

# Construction begins on Harvest Gold-Bloomfield connection

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*Project designed to provide residents with clean water*



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**FARMINGTON** — The City of Bloomfield began construction on a pump station this week that will supply the Harvest Gold subdivision with clean water.

The subdivision has been on a boil-water advisory for more than a year. The pump station is part of a connection project that will provide the residents with Bloomfield water, and allow the newly formed Apple Orchard Mutual Domestic Water Users Association, which recently assumed ownership of the Harvest Gold water system, to abandon the troubled Harvest Gold water treatment plant.

The project is being paid for by approximately \$184,000 in emergency funding from the state Board of Finance.

The connection project is expected to take between three and four months to complete. After the project has been finished, the subdivision will have to flush the water pipes. The New Mexico Environment Department then will collect water samples to ensure the water is clean prior to lifting the boil-water advisory.

Apple Orchard Board President Ammon Burton said he was excited to see construction begin this week. He said the visible construction has helped reassure people who did not believe the connection would be built.



The construction of a connection between the old Harvest Gold water system and the city of Bloomfield system is expected to take three to four months.

“They’re actually going to have water,” Burton said. “Real, drinkable water.”

In the meantime, San Juan County is working to obtain pumps for the treatment plant. The pumps will ensure the residents still have water during the time that it takes to construct the new connection. The water from the treatment plant will not be potable, but it can be used to run swamp coolers and appliances.

San Juan County Office of Emergency Management Manager Mike Mestas said the pumps should be installed next week. He said the County is still working to get a tank placed in the subdivision. The tank will store potable water for residents, who will be able to fill up containers from the tank.

The County is continuing to provide showers and potable water at McGee Park. Potable water is also available at the Aztec RV Park and Bloomfield Fire Department.

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