

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

The Socorro Water System has a level of Arsenic above Drinking Water Standards for the first quarter of 2009

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 to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Testing results from quarterly arsenic samples collected on June 12, 2008, July 31, 2008, November 5, 2008 and January 29, 2009 shows that the Springs Entry Point exceed the standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), for arsenic. The current running annual average for arsenic is 0.043 mg/L The standard for arsenic is 0.010 mg/L or 10 parts per billion (ppb). Therefore, the Socorro Water System has exceeded the arsenic MCL in the first quarter of 2009 (January - March 2009). The School of Mines Well and the South Industrial Park Well have also exceeded the arsenic MCL in this quarter.

What should I do?

You do not need to use an alternative (e.g., bottled) water supply. However, if you have specific health concerns, or have a compromised immune system you may consult your doctor or drink and use bottled water.

What does this mean?

This is not an immediate risk. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. However some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

What Happened? What is being done?

The arsenic in our water is from erosion of natural deposits. The Socorro Water System will continue to post this arsenic public notice every 3 months as long as this MCL exceedence persists. We are also exploring options that will reduce the arsenic level in our water to a level that is under the MCL.

For more information, please contact Dixie Daniels at (575) 838-1606 or PO Box K, Socorro, NM 87801

Please share this information with all the 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 public places and distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by the Socorro Water System.
System # NM 35 237-28
Address PO Box K Socorro, NM 87801 Phone (575) 838-1606