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Conservation District E-News

PO Box 1050

Moriarty, New Mexico 87035

Phone: 832-1111 Fax: 832-1121

Serving: Southern Santa Fe, Eastern Bernalillo and Northern Torrance Counties

Spring Tree Sale Underway

The Edgewood Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) is now taking orders for their Annual Spring Tree Sale. Native plants will be offered to area landowners at bargain prices!

Staff has chosen a variety of plants that are suitable for our area.

Please find descriptions of the plants available and order form later in our newsletter. Orders will be taken from now until **April 3rd, or until stock is sold out.** Stock is available on a first come, first serve basis, so order early for the best selection! Remember, your payment must accompany your order!

Tree pick up days will be scheduled mid-late April. Postcard notifications will be sent to those who order trees, listing pick-up dates, times and location. **No minimum purchase is required.**

For more information, please call the District Office at 832-1111.

**HELP US CONSERVE OUR MOST PRECIOUS
NATURAL RESOURCE!**



*Visit our web site for more information
on district programs!
www.eswcd.org*

Attention Landowners:

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) will now hold office hours in Moriarty at the Edgewood SWCD Office.

District Conservationist, Brad Podoll will be available to visit with any landowner who has questions regarding an existing NRCS contract or for any conservation question.

The Edgewood SWCD looks forward to this new schedule, and hopes many landowners take advantage of this opportunity.

Brad will be available every Thursday from 1:00 PM – 4:30 PM. For more information, call Brad at 384-2272 Ext. 3 or Benda at 832-1111.

Inside this Issue:

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Enhance Your Property with the Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program

With the hunting season in full swing, you might be beginning to notice that your property isn't sustaining as much wildlife as you might like. Or maybe you would like to enhance the aesthetic appeal of your property with a tree planting or a stand of native grasses. The Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program provides an excellent opportunity to get monetary assistance in creating environments that are beneficial to wildlife.

The Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) is a voluntary program for people who want to develop and improve wildlife habitat primarily on private lands. It provides both technical assistance and cost-share payments to help establish and improve critical wildlife habitat.

The NRCS and the participant enter into a cost-share agreement for wildlife habitat development. This agreement generally lasts for 5 to 10 years from the date the agreement is signed. Under this agreement the landowner agrees to install and maintain the conservation practices applied under WHIP. The NRCS provides technical assistance in plan development, pays up to 75 percent of the cost of installing the wildlife habitat practices, and assists in monitoring the effectiveness of the practices.

If you would like to learn more about WHIP or land eligibility, please feel free to contact NRCS at (505) 384-2272 ext. 3.



Conservation Quote

"A true conservationist is a man who knows that the world is not given by his fathers but borrowed from his children."

Audobon

Information Source: <http://www.stresslesscountry.com/conservation-quotes/index.html>

Calendar of Events

January 31 – February 4, 2009

National Association of Conservation Districts Meeting
New Orleans, Louisiana

February 5, 2009

Edgewood SWCD Board Meeting
6:00 PM
Edgewood SWCD Office – Moriarty

February 12, 2009

Central NM Cooperative Weed Mgmt. Meeting
10:00 AM
Mountainair, NM

February 19, 2009

NM Ag Fest
6:00 PM
La Fonda Hotel – Santa Fe

Conservationist Corner

EQIP Contract Scheduling

By Brad Podoll, District Conservationist

I would like to remind everyone who has an EQIP contract that it is very important to stay on schedule. Our ability to be flexible and reschedule practices from year to year is limited. If you get behind schedule, then your contract is in non-compliance. Once in non-compliance, you could be in contract violation. When contract violation occurs, there usually is a financial penalty. This could involve paying back all cost share monies you have received plus interest. The important issue to remember is that this is a binding contract. You should never enter into a contract if you are unsure of the terms, or if you can't comply fully with the terms of the contract.

