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NEWS RELEASE

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NMED to Offer Free Water Testing in Belen

Belen, NM -- The New Mexico Environment Department is offering free water testing for residents of Valencia County with private wells serving homes *not* connected to a public water utility. Water testing will be held on Thursday, February 21, 2013 from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Express Belen, 2110 Camino Del Llano, Belen, NM 87002.

How to Collect the Water Sample:

- Use a clean glass or plastic container (at least a quart).
- Do not use containers that have a strong odor, such as citrus or pickle jars.
- Collect the sample before any water treatment systems such as reverse osmosis, water softener, or carbon filter.
- Let the water run for a couple of minutes before collecting the sample.
- Collect the sample as close to the time of testing as possible.

If available, please provide well depth, depth to water, well casing material (i.e., steel, pvc) and distance from well to the nearest septic tank/leachfield system.

Drinking water will be tested on site for the following parameters: Electrical Conductivity, Fluoride, Iron, Nitrate, pH and Sulfate.

For further information contact the NMED Ground Water Quality Bureau at: 505-222-9574.

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