La Mesa Water Cooperative
P.O. Box 53
Placitas, NM 87043

2008 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality Report (also known as the Consumer Confidence Report). This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide all of us with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We have four wells that draw from the Rio Grande Basin-Fill, which underlies La Mesa and Sundance subdivisions, at depths to water of 225 to 300 feet.

We're pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets federal and state requirements.

If you have any questions about this report please write to La Mesa Water Cooperative, P.O. Box 53 Placitas, NM 87043. We want our members to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are usually held on the 4th Tuesday of each month at the co-op's office on 104 Camino Barranca. Meeting notices are posted in advance of each meeting at the mail boxes.

Mesa Water Cooperative routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to federal and state laws. The enclosed table shows the most recent results of monitoring. The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) conducts well testing and tests each well every three years for organic and inorganic contaminants. Testing for contaminants is done on a schedule set by NMED. Tests are conducted for Coliform bacteria on a monthly basis and all of our results have been negative. Radio-nuclides testing is done every five years. **You will be promptly notified if NMED notifies us of any violations.**

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.

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Your Water	Range Low	Range High	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Inorganic Contaminants								
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	0.1	--	0.1	2008	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.4	_	0.4	2008	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer
Antimony(mg/L)	0.006	0.006	<0.1	--	--	2008	No	Erosion of natural deposits;
Arsenic (mg/L)	0.01	0.01	0.006	--	--	2008	No	Runoff from orchards Erosion of natural deposits
Barium (mg/L)	0.002	0.002	<0.1	--	--	2008	No	Discharge of drilling wastes Erosion of natural deposits

Beryllium (mg/L)	0.004	0.004	<0.001	--	--	2008	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Cadmium (mg/L)	0.005	0.005	<0.001	--	--	2008	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (mg/L)	0.1	0.1	<0.001	--	--	2008	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Mercury (mg/L)	0.002	0.002	<.0002	--	--	2008	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Nickel (mg/L)	0.1	0.1	<0.01	--	--	2008	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (mg/L)	0.05	0.05	<0.005	--	--	2008	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Thallium (mg/L)	0.002	0.002	<0.001	--	--	2008	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Radioactive Contaminants								
Uranium (µg/L)	0	30	7.0	3.0	7.0	2005	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Volatile Organic Contaminants								
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	0.8	NA	0.8	2008	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products								
Chlorine (ppm)	4	4	0.55	0.28	0.55	2008	No	Water additive used to control microbes

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	.23	2005	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)
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.

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.
Variance 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

Arsenic is a naturally occurring mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations. Some people who drink water-containing arsenic significantly in excess of the regulatory standard over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer. As of January 23, 2006 the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has imposed a more stringent standard of 10 ppb (parts per billion) compared to the previous standard of 50 ppb.
In 2006 La Mesa Water Cooperative began the process of addressing arsenic abatement, primarily because Well #3's arsenic level is 22 ppb - below the old standard, but non-compliant with the new one, so this well is no longer in use. Your Board considered a number of approaches to address this matter and decided to drill a new well in an area where the water is compliant with the standard. A new well, Well #5 has been drilled on the La Mesa Park site on 5 Calle Cienega and is presently on-line supply water with an arsenic level well below the new 10 ppb standard.. Your Board is studying additional alternatives such as refurbishing Well #1which began to show some unanticipated problems in 2007. This work is now done.

Chlorine is injected into your drinking water at each well site to provide disinfection. Chlorine is used to kill bacteria which may be in the water.

As you can see by the table, our system had no violations. We're proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all federal and state requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels. Our water is sampled regularly and tested by the New Mexico Environment Department.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man made. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. 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 the 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 1-800-426-4791.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants or the lack thereof 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/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Source Water Assessment and Its Availability

The La Mesa Cooperative 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.

Although throughout the U.S. 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.

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

In our continuing efforts to maintain a safe and dependable water supply it may be necessary to make improvements in your water system. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements.

Sincerely,

La Mesa Water Cooperative
March 2009