

Entranosa Water News

June 30, 2010

Happy 4th of July and Fire Restrictions. A unfortunate combination The 4th of July and drought conditions. The Cibola National Forest has imposed Stage 2 fire restrictions, and the Bernalillo County Commission has banned fireworks in the east mountains until the 22nd of July. We are not aware of similar actions from the Town of Edgewood or the County of Santa Fe. All that said – please take a moment to consider why we celebrate the 4th, enjoy the company of others, and be safe.

Water Hardness. We measured about 29 grains of hardness at the office yesterday morning, which is an increase from May. From now until September, hardness should range between 22 to 33 grains around the system. A ‘grain’ is equal to 17.1 milligrams per liter.

Bear Blurb. Bear sightings are up, there has been at least one attack on a human, and several bears have had to be put down. We’ve included a piece from Bear Watch, for your use.

Water Use. The weather in June was generally nice – which means hot and dry, accompanied by increased water usage. The National Weather Service has reported June was one of the driest on record, and usage reflected that. The average residential demand was almost 11,500 gallons, but many of you had much higher recorded uses as outdoor applications increased significantly. Please look at the usage graph on your bill – if you think you have a leak, let us know. The average residential use in June of 2009 was 9,550 gallons and about 8,030 gallons in 2008. Weather makes a difference

Drought Monitor. The US Drought Monitor, which can be viewed at <http://drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html> shows our area as having entered a ‘moderate drought condition’ (which isn’t unusual for this time of year) – along with more than half of the state. The projection, through September, shows our area as ‘improving’

Bill Payments & Credit Card Use.

- We’ve changed the address to which payments are sent – it is “Dept 2465, PO Box 122465, Dallas, TX 75312-2465” your bill stub has that address, which you can just mail, and if you use a bill payment service, please provide this address to them.
- Starting July 1st, we’ll no longer process automated credit card payments, so if you’ve been using that method you’ll need to make a change. We’ll still accept credit cards in online payments, walk-in’s, or phone-in’s but there will be a \$3 processing fee for each credit card payment.
- We still offer automatic bank account drafts that are safe, convenient, and no-cost.

Annual Meeting & Call for Candidates. The annual meeting for Entranosa will be on September 30th and will be held at the Mountain Valley Church. This year, there will be a ballot issue for administrative changes to our bylaws (updating our name), and an election of directors. Nominations for directors must be in writing, and must arrive at the Entranosa office no later than the close of business on August 6th. You can nominate yourself or a neighbor ... we ask only for a little common sense and some time.

CALL BEFORE YOU DIG – IT IS THE LAW 260-1990

Please read the following tips on how to keep you and your family safe and New Mexico's bears protected. BearWatch is getting calls about bear sightings, the bears are out of hibernation, and foraging for food. You won't see bears around your home if there is nothing there for them to find to eat. These tips will take less than a couple of minutes a day to maintain. BearWatch wishes you a fun and safe summer.

SANDIA MOUNTAIN BEARWATCH'S TIPS FOR LIVING WITH BEARS.

- **DON'T FEED A BEAR – EVER.....A FED BEAR IS A DEAD BEAR!**
- If you live in 'bear country' and see a bear nearby or it is in a nearby tree...take your dog and yourself inside to give the bear time to leave. Call NMG&F only if the bear appears aggressive or is hanging around for several days.
- Keep trash in a bear-proof garbage container or stored in a sturdy metal shed or closed garage. Put out garbage only on morning of pickup. Bear-proof containers can now be purchased at Davis Hardware. EM Disposal and L. Mora garbage companies will service your bearproof garbage cans.
- Don't feed pets outdoors or leave pet dishes or store pet food outdoors. Keep pet dishes/pet food away from door entries. Store pet food in a secure area.
- Hang seed feeders and hummingbird feeders from wires 10' off the ground or bring in hummingbird feeders each night. Feed suet and peanut butter only in winter when bears are in hibernation. Store birdseed in a closed container in a sturdy shed or the garage.
- Keep barbeque grills clean or stored inside.
- **Keep kitchen windows and doors closed on summer nights.**
- For small livestock and chickens, use a sturdy metal shed and/or a 5-strand electric fence using an approved fence charger with alternating current. Be sure to check with the county inspector for guidelines and limitations.
- Put an electric fence around beehives and fruit trees.
- Don't plant fruit trees or berry bushes near your home. Remove fruit before it ripens to stop bears from climbing and breaking branches. Remove fallen fruit. Don't add melon rinds or fruit to compost pile except in winter.
- Don't leave food, groceries, pet food or birdseed in you car overnight
- Don't feed other wildlife; it will also attract bears. It is against NM law to feed bears on purpose.
- If a bear is drinking from your swimming pool or hot tub, put water out as far away from your house and neighbor's homes as possible.
- Keep all poisons inside your house; many bears die from unprotected poisons or ingesting garbage bags.
- Keep woodpiles and junk away from your house that draws rodents. Bears eat rodents.

Please understand that a trapped bear does not transplant well. A high percentage of bears die after being relocated. NMG&F has raised the 2009-2010 statewide bear hunt by 21%. It's up to you to take it upon yourself to help protect our East Mountain bear population.

Call your local Wildlife Steward or Sandia Mountain BearWatch's Jan Hayes for more advice at 281-9282.
<http://SandiaMountainBearWatch.org>