Water Supply Planning

Water supply planning helps to ensure that a water utility’s supplies can reliably meet demands, both now and in the future, in an economically, socially, and environmentally responsible manner.

Santa Fe’s water supply currently meets our demand in a normal year, but is vulnerable to drought and fire.

The 2015 Santa Fe Basin Study projected substantial water shortages by 2055 if the City does not increase supply. We expect demand to increase due to population growth and for climate change to reduce availability of surface water.

Persistent Threats to Santa Fe’s Water Supply

- Drought
- Wildfire
- Water Quality

Climate change is projected to exacerbate these threats

https://www.santafenm.gov/water
Our Strategy to Supply Santa Fe's Growing Water Demands

Over the past 70 years, Santa Fe's water supply portfolio has expanded by necessity to include both surface water and groundwater, local and imported. Santa Fe's guiding principles when addressing supply issues are to look first to conserve, then to identify supply options that offer the best return on investment, considering environmental, economic, and societal benefits. We are currently planning a strategic expansion that fosters transition toward a system where local Santa Fe Basin water resources will be kept in the Santa Fe River watershed, while imported water supplies will be used to their fullest extent.

Over the next several decades, our water supply portfolio will likely expand further to include many of the projects shown, which we will identify and prioritize using a strategic and transparent process.

STEP 1
Revisit supply and demand projections at regular intervals; if gaps are projected, identify possible adaptation strategies

STEP 2
Examine the environmental, economic, and societal benefits of adaptation strategies

STEP 3
Work with stakeholders to select preferred adaptation strategies

https://www.santafenm.gov/water