

2012 Las Campanas Water Quality Report

Spanish (Español)

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.

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, the County of Santa Fe Water Utilities and Las Campanas Water Cooperative conducted testing for over 80 contaminants.

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).

Where does my water come from?

Your water comes from the surface water from the Santa Fe River and Rio Grande where it is treated through conventional and advanced treatment processes at the Canyon Road Water Treatment Plant and Buckman Regional Water Treatment Plant (BRWTP), respectively. The Buckman Well Field consists of 13 wells located near the Rio Grande. In 2011, the Buckman Direct Diversion (BDD) Project was successfully integrated into the distribution system and operated in conjunction with Well Fields and Santa Fe River Reservoirs. The surface water treated at the BRWTP is taken directly from the Rio Grande.

Source water assessment and its availability

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) completed a Source Water Assessment to determine source water protection areas and an inventory of contaminant sources within the areas of concern. NMED concluded: “The Susceptibility Analysis of the County of Santa Fe water utility reveals that the utility is well maintained and operated, and the sources of drinking water are generally protected from potential sources of contamination. The susceptibility rank of the entire water system is “moderately low”. A copy of the Assessment is available by contacting the State of New Mexico Environment Department Drinking Water Bureau, 525 Camino de Los Marquez, Suite 4; Santa Fe, NM 87505. Copies may also be requested by emailing the Drinking Water Bureau or by calling toll free 1-877-654-8720. Please include your name, address, telephone number, and email address, and the name of the water utility. NMED-DWB may charge a nominal fee for paper copies.

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: 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; 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 stormwater 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.

How can I get involved?

Our Board meets at a time and date to be announced. Please feel free to participate in these meetings. Please call 505-820-2669 for additional information.

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. Las Campanas 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>.

Water Quality Data Table

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, 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 below the table.

<u>Contaminants</u>	<u>MCLG or MRDLG</u>	<u>MCL, TT, or MRDL</u>	<u>Your Water</u>	<u>Range</u>		<u>Sample Date</u>	<u>Violation</u>	<u>Typical Source</u>
				<u>Low</u>	<u>High</u>			
Disinfectants & Disinfectant By-Products								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)								
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	34	NA	34	2012	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	72	NA	72	2012	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine (as Cl2) (ppm)	4	4	0.55 average	0.17	1.18	2012	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Microbiological Contaminants								

Total Coliform (positive samples/month)	0	1	0	NA	NA	2012	No	Naturally present in the environment
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	0.26	2012	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	4.2	2012	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	

Unit Descriptions	
Term	Definition
ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
positive samples/month	positive samples/month: Number of samples taken monthly that were found to be positive
NA	NA: not applicable
ND	ND: Not detected
NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.

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.
TT	TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	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	Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
MRDLG	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	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	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated
MPL	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level

As we have mentioned, Las Campanas receives our drinking water from Santa Fe County. Analyses on the contaminants present in the water that we purchase has been conducted by the County for each contributing utility prior to discharge into our distribution system. To provide you with more information on the water that we receive from those utilities, we have included a Table with the testing results for both the 2012 City of Santa Fe and Buckman Direct Diversion Water Quality Reports. The Water Quality Table below is a report of the contaminants which:

- 1) Have associated Primary Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) that are regulated and;
- 2) Were detected in testing conducted by the City of Santa Fe and the New Mexico Environment Department in 2012, or as indicated if the most recent test results were for samples collected prior to 2012.

