

ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

WATER TESTING
PERFORMED
IN 2014



Presented By



PWS ID#: NM3508317

Continuing Our Commitment

It's that time again! We proudly present to the citizens of Gallup our annual water quality report covering all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2014. We are committed to produce drinking water that meets all state and federal standards. As your Mayor, the Council and I want to ensure you that we remain vigilant in looking for and implementing new methods for bringing you the best quality drinking water. As new requirements for drinking water safety become known, we remain persistent in meeting the goals of source water protection, water conservation, and community education while continuing to serve the needs of all our water users.



Please share with us your thoughts or concerns about the information in this report. After all, knowledgeable customers are our best supporters.

Jackie McKinney
Mayor

Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The U.S. EPA/CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or <http://water.epa.gov/drink/hotline>.



Substances That Could Be in Water

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA prescribes regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

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, in some cases, radioactive material, and substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Substances that may be present in source water include: Microbial Contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, or wildlife; Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or may 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 may also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems; Radioactive Contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or may be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, call the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

QUESTIONS?

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Ernest Thompson, Water Department Superintendent, at (505) 863-1289.

City Rebate Programs

Get Your \$100 Utility Bill Water Saving Rebate

The City of Gallup has fantastic new for water conscious City of Gallup Utility customers, apply for water saving rebates. It is a SMART idea to get rid of you old throne if you believe you're flushing money down the drain using a water-guzzling toilet.

Get your Water Saving REBATE Today! - Consider signing up for (4) water saving rebates for all Gallup Utility customers in good account standing that reside within city limits and choose to replace old, water-guzzling toilets and/or clothes washer with new high efficient models that use over 50% less water; install water saving rain barrels; or convert high water using green grass to water thrifty xeriscape landscapes.

How do I qualify for a High Efficiency (HE) Toilet and Showerhead Rebate?

Gallup Utility customers within city limits who have water guzzling 3.5 gallon per flush (gpf) toilets in their building older than 1994, or a 3 gallons per minute (gpm) showerhead qualify. New bathroom additions built 1994 or earlier, or buildings in which toilets have been retrofitted with new 1.6 (gpf) or less toilets are already water saving fixtures and do not qualify.

Sign-up for the rebate program of your choice with an initial City inspection to see if your old toilet or clothes washer, irrigated lawn, or rain barrel qualifies.

(HE) Toilet and Showerhead Rebate for Residential customers can get a \$100 utility bill credit for the first toilet, \$75 for the second toilet, and \$50 for the third. Commercial customers can get a \$ 75 credit per toilet replacing old water guzzling toilets with a new WaterSense certified toilets.

The City of Gallup is a WaterSense partner. WaterSense is a partnership program sponsored by EPA with the goal of protecting the future of the U.S. water supply. By promoting and enhancing the market for water efficient products and services. For example, a family of four can save over 16,000 gallons per year and re-pay the new toilet price in two to three years and keep saving.

Visit the City of Gallup website: www.gallupnm.gov/ and type in the Search Gallup... box: "Rebates" to apply, OR call: 505.863.1393 to sign up and save \$ and our most precious valuable resource!

A Water Conservation Program is administrated by the Water Conservation Coordinator at Utilities and Engineering Service. This person administers a number of water-saving programs that have helped replace high-flow toilets, shower heads, clothes washers, and restaurant dishwashing equipment. Another program encourages replacement of private and public lawns and high water-use type landscaping, and use of the rainwater harvesting for landscaping and gardening. The coordinator also works with schools, businesses, and community groups to make people aware of our water problem and suggest solutions. The coordinator will inspect businesses and make suggestions for improvements to equipment and landscaping, which will reduce water use and fees. These programs are believed to aid in the water consumption reduction as has help lower the City's cost to pump and distribute water as well as saving water for future use.

