

# 2023 Consumer Confidence Report

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## IS MY DRINKING WATER SAFE?

We are pleased to present the 2023 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 the New Mexico Environment Department/Drinking Water Bureau (NMED/DWB) . This is a comprehensive report of last year's water quality for Las Acequias De Placitas PWSS# NM3509323. We are committed to providing this information so that you are aware of the contaminants in your drinking water.

## 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 and/or EPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants. More information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). Your health is important to us, please contact a physician with any health concerns.

## WHERE DOES MY WATER COME FROM?

Las Acequias De Placitas is here to provide excellence in quality and service to customers at a minimal cost while protecting the environment and exceeding all quality standards. Las Acequias operates 1 groundwater spring disinfected with Chlorine and held in 3 (10,000 gal) and 1 (23,300 gal) steel storage tanks then gravity fed to distribution to approximately 596 residents.

## SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT & ITS AVAILABILITY

A Source Water Assessment has been performed for Las Acequias De Placitas and is available for review. For a copy of the assessment, contact the Drinking Water Bureau at 505-476-8620 or toll free 1-877-654-8720

Although throughout the United States it is common to find potential sources of contamination located atop wellheads, continued regulatory oversight, wellhead protection plans and other planning efforts continue to be the primary methods of protecting and ensuring high quality drinking water.

## 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. It can also 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). A variety of sources such

as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses may contain Inorganic Contaminants such as salts and metals, which can be either naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial, domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, farming, pesticides and herbicides.

Organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems. Radioactive contaminants can either occur naturally 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 TABLE QUALITY

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 on the right 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.

## 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. Overlook Water Co-op 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 [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

# REGULATED CONTAMINANTS

MCL Goal	TC MCL	Highest No. of Positives	Fecal Coliform or E.Coli MCL	Total # of Positives	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination			
Coliform Bacteria		0	1 positive monthly sample	1		0	N	Naturally present in the environment	
Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination	
Chlorine	2023	0.5	0.4 - 0.5	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes.	
Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination	
Arsenic	2021	1	1 - 1	0	10	ppb	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.	
Barium	2021	0.19	0.19 - 0.19	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.	
Fluoride	2021	0.39	0.39 - 0.39	4	4.0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.	
Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)	2023	0.38	0.38 - 0.38	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.	
Radioactive Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination	
Combined Radium 226/228	2021	0.53	0.53 - 0.53	0	5	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits.	
Gross alpha excluding radon and uranium	2021	2	0.7 - 2	0	15	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits.	
Uranium	2021	2	2 - 2	0	30	ug/l	N	Erosion of natural deposits.	
Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination	
Copper	2023	1.3	1.3	0.09	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.	
Lead	2023	0	15	1	0	ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.	

Unit Descriptions	
Term	Definition
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.
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.
MCL	MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water.
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.
MRDL	MRDL: Maximum residual disinfectant level. The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water.
MNR	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated
MPL	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR ARSENIC

While your drinking water meets EPA standards 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.

# We Care About Our Water

*We are responsible for ensuring that any contaminants in your drinking water are restricted below a level at which there is no known health risk.*

*This report shows the types and amounts of key elements in your water supply, their likely sources and the maximum contaminant level (MCL) that the EPA considers safe.*

*Our water system meets the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). If for any reason the standards are not met, the public will be notified.*

*Las Acequias De Placitas encourages public interest and participation in the decisions affecting drinking water. Contact Carolyn Kennedy 505.927.9605 for more information on getting involved.*

## ESPAÑOL

Este reporte contiene información muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua potable durante el año civil 2020. Si usted no comprende esta información, comuníquese con alguien que pueda traducir el información.