ppm	4	4	2.2	1/12/2015, 5/5/2015	Water additive used to control microbes	None
Total Trihalomethanes	ppb	80	0	10.5 ⁽²⁾	4th Qtr. 2015	By-products of chlorinated drinking water	None
Total Haloacetic Acids	ppb	60	30	2.025 ⁽²⁾	4th Qtr. 2015	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	4 ⁽³⁾	9/2/2015	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits	NA
Copper	ppm	1.3	0.16 ⁽³⁾	9/2/2015	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits	NA

(1) Fluoride is not added by NMSU

(2) The highest levels reported are Running Annual Averages (RAA's) calculated quarterly, based on four sampling locations.

(3) There are no MCL's for copper or lead. Result reported is the 90th percentile value based on 10 samples; none exceeded the AL.

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. New Mexico State University 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>.

Unit Descriptions

Term	Definition	Term	Definition
NA	Not Applicable	MFL	Millions of fibers per liter
ND	Not Detected	ppb	parts per billion (µg/liter)
pCi/l	Picocuries per liter	ppm	parts per million (mg/liter)

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.

This report is available online at <http://safety.nmsu.edu/environmental/drinking-water-information/>. Copies may be requested by e-mailing New Mexico State University Environmental Health & Safety at ehs@nmsu.edu, or by calling (575) 646-3327.

For more information please contact:

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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. Click [here](#) for conservation tips from the City of Las Cruces.
- 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 www3.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. Depending on which well, the production capability ranges from 1,600 gallons per minute (GPM) to 3,000 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 continues its long-range plans to complete a new primary transmission line from the west campus wells to our storage tanks. Once the full build-out is finalized, this long term water system infrastructure improvement project will help NMSU meet the capacity requirements of future campus growth.

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