

## How to Become a Certified Potable Water Hauler in New Mexico (updated 2/6/2024)

If you are transporting water intended for human consumption to at least 15 service connections or 25 individuals daily for at least 60 days of the year, you must be a certified potable water hauler with the New Mexico Environment Department Drinking Water Bureau (NMED DWB).

**There is NO FEE to apply to become a certified potable water hauler.**

### NMED DWB – Website to find application forms:

[All Application Forms and Guidance \(nm.gov\)](#)

- Go to the Drinking Water Bureau tab
  - Infrastructure Construction – Engineering Projects
    - Potable Water Hauling Application
    - Potable Water Hauling Application Checklist
- For questions, contact:
  - Emily Worthen, NMED DWB Infrastructure Support Team Lead
  - [emily.worthen@env.nm.gov](mailto:emily.worthen@env.nm.gov)
  - Phone: 505-372-8098

### General Requirements:

Mandatory items:

- Evidence that the tank and other delivery components (i.e. hoses) are approved for contact with water for human consumption (NSF 61) or food grade quality liquids (NSF51). These should be specifications from the tank manufacturer that indicate tank make and model, and that specify the tank is certified to NSF 61 or NSF 51 standards.
- A signed declaration that the water tank and all other delivery components have never come in contact with non-potable or non-food grade products.
  - Or a declaration listing any such products and evidence (i.e receipts) that the tank has been sufficiently re-conditioned to enable hauling potable water.
- Detailed tank description and photos or other documentation showing the following features:
  - Hatches or openings with watertight covers.
  - A tank drain that allows for complete draining of the tank and an opening to facilitate internal inspection.
  - All hoses and other dispensing units with watertight caps.
- A contract or other acknowledgement from a New Mexico public water system that provides chlorine disinfection with a measurable chlorine residual at the point of withdrawal by the water hauler and has no active acute violations. Use Drinking Water Watch at this link [Drinking Water Watch \(nm.gov\)](#) to determine if your source meets this requirement.
- An acknowledgement from the public water system receiving the water, if applicable, and a location description where the water will be added to the receiving water system (i.e. distribution tank, clearwell).
- Procedures that the water hauler will follow to obtain the water including:
  - Location tanks will be filled.
  - How chlorine residual will be recorded.

- Storing procedures (if applicable).
- Treatment (limited to chlorine addition to maintain residuals).
- Delivery to the receiving water system/individual connections.
- Initial routine and seasonal disinfection plan of each tank that conforms to AWWA C652.
- A copy of the certified operator certificate of the business operator who will be present for all deliveries (this can be a contract operator or a staff person if they are certified through the Utility Operator Certification Program).

#### **Completed Water Hauler Application:**

- The checklist is provided to ensure that all required information is sent.
- Email completed application to: [NMENV-DWBPlanReview@state.nm.us](mailto:NMENV-DWBPlanReview@state.nm.us), or directly to [emily.worthen@env.nm.gov](mailto:emily.worthen@env.nm.gov)
- Application will be reviewed.
- After approval, the engineering program will issue an approval letter identifying the appropriate compliance supervisor to contact for initial inspection.
- A DWB compliance officer will inspect your water truck and assign your business a New Mexico Public Water System ID number.
- Hauling water intended for human consumption is now permitted.

#### **New Mexico Regulations Related to Water Hauler Certification**

##### **N.M. Code R Section 20.7.10.401 – General Operating Requirements for Water Haulers**

[Section 20.7.10.401 - GENERAL OPERATING REQUIREMENTS FOR WATER HAULERS, N.M. Code R. §](#)

A. This section applies to each water hauler.

B. A water hauler subject to this section shall obtain for delivery disinfected water only from public water systems that are part of the department safe drinking water information system (SDWIS) inventory and do not pose an acute health threat based on violation of a maximum contaminant level or treatment technique.

