**Report to New Mexico Soil and Water Conservation Districts**

*New Mexico Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Programs and Resources Division*

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[*http://www.nmda.nmsu.edu/apr/soil-and-water-conservation-districts/*](http://www.nmda.nmsu.edu/apr/soil-and-water-conservation-districts/)

**September 2018**

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| September 1st | Annual report of activities and annual plan for the past fiscal year due to SWCC, SWCC region commissioner, and NMDA Specialist. |
| October 30th | 1st quarterly budget report due to DFA-LGD (cc: to SWCC, SWCC region commissioner, and NMDA Specialist) |
| October 31st | Water Quality and Conservation Grant 1st quarterly report and budget due to the SWCC and NMDA Specialist |

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| **OMA Notification Requirements**  Remember that if you have to hold a district board meeting at a place, time or location that deviates from the information you advertised in your open meetings act resolution, you must advertise it accordingly.  Here are the guidelines:  **Regular Meeting – 10 Days Prior**  **Special Meeting – 3 Days Prior**  **Emergency Meeting – 24 Hours Prior** |

1. **NMACD Annual Meeting**

NMACD will be holding their 72nd annual meeting in Las Cruces at the Hotel Encanto from October 29th-31st. The agenda and registration form are attached. The NMACD pre-registration is due by October 15th. Hotel reservations need to be made by October 7th.

1. **NMDA Fire Danger Map**

New Mexico Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Programs and Resources Division (NMDA-APR) has compiled a forecasted fire danger map for SWCD’s. The forecasted fire danger information comes from the National Interagency Fire EPG. NMDA-APR would like to add information regarding resources, materials, and capability to act as fiscal agent that different SWCDs have and are willing to share with other SWCD’S in the event of a fire. In this way SWCD’s in close proximity will be able to know who to contact when they need assistance with resources. This information is only to supplement fire suppression and restoration activities. ALWAYS CONTACT YOUR LOCAL FIREFIGHTING AGENCIES FOR ASSISTANCE.

We request information regarding resources, materials, and capability to act as fiscal agent that SWCD’s have and are willing to share with other SWCD’s. In addition we would like contact information of the person the SWCD has designated as the contact person for these resources in case of a fire. NMDA-APR has complied a map (attached and updated as of 7/20) in hopes that it will be useful to SWCD’s, this is a voluntary request only.

1. **NMDA 2018 AG Day**

Mark your calendars for October 20th: The New Mexico Department of Agriculture and New Mexico State University College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences are hosting Ag Day for the sixth consecutive year. Aggie fans can expect farm animals, games, prizes, live music, samples of local food and fun for all ages at the free, family-friendly event. The Ag Day street fair will take place before kickoff from 12 to 4 p.m. in the Pan American Center south parking lot on the NMSU campus. For more information, email [krgarcia@nmda.nmsu.edu](mailto:krgarcia@nmda.nmsu.edu) or call 575-646-2804.

1. **Ag Assembly**

The Ag Assembly will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Thursday, September 6th, at the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Rd, Las Cruces.   
  
Ag Assembly is an innovation ecosystem building event that gathers the Southwest's most influential and forward-thinking minds in agriculture to talk about demands from the frontlines, translating ideas from vision to reality, and the future of ag. Food and agriculture innovators of any stage are encouraged to apply to pitch at the event through an open mic forum. Applications close August 16th.  
  
Creating, developing and building connections between entrepreneurs, industry and growers is a critical component to cultivating innovation in agriculture. This event held at the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum will include speakers and attendees from industry and investors in agriculture and will showcase agriculture entrepreneurship.  
  
To register or for more information visit: [arrowheadcenter.nmsu.edu/agassembly](http://arrowheadcenter.nmsu.edu/agassembly), by phone (575) 646-7833 or email [zrunyan@ad.nmsu.edu](mailto:zrunyan@ad.nmsu.edu).

