



# DPU Scoop



## IN THIS EDITION

- Laundry Efficiency Tips
- Be BEAR Aware
- Outdoor Watering: Rule W-8
- Maintaining Water Quality at Home
- Seeking Applicants for Board

# CONSERVATION

## IMPROVE THE EFFICIENCY OF YOUR LAUNDRY ROOM

- Clean: dryer vents, door seals, washing basins.
- Adjust water heater temperature to 120°.
- Phase in LEDs to replace hotter bulbs.
- Fix leaking faucets and sink fixtures.
- Caulk and foam seal cracks and gaps where plumbing and piping fixtures go through floors and walls.
- Wash clothes in cold water and use efficient detergent.
- Check the age and condition of your machines. Begin to research and budget for energy efficient replacements.
- Use a lower heat setting on the dryer or consider drying alternatives.
- If your water heater is in here too, does it need a water heater jacket? Does it need to be replaced?
- Insulate hot water pipes.



### Be BEAR aware...

Spring is here, and the black bears of the Pajarito Plateau are waking up from their long winter nap. Bears eat almost anything available (i.e. insects, nuts and berries, plant matter, fish, birds, small mammals and carrion), but rarely kill larger prey. Bears who have found available human sources, such as trash cans, gardens, and fruit trees, are more likely to seek them again. Follow these tips and tricks to minimize encounters as bears begin to look for food:

**Never intentionally feed bears** to attract them for viewing.

Don't leave **pet food** or food dishes outdoors overnight.

Never leave **fruit from trees** and bushes to rot on the ground as it is a powerful attractant to bears.

**Bring in bird feeders at night.** These are high-calorie treats, and bears may stay and look for other food sources nearby.

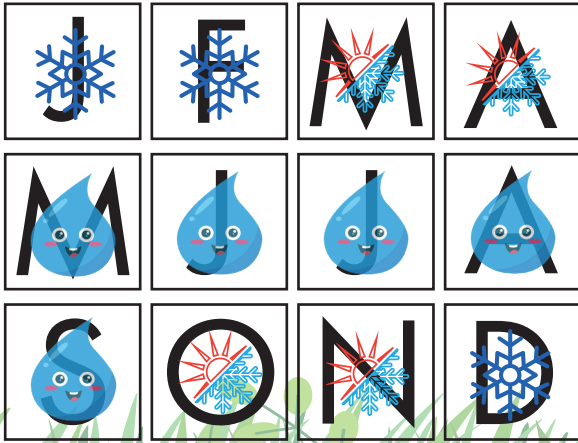
Never put meat or sweet-smelling food scraps in your **compost pile**.

**Clean and store outdoor grills** after use. Bears can smell sweet barbecue sauce and grease for miles.

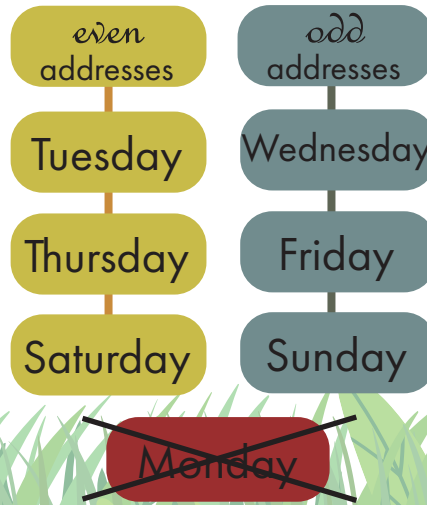
**Store garbage properly** at all times. Only put roll carts out the morning of your trash pick up, and use bear-proof containers when available.

To learn more about the black bear and living with other large predators, visit the NM Game & Fish website at [www.lacnm.com/NMGF](http://www.lacnm.com/NMGF).

# When should I water outdoors? *right month, right place, right time*



DPU's Water Conservation Rule W-8 is in effect from May 1 - September 30  
complete info can be found in DPU's Rules and Regulations at [ladpu.com/Rules-Regs](http://ladpu.com/Rules-Regs)



## Maintaining Water Quality at Home

DPU works hard to provide you with top-quality water. It's your responsibility to make sure your fixtures and appliances are maintained to ensure that quality stays high to avoid odors, discoloration, and even harmful bacteria growth.

- **Is your hot water tank sized properly for occupant load and daily use?** If you are not using hot water for extended periods of time, the water could become stagnant in the tank.
- **Are you or a professional flushing your water heater annually?** It is important to flush out sediment buildup that can cause contamination.
- **Are rusty spots appearing on your hot water tank?** Aside from making water taste funny, areas of corrosion and rust could lead to tank structural failure and taste would be the least of your concerns.
- **What is the temperature setting of your water heater?** 120°F is ideal. If your unit is set colder than this, you risk the growth of bacteria. Hotter than this setting and you risk scalding users and wasting energy.
- **Are you cleaning sink fixtures and replacing aerators regularly?** Sinks handle a lot and we don't really pay attention to what splashes where.
- **When was the last time you replaced your water filter(s)?** Whether on a water softener, a fridge, or other water filtering device, filters aren't infinite and come with recommended replacement schedules for a reason.

## We are looking for someone to serve on the Board of Public Utilities!

### WE ARE:

- Governed by locals. Citizens make up our Board of Public Utilities (BPU).
- High-performing & community-centric.
- Communicative, organized and transparent.
- Looking for our next BPU member. Could it be you?

There is currently one vacancy for the term July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2029.

Applications will be accepted through 11:59 pm on May 2, 2024.

Duties, details, application requirements & vacancy brochure can be found at [ladpu.com/BPU](http://ladpu.com/BPU).

If you meet the eligibility requirements, have a selfless desire to serve the community and think your knowledge and experience might be an asset to the BPU, then you are encouraged to apply.



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