

EDGEWOOD SWCD

NEWSLETTER

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Edgewood SWCD Information

The Function of a Conservation District is to take available technical, financial, and educational resources, whatever their source, and focus or coordinate them so they meet the needs of the local land user.

EDGEWOOD
SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Moriarty, New Mexico



FREE WELL WATER TESTING!

The NM Environment Department and the NM Department of Health will be offering free water tests for private wells serving homes not connected to a public water utility to residents of Edgewood, and surrounding communities in Bernalillo, Santa Fe and Torrance Counties.

Saturday, July 21st – 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Edgewood Community Center
27 E. Frontage Rd, Edgewood, NM

Visit www.eswcd.org to view the full flyer.



EDGEWOOD SWCD ADDS NEW ASSOCIATE BOARD MEMBERS

The Edgewood Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) is proud to welcome two Associate Board Members!

Christina Allday-Bondy is from Edgewood, New Mexico and Mark Dixon from the Pueblo of Isleta.

CIBOLA FOREST

FOREST CLOSURE IMPLEMENTED DUE TO EXTREME FIRE DANGER LEVEL

Closure orders have been implemented on several districts of Cibola National Forest and National Grasslands due to the extreme fire danger. The closures will prohibit all recreational activities on the Mountainair and Sandia Ranger Districts. Campgrounds, picnic areas, trails, trailheads, and National Forest System roads will be closed to the general public. The closure orders will remain in effect until the forest receives a significant amount of moisture and the fire danger level decreases substantially.

Some exceptions apply. In addition to government employees on official duty, firefighters and private property owners, the orders include additional exemptions for special use permit holders, contractors, Native American tribes and others whose activities do not raise the risk of wildfire. The closures are as follows:

- **Mountainair Ranger District** – effective at 8:00 am on Friday, June 15; includes all portions of the district.
- **Sandia Ranger District** – effective at 8:00 am on Friday, June 15; includes all portions of the district except Foothills Trail #365, the Sandia Peak Tram, and the Sandia Ranger District Administrative site which includes the Tijeras Pueblo, trail, programs and facilities.

Many factors are taken into consideration before a closure of this magnitude is initiated including current and predicted weather forecasts, fuel moisture levels, available firefighting resources, and the number of new fire starts. “The Cibola is a high-use forest so this is not a decision that we made lightly,” said Matt Rau, Fire Staff Officer. “The forest is tinder dry and the monsoons may still be a few weeks out. We need to take every action possible to reduce the risk of human-caused fires,” he added.

Violations of the closure order carry a mandatory appearance in federal court and are punishable as a Class B misdemeanor by a fine of \$5,000 for individuals, \$10,000 for organizations, and/or imprisonment.

The order will be posted under Fire Information on the Cibola National Forest website. Fire restrictions in New Mexico can be found at <https://firerestrictions.us/nm/> and fire updates are posted on the New Mexico Fire Information website at www.nmfireinfo.com.

It's time to make your home and property

“Fire Wise”.

Firewise specializes in wildfire mitigation, forest restoration, forest health, and bark beetle management.

For more information, call the Edgewood SWCD Office at 505-832-1111.



FIREWISE USA™
RESIDENTS REDUCING WILDFIRE RISKS

PROGRAMS

EDGEWOOD SWCD PROGRAMS FOR LANDOWNERS

- Cost-Share Assistance Program
- Forest Stand Improvement
- Defensible Space
- Brush Management
- Fire Breaks
- Native Grass & Wildflower Sales
- Tree & Shrub Sales
- Noxious Weed Management
- Dog Head Fire Restoration

The Edgewood Soil & Water Conservation District is a proud member of the NM Coalition of Conservation Districts (NMCCD).

The New Mexico Coalition of Conservation Districts was established to promote and support Soil & Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) throughout the state.

This Coalition of Conservation Districts will work together to provide a network of board members and personnel to assist soil & water conservation districts with day to day operations, encourage and assist capacity building, and to locate and direct funds to local districts to develop their local programs.

Membership to the New Mexico Coalition of Conservation Districts (NMCCD) is open to every SWCD and conservation affiliate within the State.



Blue Grama Grass

New Mexico designated blue grama grass (*Bouteloua gracillis*) as the official state grass in 1973.

NATIVE GRASS & FLOWER SEEDS

Edgewood SWCD sells native grass seed and wildflower seed year-round.

The following are in stock, but special orders can be placed!

- Blue Grama
- Buffalo
- Native Lawn Mix
- Western Wheat
- Dryland Blend
- Native Prairie Wildflower Mix
- Rocky Mountain Wildflower Mix

*Prices range between \$6.00 - \$22.00 per pound.

**Sales Monday-Friday, between 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM.

***Cash or checks only.

STATE-WIDE FIRE RESTRICTIONS

STATE FORESTER PLACES RESTRICTIONS ON STATE LANDS IN NEW MEXICO

Due to abnormally warm temperatures, low humidity, high winds, and the abundance of dry fine fuels, fire danger throughout much of New Mexico is high.

Fire incidents for all wildland fire agencies are increasing daily.

The Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department, Forestry Division, State Forester Donald Griego, has placed the following restrictions on all state lands.

- Smoking
- Fireworks
- Campfires
- Faring of gas

For more details on these restrictions, go to:

<http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us/SFD/FireMgt/FireAnnouncements.html>



 **Fire Restrictions
and Closures**
Click for information
or call 1-877-864-6985

SCHOLARSHIP WINNER!

EDGEWOOD SWCD AWARDS 2018 SCHOLARSHIP TO SAGE WILKS

Moriarty High School Senior, Sage Wilks was awarded the Edgewood Soil & Water Conservation District's (SWCD) 2018 Annual Scholarship. She graduated with a 4.01 GPA, and was an active member of the 4-H, Rio Grande Mule and Donkey Association, the Moriarty High School Honor Society and a past member of the Moriarty High School FFA.

Sage intends to pursue her bachelor's degree in animal science and agricultural business at New Mexico State University, with an emphasis on equine studies. She hopes to own her own business in using therapeutic mulemanship to work with veterans healing from PTSD.

EDGEWOOD SWCD BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AND STAFF

Board of Supervisors

David W. King, Chairman

Lewis Fisher, Vice-Chair

Bill King, Secretary/Treasurer

Juan Sanchez, Member

Art Swenka, Member

Mark Anaya, Member

Bill Williams, Member

Christina Allday-Bondy, Associate Member

Mark Dixon, Associate Member

Staff

Brenda R. Smythe, District Manager

Kelly L Smith, Technician

Karlyn Bates, Administrative Assistant



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