2009 SPRING TREE & GRASS ORDER FORM

	Size Available & Cost of Trees	Number Ordered	Total Cost
* TREES AND SHRUBS* (BR=BAREROOT)			
Austrian Pine (Pinus Nigra Austriaca)	BR 4' @ \$2.50		
Colorado Blue Spruce (Picea Pungens Glauca)	BR 2' @ \$2.50		
Green Ash (Fraxinus Pennsylvanica)	BR 3' @ \$2.50		
Lilac (Syringa Vulgaris)	BR 3' @ \$2.50		
Black Current (Ribes Nigrum)	BR 3' @ \$2.50		
NM Pinon Pine (Pinus Edulis)	BR 2' @ \$2.50		

~~~These trees are not containerized~~~

**\*WILDFLOWER MIX\***

|                    |                   |  |  |
|--------------------|-------------------|--|--|
| Rocky Mountain Mix | \$ 2.00 per ounce |  |  |
| Native Prairie Mix | \$ 2.00 per ounce |  |  |

TOTAL COST OF TREES/GRASS \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**ORDER DEADLINE: April 3, 2009**

Pick-Up Dates: April 15, 16 & 17, 2009

**SEND ORDER & PAYMENT TO: EDGEWOOD SWCD  
P.O. BOX 1050  
MORIARTY, NM 87035**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ WORK PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

## EDGEWOOD SWCD 2009 SPRING TREE SALE DESCRIPTIONS

**AUSTRIAN PINE** (*Pinus Nigra Austriaca*) Height: up to 150'. Fast growing, widely planted species in landscaping, along roads, for dense windbreaks or screens and commercial Christmas tree plantations. Very adaptable to wind, cold, smog, salt and from heavy clay to sandy soils.

**BLACK CURRENT** (*Ribes Nigrum*) Height to 6'. Cultivated for its edible fruit. Reddish white pendulous racemes of flowers, also has ornamental uses.

**COLORADO BLUE SPRUCE** (*Picea Pungens Glauca*) Height to 100', Bluish foliage. Preferred species of spruce for most ornamental situations. Widely planted across the country. Our seedlings and transplants are grown at a low bed density without excessive fertilization and are root pruned resulting in superior quality.

**COMMON PURPLE LILAC** (*Syringa vulgaris*) Maximum Height 10'. The Common Purple Lilac, is a deciduous shrub which is used as a hedge or as an individual accent plant. It has light purple flowers occurring in clusters amid the dark-green heart-shaped leaves. Very hardy shrub, which can withstand severely cold winters (-35 degrees C).

**GREEN ASH** (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*) Maximum Height 70' Drought and coldtolerant deciduous tree. Has good alkaline tolerance and grows well in most soils. Has yellow fall foliage. The winged seeds (samaras) are eaten by a number of birds and mammals including wild turkey and rodents. Whitetail and mule deer browse the twigs and foliage.

**PINON PINE** (*Pinus Edulis*) Height to 50', Extraordinary beautiful blue color. Slow growing, drought tolerant pine native to the Rocky Mountains. Pine nuts are excellent for food and collected commercially. Short trunk, wide spreading lower branches.

## TREE & SEED ORDERS WILL BE TAKEN UNTIL APRIL 3<sup>RD</sup>

### EDGEWOOD SWCD COST-SHARE PROGRAM

#### APPLICATION DEADLINE: 4/1/09

**Eligible Applicants** for our program is any person addressing a natural resource problem who owns land within the Edgewood Soil & Water Conservation District boundaries.

*Projects within city limits are not eligible.*

**Categories for applications include:** **Urban:** 1 lot – 639 acres - **Farm / Ranch:** Determined by the Farm Service Agency specifications (Schedule F) and **Community:** Senior Citizen Centers, Parks, Schools, Churches etc.

**Payments** will be made on 50% of the actual cost of the project, or maximum of \$3500, whichever is less. Original receipts must be submitted for reimbursement.

**Maximum cost-share amount is  
\$3,500 per year, per landowner.**

