



## **BOSQUE FARMS WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM WATER QUALITY REPORT 2015**

### **Is my water safe?**

During this reporting period your tap water met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state drinking water health standards. Bosque Farms Water Supply System vigilantly safeguards its water supplies and once again we are proud to report that our system has not violated a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard.

### **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?**

Bosque Farms pumps groundwater from two separate 900 ft. deep wells out of the Rio Grande Basin and disinfects with chlorine gas prior to distribution.

### **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.

## Water Quality Data Table

The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. 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 change frequently.

<u>Contaminants</u>	<u>MCLG</u> or <u>MRDLG</u>	<u>MCL,</u> <u>TT, or</u> <u>MRDL</u>	<u>Your</u> <u>Water</u>	<u>Range</u> <u>Low</u> <u>High</u>		<u>Sample</u> <u>Date</u>	<u>Violation</u>	<u>Typical Source</u>
<b>Disinfectants &amp; Disinfection By-Products</b>								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.)								
Chlorine (as Cl <sub>2</sub> ) (ppm)	4	4	0.73	0.53	1.22	2015	No	Water additive used to control microbes
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	7.9	7.9	7.9	2015	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
HAA5s [Haloacetic Acids] (ppb)	NA	60	4.6	3.2	4.6	2015	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>								
Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	10	10	10	2014	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.55	0.53	0.55	2014	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum
Sodium (ppm)	NA	MPL	33	30	35	2014	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching
<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>								
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	0	15	3.7	2.5	3.7	2014	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Beta/photon emitters (pCi/L)	0	50	8.6	7.3	8.6	2014	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium (combined 226/228) (pCi/L)	0	5	0.02	ND	0.02	2014	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (ug/L)	0	30	3	3	3	2014	No	Erosion of natural deposits
<u>Contaminants</u>	<u>MCLG</u>	<u>AL</u>	<u>Your</u> <u>Water</u>	<u>Sample</u> <u>Date</u>	<u># Samples</u> <u>Exceeding AL</u>	<u>Exceeds</u> <u>AL</u>	<u>Typical Source</u>	
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>								
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.1	2013	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	1.4	2013	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	

<b>Unit Descriptions</b>	
<b><u>Term</u></b>	<b><u>Definition</u></b>
ug/L	ug/L : Number of micrograms of substance in one liter of water
ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
pCi/L	pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
NA	NA: not applicable
ND	ND: Not detected
NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.
<b>Important Drinking Water Definitions</b>	
<b><u>Term</u></b>	<b><u>Definition</u></b>
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

### **How can I get involved?**

Volunteer your home for compliance sampling. Your water system is monitored for compliance with State and Federal drinking water regulations. Many of these regulations require samples be collected from customers homes. Water conservation is one way all of us can get involved. The water conservation effort can affect the water supply for future generations. Residents can also become involved by attending regular Council meetings scheduled on the third Thursday of every month at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the Village Office.

### **Source water assessment and its availability**

The Bosque Farms water system is well maintained and operated, and 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 Moderately High.

A Source Water Assessment was completed for Bosque Farms in 2003 by the New Mexico Environmental Department. The report was provided to the Bosque Farms Water Supply System and is available through 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 calling toll free 1-877-654-8720. Please include your name, address, telephone number, email address and the name of the water utility. NMED-DWB may charge a nominal fee for paper copies.

### **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. Village of Bosque Farms Water Supply 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>.

### **Additional Information for Arsenic**

While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

The Bosque Farms Water Supply System was granted an exemption for Arsenic which allowed the water system to remain under the maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 50 ppb until December 31, 2008. As you can see in the water quality data table on page 2, our level of Arsenic meets the current MCL of 10 ppb.

## **STATUS OF WATER IN NEW MEXICO AND CALL FOR CONSERVATION**

Water is New Mexico's most precious and natural resource. New Mexico has experienced several consecutive years of drought and meteorologists predict that it will continue. Water conservation is especially important during times of drought. Additionally, and arguably more critical, most aquifers in the state are being depleted. Decreasing water levels in aquifers and surface sources can increase the concentration of minerals and contaminants in the drinking water supply.

We at Bosque Farms Water Supply System are committed to providing a safe and consistent supply of water and we ask for your help. There are a lot of simple ways to reduce the amount of water used both inside and outside the home. Please conserve water whenever possible by taking the following steps:

1. Know your water supply provider and follow existing water restrictions.
2. Stop leaks. Toilets are the largest water user inside the home. Over time, toilet flappers can decay or minerals can build up on it. It's usually best to replace the whole rubber flapper—a relatively easy, inexpensive do-it-yourself project that pays for itself quickly. You can get instructions for testing for leaks with dye tabs for free (with free tabs) from the Office of the State Engineer's District Offices or call 1-800-WATERNM.
3. Check outdoor fixtures (swamp coolers, irrigation systems, etc) for leaks and repair any leaks.
4. Consider turning the swamp cooler off when away from home.
5. Minimize evaporation by watering during the early morning hours, when temperatures are cooler and winds are lighter. Make sure irrigation systems are working properly (and you are not watering the house, sidewalk or street) and use only the minimum amount of water needed by plants.
6. Run water only when using it. Turn water off while brushing teeth, shaving, and/or washing counters.
7. Wash only full loads of laundry. Install a water efficient clothes washer (and save 16 gallons per load).
8. Take 5 minute showers.
9. Flush toilets only when necessary.
10. When upgrading or replacing household fixtures, install low-flow toilets, showerheads, washing machines, and faucets.

**For more information please contact:**

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