



THE TREE PRESS

Made Possible by funding from New Mexico State Forestry and USDA Forest Service

Summer 2008

Candelaria Farms Native Plant Nursery

The new Candelaria Farms Native Plant Nursery in Albuquerque Open Space was established and funded by a USDA Forest Service – Collaborative Forest Restoration Program grant awarded to Tree New Mexico in partnership with Albuquerque Open Space Division and United South Broadway Corporation – Bosque Youth Conservation Corps (BYCC). The project focuses on re-forestation efforts within the 2,600 forested acres of Bosque and over 50 miles of shoreline in the Rio Grande Valley State Park.

During a tour of the NRCS Plant Material Center in Los Lunas, our vision changed from construction of a portable shade house to modeling our nursery after the one we observed at the PMC. This prompted the design of the Candelaria Farms straw bale bed nursery as pictured on the left.

The area for the nursery was first cleared of brush and weeds by Open Space Division staff and volunteers from the Dickinson College Lacrosse Team, who joined us all the way from Pennsylvania in January of this year! After the area was cleared and graded, a foundation of three inches of gray crusher fine was used on the 15,000 square foot site. Also, the BYCC helped assemble several rows of the nursery beds and have been watering the new trees regularly.

Our original footage was to be only 4,000 square feet under a shade structure that would house about 5,000 plants when fully stocked. *The new layout using straw bales, wire, and*



cinderblock beds allowed us to build 12 rows that now average 1,000 plants per row, gives the capacity of 12,000 plants! The nursery design and materials are simple, inexpensive, and organic in appearance. The straw bales play a dual role in that they offer stability, but they also hold in moisture, and keep the tree roots cool in the summer and warm in the winter!

The nursery set-up is divided in three sections: the first section holds one-year seedlings, the second section is for the two-year seedling, and the third section will hold three-year seedlings and long pots.

This nursery represents a bright future for better and more abundant restoration efforts for the Albuquerque Bosque and our City's future health and wealth!

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

Candelaria Farms Native Plant Nursery.....	1
Greening Wilson Middle School.....	1
The New Mexico Urban Forest Council	2
HFC Windbreaki Planting at Candelaria Farms.....	3
River Rescue Program Takes a Leap Forward.....	4
Annual Give-Aways.....	5
Rio Rancho's 2008 Earth and Tree Festival.....	6
Annual Report 2007	7

Greening Wilson Middle School



Digging the proper planting hole

Tree New Mexico partnered with the After School Program at Wilson Middle School in Albuquerque to help the students and teachers plant a garden of trees and shrubs in what was previously a weed-filled, and otherwise empty planting bed in front of the school. This project is funded in part by a grant from Keep New Mexico Beautiful.

The planting area is approximately 185 feet long and 5 feet deep. In all, we will plant 35 medium sized trees and 175 small trees and shrubs, almost all of which are native and xeric. Phase One was completed

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Greening Wilson Middle School

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in the spring of 2008 with the actual planting of 55 low water use native trees and shrubs.

The most important part of Phase One was the education and training component – what happened before a single tree went in the ground. Keliko Adams (Teaching Fellow, Wilson Middle School- Citizen Schools) spearheaded the project, engaging the school administrators, and a total of 52 students and seven teachers to participate in all aspects of the project. Keliko received training in tree planting and maintenance from TNM then provided on-site training and supervision to the students and teachers during the installation of the trees and shrubs. TNM also provided our Citizen Tree Planting Training Manuals for everyone involved in the project.



Students hard at work, prepping and planting!

Since Wilson Middle School is only a block from our office, we have been able to see for ourselves how well the new planting is doing. So far, so good, and we are looking forward to Phase Two in the fall!

The New Mexico Urban Forest Council

We are pleased to report that the New Mexico Urban Forest Council is back in action!



Arthur "Butch" Blazer, New Mexico State Forester, opened the meeting by sharing his excitement with the changes that have been taking place in the State Forestry Division. The Division had lost and gained some good people. Mr. Blazer was especially excited about Lance Davisson coming on board, who started

with the New Mexico State Forestry this year. He felt that Mr. Davisson will help take the New Mexico Urban Forest Council (NMUFC) to the next level of success.

Mr. Blazer also talked about why he is making Urban Forestry a priority in the Division, and told us a story about an experience he had during a trip he took to New York City. While in NYC, Butch took a walk in Central Park and asked some of the folks he met along the way, "What would your life be like without Central Park?" They responded by expressing how very important it is for them to have such a sanctuary in their lives, and can't imagine life without the Park to escape to.

He went on to explain that while parks like Central Park may cost a lot to maintain, they are vital to the overall health of the community and contribute far more to the public

good than they cost. He went on to say that he was grateful for the opportunity he'd had to be in NYC and to have had the inspiration to see the significance of Central Park and the benefits of a good Urban Forestry program. He wanted us (the Council) to understand that he sees the need for an Urban Forestry Program in communities throughout New Mexico. Again, Butch expressed his excitement about the revitalization of the Council, the importance of the NMUFC continuing its work, and the potential it has for the citizens and the landscape of New Mexico.

The NMUFC is off to a great start...expect great things to come...we'll keep you posted!

Talking Talons, US Forest Service, and the Jane Goodall Roots & Shoots Program invite you to WILDFEST July 26th, 2008

Where: Roosevelt Middle School, located within the beautiful Sandia Mountains right of Rt. 66.

Time: 10:00am-4:00pm

For more information: call 281-1133 ext 5#

Come learn about Hawks, Falcons, Owls, Bats, and even Reptiles. Come enjoy the entertainment of magicians, musicians, and even learn about your very own environment.

