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For Immediate Release

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Environment Department Offers Free Water Well Testing For Homeowners between Roswell and Lake Arthur in Chaves County

(Santa Fe, NM) — The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) will test samples of residential well water for the areas of Roswell and Lake Arthur in Chaves County for free this weekend at Eastern New Mexico University in Roswell.

Tests, which will be conducted between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., will include sampling for pH, electrical conductivity, dissolved oxygen, nitrate, fluoride, iron, and organic vapor. ENMU-Roswell campus is at 48 University Boulevard. Residents should drop off water samples between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. at the Campus Union Building, Multi-Purpose Room 110 on Saturday, Oct. 21 and Sunday, Oct 22.

An NMED specialist, who will conduct the tests at the event, will be available to answer questions about the results. Residents should collect water samples in the following way:

- Let water run for at least 5 minutes before collecting the sample.
- Use a clean glass or plastic container (at least a quart).
- Do not use containers that have a strong odor.
- Collect the sample as close to the time of testing as possible.
- Cover the container with a clean lid.
- Collect the sample before water is treated with systems including reverse osmosis, water softeners or carbon filters.

Water samples from public drinking water systems will not be tested because those systems are tested regularly pursuant to the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act. Water users whose water supply comes from a public system should receive a Consumer Confidence Report each year from the operator that summarizes test results. For more information on public drinking water systems in this area, call NMED's Drinking Water Bureau staff in the Clovis field office at (505) 762-3728.

For more information about this event, call Bart Faris at (505) 222-9521 or Ray Montes at (505) 524-6300. For more information, call Marissa Stone, NMED Communications Director, at (505) 827-0314 or (505) 231-0475.

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