



Water Rights and Domestic Wells Scavenger Hunt Worksheet Activity #2

Please circle the correct answer(s) for each question.

1. According to the Water Rights Information Sheet, which statement best describes a water right?

- A. Water rights automatically belong to the owner of the land.
- B. Water rights are a separate legal right that may or may not accompany the land.
- C. Water rights belong to the county where the property is located.
- D. Water rights are transferred automatically with every deed.

Source: Form 2328

2. New Mexico follows which doctrine for determining water rights priority?

- A. Riparian Rights
- B. Equal Sharing
- C. Prior Appropriation
- D. Reasonable Use

Source: Form 2328

3. Which of the following is **NOT** listed as evidence that a valid water right may exist?

- A. An OSE permit or license
- B. Documentation of adjudication
- C. A recorded priority date
- D. A current title insurance policy

Source: Form 2328

4. According to the Water Rights Information Sheet, which due diligence step is recommended for buyers?

- A. Assume the seller owns all water rights associated with the property.
- B. Verify the existence and status of any water rights through the OSE.
- C. Rely solely on the title company.
- D. Wait until after closing to investigate.

Source: Form 2328

5. A domestic well drilled on or after **August 15, 2006** generally has a maximum household usage of:

- A. One-half acre-foot per year
- B. One acre-foot per year
- C. Two acre-feet per year
- D. Three acre-feet per year

Source: Form 2307

6. When ownership of property with a domestic well changes, what must the new owner file with the Office of the State Engineer?

- A. A new drilling permit
- B. A Well Inspection Report
- C. A Change of Ownership notification
- D. A Water Rights Declaration

Source: Form 2307

7. According to the Water Rights Information Sheet, standard title insurance policies in New Mexico generally:

- A. Guarantee ownership of all water rights.
- B. Cover the transfer of domestic well permits.
- C. Do not cover water rights because ownership and validity are difficult to verify.
- D. Automatically insure acequia memberships.