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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Bishop's Lodge offers environmentally friendly services

Santa Fe, NM – Water conservation is a big issue in the desert Southwest where droughts cycle in and out over several years. To help conserve water, Bishop's Lodge Ranch Resort & Spa not only offers standard water-saving measures (optional linen changes and drinking water by request), but also reclaims its wastewater for irrigation, and employs low-flow showers, toilets and faucets.

Bishop's Lodge has its own water source -- a well on the property -- that supplies all the water for the resort and spa, and the resort wastewater is treated and reclaimed for all garden irrigation and lawn watering. The property includes 18 buildings, 111 rooms, and 450 acres (150 groomed acres). It requires an engineering staff of seven and a landscaping crew of five.

Chief Engineer Dan Evert is responsible for overseeing the water treatment facility on the property. The water treatment process includes an environmentally safe bio-system that purifies the water naturally, wetlands, leach fields, evaporation/holding ponds and a small waterfall. Last year, water usage peaked at 1,693,000 gallons of well production in one month, and at 1,085,000 gallons of reclaimed water used for irrigation and other non-consumable applications.

Lawns are watered with a spray sprinkler system that is equipped with rain sensors to avoid unnecessary watering. Xeriscaped areas like the ShaNah Spa and Wellness Center garden have a drip irrigation system to keep water use efficient. Of the 450 acres of Bishop's Lodge property, 150 acres are groomed. Ungroomed areas, like hillsides and the horse stables, depend on the weather to maintain their natural beauty.

Evert says he avoids soil amendments or fertilizers because they are unnecessary since the well water is rich in nutrients.

"Since Bishop's Lodge is a ranch resort, we lean towards a natural look," says Dan Evert. "We keep maintenance simple and efficient because of the well water source."

Amid the colorful canyons and arroyos of the desert Southwest, the lush lawns and flowering gardens of the Tesuque Valley are an oasis of green. That's why when Jean-

Baptiste Lamy came to Santa Fe in 1851 as New Mexico's first bishop, he bought a parcel of land in the Tesuque Valley and made it his country retreat. He cultivated his gardens and introduced non-native fruit trees and flowers that attracted visitors for years to come.

After Lamy's death, the property was owned by the Pulitzer family of St. Louis, and then in 1918 it became "Bishop's Lodge" under the ownership of the Thorpe family from Denver. Lamy's 450-acre property is now the site of Bishop's Lodge Ranch Resort & Spa and is managed by Prism Hotels & Resorts of Dallas.

Colorful reminders of nearly four centuries of Spanish, Native American and Southwestern cultures endure at Bishop's Lodge. The award-winning ShaNah Spa honors its spiritual predecessors with Native American influenced treatments and techniques. Las Fuentes Restaurant & Bar serves creative American cuisine with indigenous influences. Most profoundly, the panoramic views span mountains, desert, forest and Lamy's precious gardens.

Ranked by **Travel & Leisure magazine** as one of America's premier retreats, the Bishop's Lodge Ranch Resort & Spa offers the resort-style family vacations, weddings, and conference facilities.

Bishop's Lodge Ranch Resort & Spa is managed by Prism Hotels & Resorts, whose clients also include Marriott, Hilton, Radisson, Embassy Suites, and Holiday Inn. To make a reservation, call 800-732-2240 or visit www.bishopslodge.com.

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