

DRINKING WATER WARNING

Cimarron Water System has high turbidity levels

BOIL YOUR WATER BEFORE USING

We routinely monitor your water for turbidity (cloudiness). This tells us whether we are effectively filtering the water supply. Water samples taken during August 2020 showed turbidity levels exceeding the maximum allowed. Because of these high levels of turbidity, there is an increased chance that the water may contain disease-causing organisms.

What should I do? What does this mean?

- **DO NOT DRINK THE WATER WITHOUT BOILING IT FIRST.** Bring all water to a boil, let it boil for one minute (3 minutes if above 6,500 feet in elevation), and let it cool before using, or use bottled water. Boiled or bottled water should be used for drinking, making coffee or hot beverages, making ice, brushing teeth, washing dishes, and food preparation until further notice. Boiling kills bacteria and other organisms in the water.
- **Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites, which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches.**
- The symptoms above are not caused only by organisms in drinking water. If you experience any of these symptoms and they persist, you may want to seek medical advice. People at increased risk should seek advice from their health care providers about drinking this water.

What is being done?

- The Village has immediately coordinated with NM Environment Department to resolve this issue.
- Current equipment is in the process of being recalibrated and inspected to ensure it is in operational working order
- The Water Treatment Plant Rehabilitation Project will be in progress soon and all equipment will be updated.

We will inform you when turbidity returns to appropriate levels and when you no longer need to boil your water. We anticipate resolving the problem within 60 days or sooner than November 20, 2020.

For more information, please contact Shawn Jeffrey, Administrator at 575-376-2232 or P.O. Box 654, Cimarron, NM 87714.

Updates are also available at: <https://www.env.nm.gov>

General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

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 in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Cimarron Water System Does Not Meet Treatment Requirements

Este informe contiene información importante acerca de su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, o hable con alguien que lo entienda.

Our water system recently violated a drinking water requirement. Although this was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we did (are doing) to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor your water for turbidity (cloudiness). This tells us whether we are effectively filtering the water supply. Water samples for [month year] showed that [percentage] percent of turbidity measurements were over 0.3 turbidity units. The standard is that no more than 5 percent of samples may exceed 0.3 turbidity units (NTU) per month. The turbidity levels are relatively low. However, their persistence is a concern.

We routinely monitor for Turbidity from the filtered water. During the month of August 2020 less than 95% of the measurements were below 0.3 NTU. This is a violation of the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act.

What should I do?

- **Please continue to boil your water or take other actions such as seeking an alternate source.**
- If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

What does this mean?

Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches. These symptoms are not caused only by organisms in drinking water. If you experience any of these symptoms and they persist, you may want to seek medical advice.

What is being done?

- The Village has immediately coordinated with NM Environment Department to resolve this issue.
- Current equipment is in the process of being recalibrated and inspected to ensure it is in operational working order
- The Water Treatment Plant Rehabilitation Project will be in progress soon and all equipment will be updated.

For more information, please contact: Shawn Jeffrey, Administrator at 575-376-2232
Cimarron Water System, NM3526204
P.O. Box 654
Cimarron, NM 87714

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Monthly Reporting Requirements Not Met by the Cimarron Water System

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

We are required to submit turbidity data and chlorine levels to the State on a monthly basis. This requirement has not been met during the month of August 2020.

What does this mean?

Reporting in itself is not an emergency. However, please continue to boil your water before using.

Monitoring and reporting turbidity and chlorine levels in your water are important in ensuring safe water to all our customers. **Chlorine is added to the water to inactivate bacteria that may be present. Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches. * These symptoms are not caused only by organisms in drinking water. If you experience any of these symptoms and they persist, you may want to seek medical advice.*

Tests taken during this time period **did not** indicate the presence of bacteria in the drinking water system during this period.

What should I do?

Please continue to boil your water or to use an alternative (e.g., bottled) water supply. Additionally, if you have specific health concerns, please contact your health care professional.

What is being done?

- The Village has submitted the August data to the state and will submit the data on time in the future.
- The Village has immediately coordinated with NM Environment Department to resolve this issue.
- Current equipment is in the process of being recalibrated and inspected to ensure it is in operational working order
- The Water Treatment Plant Rehabilitation Project will be in progress soon and all equipment will be updated.

We anticipate resolving the problem within 60 days or sooner than November 20, 2020.

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