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?

Water supply for the Village is derived from a combination of surface-and-ground water sources in the Rio Ruidoso and Eagle Creek watersheds. Consequently, the Village's ability to produce surface water from these sources is greatly affected by temperature and precipitation and can significantly change from year to year. Water delivered in 2015 was in compliance with safe drinking water standards.

How can I get involved?

For concerns or questions regarding your drinking water, please contact the Village of Ruidoso Water Production Department at (575) 257-5525, or reply by mail at 313 Cree Meadows Ruidoso, NM 88345.

Source water assessment and its availability

A source water assessment was completed in 2005. Building on that, a source water protection plan was prepared by the Village of Ruidoso in conjunction with the New Mexico Environment Department Drinking Water Bureau and was completed in 2014. A copy of the Source Water Protection is available on the Village of Ruidoso’s website (www.ruidoso-nm.gov). In addition to establishing measures to monitor and protect Ruidoso’s sources of drinking water, this Plan also assembles valuable information about Ruidoso’s hydrogeology and water sources into a single document that can serve as an important reference in the future.

Water Department Accomplishments for 2015

• No violations or significant deficiencies for 2015
• Completed a Comprehensive Performance Evaluation for plant 4
• Fulfilled all requirements in the Administrative Order
• Completed a DMR inspection from NMED/EPA at plant 3 and 4
• An Asset Management Plan is currently in progress
• The Grindstone Dam Liner project is completed
• Replaced three submersible pumps at the Alto plant clearwell
• Completed tank inspections and repairs on storage tanks
• Installed new Tri-Chlorination systems at Big D and at the Airport
• Installed fencing at Water Production sites
• Repaired the roof at the Grindstone Plant
• Performed rehab on Hollywood, A-1, River, and North Fork 4 wells
• Installed new SCADA systems at wells, storage tanks & diversions
• Installed new Water Production meters
• Completed water line replacement projects at Arapahoe to Wilshire
• Completed water lines on Cardinal Drive to Upper Monjeau
• Replaced water lines on Vision Street
• Installation of 4,700 LF of water distribution lines in the phase 1
• Installation of 3,400 LF of water distribution lines in the Swallow area
• Completed the Alto & Grindstone Interconnect Project
• Eagle Creek Bypass Project
• Water meter replacement project (installed 7500 meters)
• Replaced Quade booster station
• Completed a water conservation plan and preformed a water audit
• A dynamic water model is currently in progress
• Cherokee interconnect design phase is currently in progress

Is my water safe?

We are pleased to present this year’s 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 regulatory agencies. This report is a snapshot of last year’s water quality. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.
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 below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of the report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed in your report 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 not be feasible, 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. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than one per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, and the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of the data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions below the table.

### WATER QUALITY DATA TABLE

#### Contaminants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contaminant</th>
<th>MCLG</th>
<th>MCL</th>
<th>AL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bacteria (ppm)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barium (ppm)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boron (ppm)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fluoride (ppm)</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nitrate (ppm)</td>
<td>50</td>
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<td>50</td>
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<td>Sodium (ppm)</td>
<td>30</td>
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#### Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Disinfectant</th>
<th>MRDLG</th>
<th>MRDL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chlorine (ppm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Disinfection By-products</td>
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#### Microbiological Contaminants

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### Important Drinking Water Definitions

- **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**: Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed to be present in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available technology.
- **TT**: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water. TTs are set by regulation.
- **AL**: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
- **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 benefit of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
- **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.
- **NMR**: Not Measured.
- **MPL**: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level

### Additional Information for Lead

If present, elevated lead levels in drinking water 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 Ruidoso 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.

### Water Conservation Tips

- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides – they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water source.
- Pick-up after your pets.
- If you have your own septic system, properly maintain your system to reduce leaching to water sources or nearby wells.
- Organize a storm drain stenciling project with your local government or water supply. Stencil a message next to the street drain reminding people “Dump No Waste - Drains to River” or “Protect Your Water.” Produce and distribute a flyer for homeowners to remind residents that storm drain systems dump directly into your local water body.

### Water Conservation Tips

- Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 400 gallons of water per day or 100 gallons per person per day? Luckily, there are many low-cost and no-cost ways to conserve water. Small changes can make a big difference – try one today and soon it will become second nature.
- Take short showers — a 5 minute shower uses 4 to 5 gallons of water compared to up to 50 gallons for a bath.
- Shut off water while brushing your teeth, washing your hair and shaving or up to 500 gallons a month.
- Use a water-efficient showerhead. They’re inexpensive, easy to install, and can save you up to 750 gallons a month.
- Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,500 gallons a month.
- Water plants only when necessary.
- Fix leaky toilets and faucets. Fixing 10 leaks and 1 faucet saves 2,000 gallons or more per year. To change a toilet seat, flush the bowl of the toilet and fill the new one. If the seat is not filling in 10 seconds, it will not work. A leaky faucet will waste 0.5 to 1 gallon of water per minute.
- Reduce sprinklerso only you own lawn is water. Apply water only as fast as the soil can absorb it and during the cooler part of the day to reduce evaporation.
- Teach your kids about conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely. Make it a family effort to reduce next month’s water bill.
- Visit [www.epa.gov/watersense](http://www.epa.gov/watersense) for more information.

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### Source Water Protection Tips

Protection of drinking water is everyone’s responsibility. You can help protect your community’s drinking water source in several ways:

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