Public Meetings

Water Systems Department encourages you to participate in decisions affecting drinking water. You are invited to attend regular City Council meetings on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month to voice your concerns about drinking water. City Council meets at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall, 110 West Aztec Avenue, Gallup, New Mexico. Meeting dates and times are published in local newspapers, and agendas may be obtained from the City Clerk's office.

The public is invited to attend and participate in City of Gallup Sustainable Board meetings held the first Monday of every month from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the City Manager's Conference Room located at 110 West Aztec to discuss current water issues and make recommendations to the City Council.

To find out more about the City of Gallup, visit our Web page at <http://www.gallupnm.gov>. You may also find information on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) water information Web site at <http://water.epa.gov/drink/index.cfm>.



Where Does My Water Come From?

Gallup's water is produced from 16 wells tapping underground supplies from two main underground aquifers: the Gallup Sandstone and the Dakota-Westwater. The Dakota-Westwater Aquifer is separated from the Gallup Sandstone by a massive shale layer known as the Mancos Shale. The Gallup Sandstone is the shallower of the two and is several hundred feet thick. The wells are located up to 10 miles from the city center and range from 300 to 3,500 feet deep. They receive no recharge from surface sources (such as rain or snow) immediately above the well site. Being confined and not being in immediate contact with surface water, these aquifers are well-protected from contamination by surface sources in the vicinity of the well sites. Water is collected from these underground supplies then pumped to eight storage tanks. Gravity and pumps move water to our homes and businesses. Many of the water system's components – wells, pipes, storage tanks, and pumps – are old and deteriorating, so a great deal of resources is used to keep water flowing.

Our underground water is being used up. It is not replaced from natural sources. City water shortages in the not-too-distant future are predicted by experts. Our limited and uncertain water supply limits possibilities for growth, economic development, and new jobs. The City has worked to find new sources of water since early in our history. In recent years, water conservation has been recognized as the most cost-effective "source" of water.

A Water Conservation Program is administrated by the Water Conservation Coordinator at the Utilities and Engineering Service. This person administers a number of water-saving programs that have helped replace high-flow toilets, shower heads, clothes washers, and restaurant dishwashing equipment. Another program encourages replacement of private and public lawns and high water-use type landscaping, and use of the rain and snow water for landscaping and gardening. The coordinator also works with schools, businesses, and community groups to make people aware of our water problems and to suggest solutions. The coordinator will inspect businesses and make suggestions for improvements to equipment and landscaping, which will reduce water use and cost. These programs are believed to aid in the water consumption reduction and has lowered the City's cost to pump and distribute water as well as saving water for future use.

Utilities and Engineering Service is using a technology to understand and operate the water system effectively. A computerized control system using sensing equipment and radio communications continuously track the operating conditions at wells, pumps, water tanks, and other equipment, allowing utility personnel to operate the water system efficiently and to identify problems like water line breaks or developing pump problems. A computerized mapping system is also being developed.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Monitoring Requirements Not Met for Gallup Water System Water

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During July 2014 we did not complete all monitoring requirements for the Total Coliform and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.

What should you do?

There is nothing you need to do at this time.

What does this mean? What happened? What is being done?

Our water system is required by law to collect a Monthly total coliform sample. All lab results are usually reported to the state 10 days after the compliance period has passed. TC samples were taken in July 2014; however we failed to report to the state 10 days after the compliance period had passed and were submitted to the state on 8/11/2014. Gallup Water system is back in compliance effective 8/11/2014.

This was a reporting error. All of the required sampling had been completed, and all samples returned negative for bacterial presence. At no time was public health endangered.

For more information, please contact Ernest Thompson at 505-863-1209 or P.O. Box 1270, Gallup, NM 87305.