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Contaminant	Units	MCL	MCLG	City Well Field ^e	Compliance Period 2011–2013		Sample Date	Buckman Tank ^f	Compliance Period 2011–2013		Sample Date	Canyon Road WTP	Compliance Period 2011–2013		Sample Date	Buckman RWTP	Compliance Period 2011–2013		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
					Low	High			Low	High			Low	High			Low	High			
Inorganic Contaminants																					
Arsenic	ppb	10	0	4.6	-	4.6	5-18-2011	1.6	-	1.6	6-17-2011	ND	-	-	3-7-2012	ND	-	-	4-12-2012	No	Erosion of natural deposits. Runoff from orchards. Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
Barium	ppm	2	2	0.8	-	0.8	8-24-2011	0.075	-	0.075	6-17-2011	0.0076	-	0.0076	3-7-2012	0.059	-	0.059	4-12-2012	No	Discharge from drilling wastes. Discharge from metal refineries. Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	ppm	4	4	0.18	0.13	0.18	5-18-2011	0.25	-	0.25	6-17-2011	0.13	-	0.13	3-7-2012	0.22	-	0.22	4-12-2012	No	Erosion of natural deposits. Water additive which promotes strong teeth. Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Selenium	ppb	50	50	1.7	1.1	1.7	5-18-2011	ND	-	-	6-17-2011	ND	-	-	3-7-2012	ND	-	-	4-12-2012	No	Discharge from steel/metals factories. Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories.
Nitrate [as N]	ppm	10	10	7.1	2.6	7.1	5-3-12	ND	-	-	5-3-2012	ND	-	-	3-7-2012	ND	-	-	4-12-2012	No	Runoff from fertilizer use. Leaching from septic tanks and sewage. Erosion from natural deposits.
Radioactive Contaminants																					
Compliance Period 2005–2014																					
Gross Alpha Emitters	pCi/L	15	0	1.1	-	1.1	8-9-2012	1.3	-	1.3	6-16-2011	0.6	-	0.6	6-16-2011	0.9	-	0.9	11-30-2011	No	Erosion of natural deposits.
Gross Beta/Photon Emitters	pCi/L	50 ^a	NA	ND	-	-	8-9-2012	2.4	-	2.4	6-16-2011	0.7	-	0.7	6-16-2011	2.6	-	2.6	11-30-2011	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
Radium 226/228	pCi/L	5	0	0.45	-	0.45	8-9-2012	0.18	-	0.18	6-16-2011	0	-	0	6-16-2011	0.02	-	0.02	11-30-2011	No	Erosion of natural deposits.
Uranium	ppb	30	0	ND	-	-	8-9-2012	ND	-	-	6-16-2011	ND	-	-	6-16-2011	1.00	-	1.00	11-30-2011	No	Erosion of natural deposits.
Surface Water Contaminants																					
Turbidity (highest single measurement)	NTU	TT = 0.3	0	NA	-	-	NA	NA	-	-	NA	1.6	-	1.6	Continuous	0.99	-	0.99	Continuous	No	Soil runoff.
Turbidity (lowest monthly % meeting limits)	NTU	TT = % -0.3 NTU	0	NA	-	-	NA	NA	-	-	NA	99.4%	-	99.4%	Continuous	99.3%	-	99.3%	Continuous	No	Soil runoff.
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	ppm	TT = (35% - 45% Removal)	NA	NA	-	-	NA	NA	-	-	NA	38% to 70% Removal ^b	-	-	Monthly in 2012	NA	-	-	Not Required	No	Naturally present in the environment.

Notes:

- EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.
- The City complies with alternative compliance criteria to meet TOC removal requirements.
- The range represents the high and low values. Range values are not given if only one sample was taken during the range period.
- Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.
- City well field: Alto, Agua Fria, Ferguson, Osage, Santa Fe, St. Michael & Torreon.
- Buckman wells 1-15 and Northwest well.

Key to Units, Terms and Abbreviations:

- NA: Not Applicable
- ND: Not Detected
- NS: Not Sampled
- NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units
- MNR: Monitoring not required, but recommended
- mg/l: Number of milligrams of substance per liter of water
- ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)

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

ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)

pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

Range: The range represents the highest and lowest values. Range values are not provided if only one sample was taken during the range period.

TT: A Treatment Technique standard was set instead of a Maximum Contaminant Level.

µg/l: Number of micrograms of substance per liter of water.

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