1. **11th Annual Domenici Public Policy Conference**

The 11th annual Domenici Public Policy Conference will be held at New Mexico State University and will focus on national defense, immigration and the 2018 elections. The conference will be held Sept. 12th-13th, at the Las Cruces Convention Center, 680 E. University Ave.

Online registration for the conference is available at <http://domenici.nmsu.edu>. Registration fees are $50 before September 1st and then increase to $75. The conference is free to NMSU students. For more information or to receive an invitation by mail, call the Domenici Institute at 575-646-2066.

1. **Grant Writing Basics Blog Series**

A great resource for tips and advice for writing federal grant applications is available to all who are interested by Grants.gov. The goal of this series is to provide the essential basics to begin writing on a solid foundation. Topics that will be covered are:

* How to Start Working on Future Funding Opportunities
* Demystifying Funding Opportunity Announcements
* Tips to Avoid Last Minute Problems
* Making Sure You Are Eligible before Writing

To learn about these topics and more go to <https://blog.grants.gov/category/learngrants/grant-writing-basics/>

1. **Sunshine Law (OMA & IPRA) Trainings 2018**

The Office of New Mexico Attorney General is conducting an educational workshops on the "Sunshine Laws" (OMA & IPRA) throughout the state.

The purpose of the workshops are to educate and assist New Mexicans regarding the importance of transparency and compliance as well as the rights of the public under New Mexico’s Sunshine Laws, the Open Meetings Act and Inspection of Public Records Act.  These events are open to interested members of state and local governments, school boards, commissions, and the general public.

Though the trainings are offered at NO CHARGE, we do ask that you RSVP to Patricia Salazar at [roadshows@nmag.gov](mailto:roadshows@nmag.gov) or by telephone at (505) 490-4863.

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| Las Cruces | Thursday, October 4, 2018 | 9:00 am - 12:00 pm | TBA |
| Rio Rancho | Wednesday, December 12, 2018 | 9:30 am - 12:30 pm | TBA |

1. **New Mexico Vegetation Management Association Conference**

The NMVMA is a network of professionals involved in vegetation management, including noxious weed species. The NMVMA members are a diverse group of individuals working across many types of landscapes and different land ownerships. NMVMA hosts an annual conference to provide continuing education units to licensed applicators and to provide the latest treatment information, updates on laws and regulations governing applicators, and best management practices.

This year’s conference will be from November 13-14 and will be held at Pyramid Marriott in Albuquerque. Keep checking their website for more information. <https://www.nmvma.com/> As soon as the agenda and registration are available, it will be included in the next month’s report.

# **Local Government Division Annual Budget Conference**

LGD will be holding their Annual Budget Conference November 15-16th, 2018. The conference will be held at the Marriott Hotel, 2101 Louisiana Blvd, Albuquerque (I-40 and Louisiana). A flyer is attached with the announcement information.

The budget conference will include information on:

* LGBMS Training for new users
* Budget process
* Budgeting best practices
* Guest speakers

Registration will be available soon. For more information visit: <http://nmdfa.state.nm.us/Budget__Finance_Bureau.aspx>

# **New Mexico State Forestry Conservation Seedling Program**

Orders for the Fall 2018 Conservation Seedling Sale will begin July 2, 2018 and distribution will begin September 10, 2018 and end October 12, 2018. Ordering for fall season will end on October 5th, 2018.

For more than forty years, the Division has offered low-cost seedlings to landowners to plant for reforestation, erosion control, windbreaks, or Christmas tree plantations. Since 1960, more than four million trees have been planted throughout New Mexico that were purchased through this program.

For questions about prices and minimum order size refer to ordering information visit:

<http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us/SFD/treepublic/ConservationSeedlings.html>.