**Eligible Practices Include, but not limited to:** Brush Management, Critical Area Planting, Cross Fencing, Diversion, Forest Stand Improvement, Irrigation Pipeline, Low Energy Precision Application (LEPA) Conversion, Livestock Pipeline, Water Harvesting and Windbreak Plantings with Drip Irrigation Systems.

**Do Your Part! Recycle!**



## *Locals Honored During Annual Meeting*

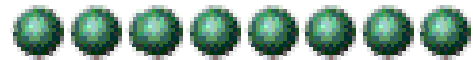
The Edgewood SWCD held their Annual Meeting on Thursday, December 4<sup>th</sup>. Roughly 85 people were in attendance. Guest Speakers Senator Sue Wilson-Beffort and NRCS' Mary Podoll took some time out of their busy schedules to address our local landowners. Senator Beffort spoke about the challenges of this year's budget, and Ms. Podoll reported on NRCS activities, and gave an overview regarding the newly formed New Mexico Envirothon.

Many awards were presented. The 2008 Conservationist of the Year was awarded to Neal Drago for his support and advocacy of the Defensible Space & Forest Stand Thinning programs. The District honored Chilili Land Grant with the 2008 Land Stewardship Award for their participation and cooperation on watershed health projects. Twelve "Essential Piece" Awards were presented to individuals that have helped the Edgewood staff throughout the year. They were: *Art Swenka – East Torrance SWCD, Lawrence Crane – NM State Forestry, Vern Kohler – Claunch-Pinto SWCD, Dee Tarr – Claunch-Pinto SWCD, Patti Dappen - NMHU – New Mexico Forest & Watershed Restoration Institute, Mary Podoll - Natural Resources Conservation Service, Anne Coleman – NM Department of Ag, Joy Wagner – Chavez SWCD, George Duda – retired NM State Forestry, Roy Todd – NM Department of Ag, Brad Podoll – Natural Resources Conservation Service, and Delfie Montano – Envirothon Wildlife Coach.* Throughout the year, several agency partnerships were formed. Three of these partners were honored with "Teamwork" awards for their assistance to the District. They were: *NM State Forestry, NMHU – New Mexico Forest & Watershed Restoration Institute and the NM State Land Office.*

Staff has been extremely fortunate to have their support of their family! Seven "Helping Hand" awards were presented to *Karlyn Smith-Bates, Arta Smith, Kaylyn Bates, Pat Archuleta, David Smythe, Erica Smythe and Aaron Smythe.* They were honored as a small token of staff's appreciation to them for always being there to help!

A BBQ dinner was served and sponsored by the Edgewood District. The dinner was catered by Lee Daniels Mesquite Barbeque from Wagon Mound.

One final award was presented to Kelly Archuleta; District Technician for her dedication to the Edgewood Soil & Water Conservation District and our landowners. Kelly has been employed by the Edgewood SWCD for 3 years.



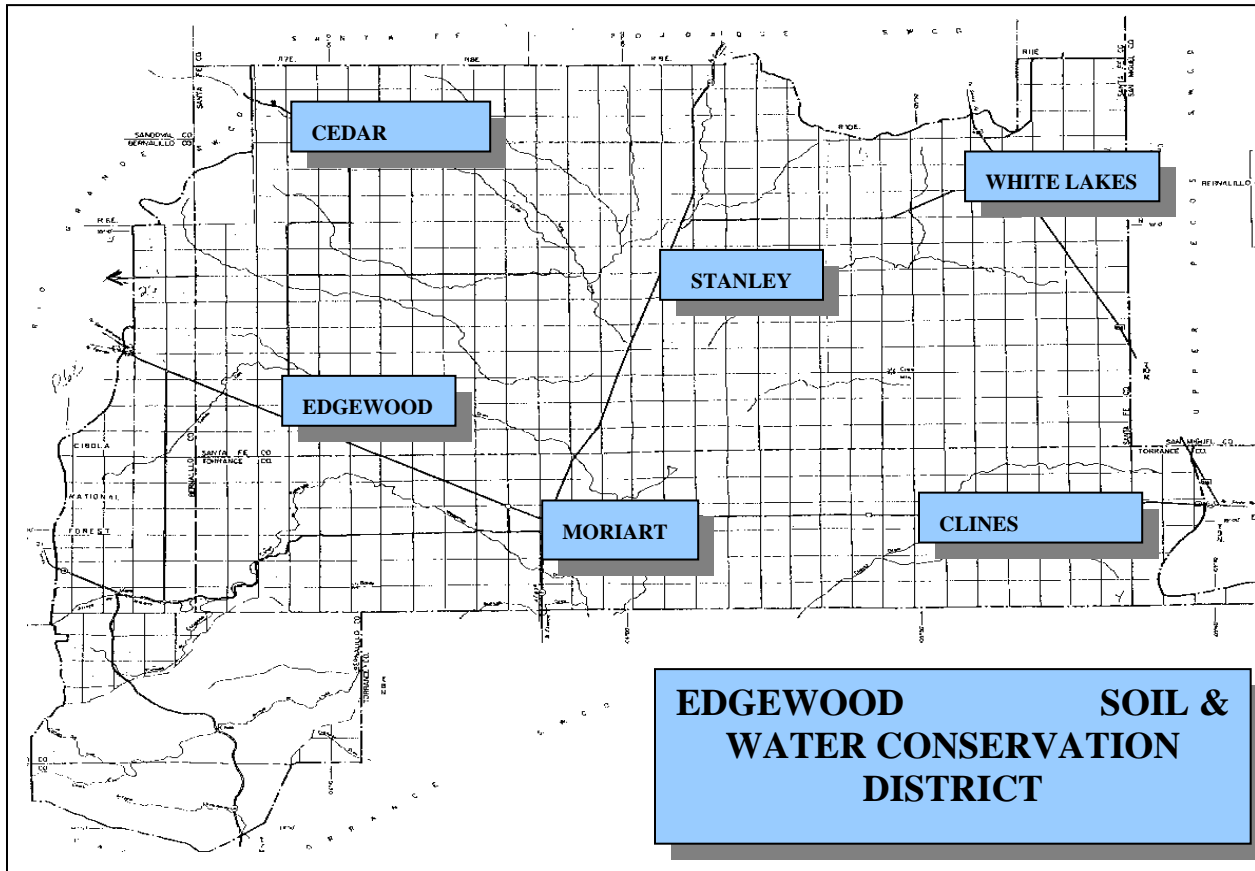
**Brad Podoll; NRCS District Conservationist receives "Essential Piece" Award from Chairman, David King.**

### *Farm Bill Position Filled*

Lisa Dennison, McIntosh resident, has just accepted the New Mexico Association of Conservation Districts (NMACD) Farm Bill Specialist position at the USDA Service Center in Estancia.

This position is available through a partnership between the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the State of New Mexico. These Specialists assist local farmers and ranchers in accessing USDA Farm Bill Programs.

Welcome, Lisa!



*Edgewood SWCD Vision Statement*

*Natural Resource Conservation for a changing land by improving environmental conditions for all citizens through education and implementation of sound resource management.*