Please share this information with all other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly(for example, people doing business with your establishment, temporary workers or visitors, etc.). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

Navajo Gallup Water Supply Project

The Navajo Gallup Water Supply Project (NGWSP) was authorized for construction under Public Law 111-11 in March 2009 and is scheduled for completion in 2025. A summary of the project cost (October 2011) is as follows:

<u>NGWSP Project Cost</u>	\$994,857,558.00
<u>San Juan Lateral</u>	\$723,159,538.00
(NGWSP Reaches 1 to 12)	
<u>Gallup Rural Navajo Water Supply Project</u>	\$66,206,217.00
(Reaches 13 and 27)	

The USBR/City of Gallup Repayment Contract No. 11-WC-40-435 requires the City of Gallup to pay 35% of their allocated cost of \$155,202,322.00 or \$54,320,813.00. The USBR will pay about \$668,838,725.00 for the San Juan Lateral. The State of New Mexico Water Trust Board (WTB) has contributed approximately \$19,105,365.00 in grants, thus far, to build the Gallup Regional System. It is anticipated that the State will receive credit toward their \$50,000,000.00 share of the project with current and future WTB grants.

The City of Gallup has been working on the Navajo Gallup Water Supply Project (NGWSP) alongside the United States Department of Interior Bureau of Reclamation, State of New Mexico, the Navajo Nation, Northwest New Mexico Council of Governments, Indian Health Services, NTUA and surrounding Chapter House Communities since 2000. The NGWSP project was authorized for construction on March 30, 2009 under PL-111-11 and is expected to be completed in 2025. The NGWSP will provide long-term supply, treatment, and transmission of municipal and industrial water to the Navajo Nation, the Jicarilla Apache Nation, and the City of Gallup. Refer to Figure 1 for a map provided by the United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR), which shows the NGWSP in its entirety with corresponding Reaches.

The Gallup Rural Navajo Water Supply Project (GRNWSP) is a major component of the NGWSP and is planned to deliver over 13,000 acre feet of drinking water to the City of Gallup, Navajo Chapters and surrounding rural areas.

Lead in Home Plumbing

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. We are 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.

Sampling Results

During the past year, we have taken hundreds of water samples in order to determine the presence of any radioactive, biological, inorganic, volatile organic or synthetic organic contaminants. The table below shows only those contaminants that were detected in the water. The state requires us to monitor for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

We participated in the 3rd stage of the EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Regulation (UCMR3) program by performing additional tests on our drinking water. UCMR3 benefits the environment and public health by providing the EPA with data on the occurrence of contaminants suspected to be in drinking water, in order to determine if EPA needs to introduce new regulatory standards to improve drinking water quality.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES							
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Alpha Emitters (pCi/L)	2014	15	0	3.7	0.1–3.7	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Arsenic (ppb)	2014	10	0	1	ND–1	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Beta/Photon Emitters ¹ (pCi/L)	2014	50	0	3.7	0.6–3.7	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Chlorine (ppm)	2014	[4]	[4]	2.2	0.21–2.2	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Chromium (ppb)	2014	100	100	<1	0.01–2	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium (pCi/L)	2014	5	0	0.74	0.2–0.74	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	2014	4	4	0.67	0.56–0.67	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Haloacetic Acids [HAA]–Stage 2 (ppb)	2014	60	NA	3.5	0.78–6.3	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes]–Stage 2 (ppb)	2014	80	NA	17	4.9–29	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH% TILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/ TOTAL SITES	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper (ppm)	2012	1.3	1.3	0.07	0/30	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)	2012	15	0	1	0/30	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	TYPICAL SOURCE
Bromodichloromethane (ppb)	2014	2.8	1.2–4.4	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Bromoform (ppb)	2014	8.5	1.0–16.0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chloroform (ppb)	2014	1.1	0.4–1.7	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Dibromochloromethane (ppb)	2014	6	1.9–10	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Sulfate (ppm)	2004	518	518–518	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; Industrial wastes

¹The MCL for beta particles is 4 mrem/year. U.S. EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.

Definitions

AL (Action Level): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

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.

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.

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.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant 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.

NA: Not applicable

ND (Not detected): Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

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

ppb (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

ppm (parts per million): One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).