1. **Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program (SARE)**

[USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture's](https://nifa.usda.gov/) (NIFA) [Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education](https://www.sare.org/)(SARE) program funds many grants that support research and outreach in agroforestry. These include grants targeted at farmers/ranchers, professional development, and partnerships. Such efforts can inform decisions regarding agroforestry implementation and research. This table catalogues and indexes many SARE projects related to agroforestry. It also links to the overview of each project provided in the SARE project database. Use the link below as a tool to search past projects by agroforestry practice, state, date, and project type. If you know of additional SARE-funded projects that should be added to this catalogue, or would like to provide feedback, please contact Kate MacFarland, Assistant Agroforester Forest Service, phone: 802-656-0543 email: [kdmacfarland@fs.fed.us](mailto:kdmacfarland@fs.fed.us).

For more information on the SARE program, visit: <https://www.sare.org/>

1. **New Mexico State Fairs**

**NM State Fair**

Date: September 6-16, 2018

Location: 6613 Central Ave NE Expo New Mexico (formerly the New Mexico State Fairgrounds)

Contact: (505)-222-9700

**Southern New Mexico State Fair & Rodeo**

Date: September 26-September 30, 2018

Location: Southern New Mexico State Fairgrounds.

Contact: (575) 524-8602

**Eastern New Mexico State Fair**

Date: October 1-6, 2018

Location: 2500 SE Main St Roswell, NM 88203

Contact: (575) 623-9411

1. **NACD Southwest and Pacific Regions Meeting and 2018 Annual Meeting**

The Southwest/Pacific joint region meeting will be held September 17-20 in Kennewick, Washington. Pre-registration is $150, which includes all conference meetings, trainings, materials and meals, registration after September 1st is $200. For more information and to view the agenda visit: <http://www.nacdnet.org/event/2018-southwest-and-pacific-joint-regions-meeting/>

Rooms can be reserved at the Spring Hill Suites in Kennewick, Washington. Hotel rooms can be reserved by calling 509-820-3026 and reserve your room under the room block of ‘ACDR’, for $114 per night. This rate is only guaranteed until August 17th.

1. **63rd Annual WRRI Conference**

The NM Water Resources Research Institute’s conference “At the Tipping Point: Water Scarcity, Science, and Policy” will be held from October 17-18, 2018 at the Las Cruces Convention Center. More information and the agenda can be found at <https://nmwrri.nmsu.edu/> .

1. **NM Wood Industry Summit**

The NM Wood Industry Summit will be held from November 16-17, 2018 at the Ruidoso Convention Center, located at 111 Sierra Blanca Dr. Ruidoso, NM. All are welcome, from beginning to advanced foresters, from home wood shops to established manufacturers, devoted government and tribal officials, general public to seasoned contractors and more.

For more information, go to: [www.ruidoso.enmu.edu](http://www.ruidoso.enmu.edu) .

1. **Forage Growers Workshop**

The 9th Annual Forage Growers Workshop, presented by NMSU Valencia County CES, is scheduled for Tuesday, December 4, 2018. The $20 fee includes program materials, lunch, door prizes, and NMDA CEU’s.

The workshop will include Fertilization and Soil Testing, Water pH and Pesticides, Alfalfa and Fescue/Orchardgrass Selection, Alfalfa Management, Insect and Weed Management, MRGDC Update, NRCS & FSA Programs, etc.

Please go to: <http://rsvp.nmsu.edu/rsvp/forage2018> for more information.

1. **Meeting and Comments on National Forests in NM**

All five of the National Forests in New Mexico are in various stages of completing their Forest Plan Revisions. For updates, please visit the National Forests’ websites below for meeting times and comment opportunities.

• Cibola NF: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/cibola/landmanagement/planning/?cid=FSBDEV3_065627>

• Carson NF: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/carson/landmanagement/planning/?cid=stelprdb5443166>

• Santa Fe NF: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/santafe/landmanagement/planning/?cid=stelprd3791442>

• Gila NF: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/gila/home/?cid=STELPRD3828671>

• Lincoln NF: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/lincoln/home/?cid=stelprd3814307>

NMDA encourages all SWCDs to stay active in the Forest Plan Revision process for all five national forests. We also encourage SWCDs to provide information as requested to make sure that SWCD information is included in the process.