

Environment Department

SUSANA MARTINEZ, GOVERNOR Ryan Flynn, Cabinet Secretary-Designate Butch Tongate, Deputy Secretary

Magdalena Public Announcement: June 7, 2013

On June 4th the New Mexico Environment Department was notified that the Village of Magdalena was likely to experience a water outage due to the Village's operating well running dry. NMED staff were dispatched to provide assistance and are working collaboratively with the Village to address the problem and identify immediate short term and long term solutions to ensure that safe, clean water is available to the citizens of Magdalena.

As the available water supply decreases water pressure is expected to significantly decrease. As a safeguard, a Precautionary Boil Water Advisory was issued on June 5, 2013. People are advised to use water sparingly and seek an alternate source of drinking water, such as bottled water, or boil the water for five minutes before drinking, cooking and dishwashing.

Potable water is available at the Village Fire House from a water hauling truck throughout the outage in addition to bottled water. Additionally, non-potable water will be available for non-consumption uses at the fire station. Potable water is being added to the water lines in the village from certified water tankers. As of Friday afternoon, water hauling is ahead of schedule. Volunteers are ensuring that the elderly and homebound have sufficient food and water.

NMED is working with the Village to identify and investigate alternative water sources. Existing wells that may be used to supplement the water supply are being tested for potability and compliance with state and federal regulations. NMED is also providing information to the Village administration for potential funding options for the Village to obtain the resources necessary to properly resolve this problem for the short and long term.

To identify a reliable source of water NMED is gathering information on the current condition of the aquifer and the associated hydrogeology. We are requesting information on the current condition of any private domestic wells in the area. If you have experienced water shortages or changes, or are willing to answer a series of questions, please contact Joe Savage of the NMED at the number listed below.

Joe Savage has been established as the Incident Response Coordinator for the NMED and Socorro County Emergency Services is providing staff. These agencies will be providing daily updates through the <u>MountainMailNews.com</u> and fliers posted at the village hall and post office. Points of contact for this situation are provided below, should you have any questions.

<u>Points of Contact:</u> Joe Savage, NMED Incident Response Coordinator, 575-973-0009 Socorro County Emergency Services 575-835-2029 Stephanie Stringer, Acting Chief, NMED Drinking Water Bureau 505-382-1655 Sandy Julian, Mayor, Village of Magdalena 575-854-2261