

**MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM, GOVERNOR**

James C. Kenney, Cabinet Secretary

**NEWS RELEASE***For Immediate Release***May 2, 2022***The Environment Department's mission is to protect and restore the environment and to foster a healthy and prosperous New Mexico for present and future generations.*

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## **New Mexico Environment Department and the City of Las Vegas request water conservation during Calf Canyon and Hermits Peak Fires**

**SAN MIGUEL COUNTY** — The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) and the City of Las Vegas implore residents to conserve as much water as possible as wildfires continue to spread throughout the area.

At 9 a.m. on May 2, the City of Las Vegas issued a Public Service Announcement stating, “During this unprecedented fire event it is critical we use our water resources wisely. To ensure there will be plenty of water for the fire fighters and for our community please be good stewards of our water and limit your water consumption to essential use only.”

NMED continues to monitor the Calf Canyon and Hermits Peak Fires and coordinate closely with the City of Las Vegas to evaluate any immediate impacts on the City’s drinking water supply. As of Monday, May 2, 2022, the NMED Drinking Water Bureau confirmed that the City’s drinking water remains safe for human consumption.

In addition to limiting water use, the City is also imploring residents to not access fire hydrants during this emergency. Another public service announcement issued by the City on Monday states, “The General public are not authorized to access hydrants. Improper use of hydrants can cause water hammer resulting in broken lines, water loss and pressure loss. This will hinder the ability for the fire crews to put out fires and could result in loss of life and property.”

NMED reminds residents to continue using reliable sources for information about wildfires in their communities. As circumstances surrounding the Calf Canyon and Hermits Peak Fires continue to develop, NMED and the City of Las Vegas will provide information for residents regarding the City’s drinking water supply.

Visit <https://nmfireinfo.com/> for the most up-to-date information on wildfires burning in New Mexico.

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