C. A water hauler subject to this section shall:

- (1) disinfect each tank, before filling the tank for delivery, if it has not been used more than eight consecutive days;
- (2) disinfect each tank after every three months of continuous operation;
- (3) measure and record the disinfectant residual at the same time and place water is obtained from the public water system and immediately prior to when the water is delivered to the customer;
- (4) maintain a record of the date and time that each water hauling truck is disinfected;
- (5) for those water haulers that are owned or operated by a public water system, comply with the sampling requirements applicable to consecutive systems in accordance with Subsection E of Section 500 of this part; and
- (6) make each vehicle used for water hauling available for inspection by the department; at the time of the inspection the tank shall be empty and have a hatch or other opening to facilitate internal inspection.

D. A water hauler subject to this section shall use only water tanks with the following features:

- (1) Hatches or openings must have water tight covers.
- (2) The tank drain must allow for complete draining of the tank.
- (3) All hoses and other dispensing units must be equipped with water tight caps.

## **20.7.10.202.B NMAC**

Website: [20.7.10 NMAC](#)

### **20.7.10.202 APPLICATION FOR WATER HAULERS THAT ARE NOT OWNED OR OPERATED BY ANOTHER PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM:**

**A.** This section applies to each water hauler that is not owned or operated by a public water system. This section does not apply to the transport of bottled water regulated pursuant to 21 CFR Part 165.

**B.** Any person proposing to commence a water hauling operation for human consumption under this section shall complete, sign and submit an application to the department no later than 30 days prior to entering a service contract for delivering water for human consumption. The water hauler shall not produce, withdraw, store, transport or deliver water for human consumption until the department has approved the application in writing.

**C.** The application shall be made on form(s) furnished by the department and shall include:

(1) evidence that the water tank and other delivery components are approved for contact with water for human consumption;

(2) a declaration that the water tank and other water delivery components have never come into contact with a non-potable or non-food grade product, or a declaration listing any such products and evidence that the tank has been sufficiently reconditioned to enable hauling of potable water;

(3) a contract with a public water system authorizing receipt of water or other documentation demonstrating that the water to be hauled will come from a drinking water system that is included in the safe drinking water information system (SDWIS) inventory;

(4) a description of water hauling operation including the procedures for obtaining, storing, treatment of and delivery of water; and

(5) a disinfection plan for routine and seasonal disinfection of each tank.

[20.7.10.202 NMAC - N, 01/06/2013]

### **20.7.10.500.E MONITORING REQUIREMENTS:**

**A.** Pursuant to NMSA 1978, 74-1-13.1, the department shall test non-transient non-community water systems for arsenic, fluoride and radionuclides. The reporting and public notification requirements for non-transient non-community water systems for these contaminants shall be identical to those for community water systems as set forth in 40 CFR Subpart Q.

**B.** Each supplier of water shall begin routine sampling in accordance with 40 CFR Part 141 within 90 days after providing water for human consumption.

**C.** All public water systems shall conduct sampling at the rates set forth in 40 CFR Part 141, Subpart C, except that non-transient non-community systems shall conduct coliform sampling at the same rates as like-sized community water systems in 40 CFR 141.21(a)(2) and except that consecutive systems shall sample as required in Subsection E of Section 500 of this part. The department may order a supplier of water, when necessary, to conduct more frequent sampling than is required under 40 CFR Part 141.

**D.** The department may order a public water system that uses two or more water sources to collect special purpose samples directly from the water sources, in addition to routine samples from sampling points as required under 40 CFR Part 141.

**E.** Consecutive systems shall collect samples for those contaminants for which monitoring is required in the distribution system. This includes measurement of disinfectant residuals and collection of samples for total coliform, lead and copper, and disinfection byproducts.

**F.** All public water systems must have sample taps to collect water representative of each applicable facility at sampling points required under 40 CFR Part 141.

**G.** For systems subject to triggered monitoring under 40 CFR Part 141 ground water rule: for each total coliform positive sample collected from the distribution system, at least one ground water source sample must be collected from each ground water source that was in use at the time the total coliform-positive sample was collected.

[20.7.10.500 NMAC - Rp 20 NMAC 7.1.III.301, 12/04/2002; A, 04/16/2007; A, 01/06/2013]