

Water & Waste Water

Tesuque's quality of life depends on adequate water quality and water quantity.

Key Facts:

Water Infrastructure- The Tesuque Mutual Domestic Water Consumers Association provides water services to 107 service connections or a population of about 370. Bishop's Lodge and Shidoni have their own water systems. Notably, no water system in Tesuque has had any violations for exceeding federal contaminant standards in recent years.

Wastewater Infrastructure- Most households in Tesuque rely on individual septic tanks to manage their wastewater. Tesuque's unique geographic characteristics, including soil depth to bedrock, percolation rate, depth to shallowest water table, slope, and flooding potential mean that many households in Tesuque are required to treat wastewater to higher standards than are achieved with a conventional septic systems and must purchase more expensive septic tank systems. Bishop's Lodge, Sol y Sombra Trailer Park, Riverside Mobile Home Park, and Tesuque Elementary school each have small wastewater facilities to serve their populations.

Goal: Increase awareness of Tesuque water quality and means of enhancing water quality.

Strategy: The Tesuque Valley Community Association will reach out to a technical assistance organization such as Amigos Bravos to explore ways for Tesuque residents to monitor the presence of contaminants that aren't already by the New Mexico Environment Department and if appropriate, develop a strategy to address water contaminants.

Strategy: The Tesuque Valley Community Association will form a subcommittee to develop educational materials documenting how individual households can minimize their impact on water resources.

Goal: Develop more centralized approaches to managing wastewater.

Strategy: Santa Fe County and the Tesuque Valley Community Association will explore the feasibility of developing central community waste water facility for Tesuque's commercial core and Griego Hill to include the Tesuque Elementary School, commercial uses, the mobile home parks and homes.

-comments- questions-ideas-concerns-

Plan Implementation

Implementing this plan will require partnership and active community involvement. An implementation matrix is a good tool for keeping all responsible parties on the same page. Below is an excerpt of the implementation matrix for this plan.

Resource: Wildfire	Responsible Organizations & Partners	Time Frame	Potential Funding Sources
Consult the State Hazard Mitigation Office to establish the appropriateness of hazard mitigation grants to fund the purchase of a new tank; Consult the State Forestry Office to establish the appropriateness of Volunteer Fire Assistance grant program and other programs to fund the purchase of a new tank.	TVA	Summer 2013	
Purchase a supplemental water tank.	Tesuque Volunteer Fire District	2014	VFA grant; SGMP grant; County Operating Budget
Encourage Tesuque residents to take advantage of the County's free service to assess household wildfire vulnerability. This service provides information to fire districts regarding how to effectively fight fires that may affect households and educates households as to steps they can take to mitigate their wildfire vulnerability.	TVA	2014	

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