HFC Windbreak Planting at Candelaria Farms Native Plant Nursery

On the morning of May 4th, a group of 25 men and women corporate volunteers from seven HFC branches around New Mexico gathered at Candelaria Farms Native Plant Nursery with shovels, spades, gloves, water bottles, and everything else they thought they would need for a major project.

HFC had earlier approached Tree New Mexico to inquire about a possible tree planting project that their employees could participate in. We suggested a project in the Bosque and quickly submitted our idea to their main office. The grant, provided by HFC and the volunteers, accomplish a vital project – the installation of a windbreak to help shield the young plants in the new nursery from wind scald and desiccation. The planting of the false willow (*Baccharis*) were planted on the east, south, and western edges of the nursery and spanned more than 300 feet.

The group finished off the morning of planting with a tour of some the adjacent Rio Grande Nature Center plantings and wetlands and helped clean up the area with the removal of weeds and trash!

We applaud HFC for their generous financial support, hard work, and contribution to the health of the Bosque!



Digging the proper planting hole



HFC Tree Hugger!

Mission

Tree New Mexico is dedicated to ensuring sustainable forests in urban and rural communities and natural areas through restoration, public education, and advocacy.

“We plant trees to keep New Mexico clean, beautiful and healthy!”

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Sarita Nair
Nancy Reisbeck
Betta Eisenberg
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Suzanne Probart

Emeritis

Robert Gooch
Patricia Gooch

Tree New Mexico
P.O. Box 81827
Albuquerque, NM 87198

Phone: 505-265-4554
Fax: 505-255-9197
www.treenm.com

Featured Tree: Chinese Elm (Lacebark Elm) *Ulmus parvifolia*

Siberian VS Chinese!!!

The Chinese Elm is a native of China, Korea and Japan and grows well in New Mexico's soils and climate. It has proven to be highly resistant to both the Dutch elm disease and the elm leaf beetle, both of which have been highly destructive to our native American Elm. **This tree is NOT to be confused with the Siberian Elm that is commonly seen in Albuquerque!** The distinctive bark of the Chinese Elm is smooth, mottled brown, and sheds in thin flakes, exposing orange to reddish brown inner bark. Cultivators of trees plant it as an ornamental shade tree on lawns, along

streets and in parks. **For more information on Chinese Elm, check out our web site at tnm@treenm.com or call us at 505.265.4554.**





TNM's River Rescue Program Takes a Leap Forward - A Busy Spring in the Bosque

Tree New Mexico established River Rescue as a program in 2001 to help bring recognition to our river forest – the Bosque – the cornerstone of life in New Mexico. Without an abundant and clean source of water, all habitats are threatened – insects, trees and vegetation, fish, birds, animals, and humans. The program addresses riparian health holistically, starting with forest and watershed health, taking us to the riparian ecosystem.

Group; and USDA Forest Service, Collaborative Forest Restoration Program, who have consistently kept our annual planting projects and programs going!

In addition to establishing the new Candelaria Farms Native Plant Nursery this spring – clearing, grading, putting in straw bales, wire, and cinderblock beds, and planting a 300-foot windbreak - we also accomplished the following Bosque resoration activities:

BYCC Crew Members Speak Out









“A large part of our work this year has centered on the Native Plant Nursery at Candelaria Farms in the North Valley. There is enough space to grow 6,000 trees per year. The BYCC transplanted seedlings into ‘long pots’ in March. We’ve been told that the long pots are special as they are about 30” long so the roots will grow that long and that when the trees are planted in the Bosque, the success rate is over 90% because of the deep root system! We think it is really cool to be growing this many trees because we are giving back to the environment.”

Eamonn Brazil
11th Grade,
Amy Biehl High School

Melissa Hernandez
10th Grade,
West Mesa High School

This spring we were able to accomplish something we have been wanted to do for years – establish a native plant riparian nursery (see cover). We really must thank Martin Martinez, Forester, Open Space Division, for pushing ‘pedal to the metal’ and finishing the nursery far ahead of schedule. This gave us the opportunity to focus more heavily on stocking the nursery, planting, and moving forward with the monitoring team.

Our thanks also go out to our long-time funders: **Albuquerque Community Foundation** (the Killin Fund and others); **U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Middle Rio Grande Bosque Initiative, Bosque Improvement**

-  Worked with the Bosque Youth Conservation Corps, schools, groups, and individuals to plant cottonwood and willow poles, 30-inch long pots, and tall pots, and, containerized thousands of seedlings for future plantings
-  Cleared invasive species, removed dead and down wood, and removed trash on 50 acres
-  Reprinted and distributed our Bosque Fire brochure at locations around the City
-  Used GPS technology to map planting sites and trails
-  Trained volunteers in planting and other restoration work
-  Provided classroom education sessions to local schools and the BYCC, focusing on riparian ecosystems, wildlife habitat, and other related environmental subjects
-  All told, utilized the energy, skills, and commitment of hundreds of volunteers
-  Leveraged \$135,000 in funding to support Bosque projects!

Annual Tree Giveaways in Albuquerque – Two Are Better Than One

Part One: March 15th: Tree New Mexico partnered with the City of Albuquerque Parks and Recreation Department to distribute 5,000 trees to local residents for the **Mayor Martin J. Chávez Annual Tree Giveaway**.

THE TREES – Austrian, Southwestern White, and Afghan pines; Desert Willows; Lacebark Elms; Gambel Oaks; Sycamores; and more – were available on a first-come, first-served basis. Not surprisingly, eager tree lovers started lining up at Tiguex Park in Old Town before 9 a.m. for the start of the 10 a.m. event in order to ensure they got the trees they wanted. *But not to worry...* every tree came from the City of Albuquerque's approved plant list – a compilation of native, low water-use, and large shade tree species. No high water use trees need apply.

Tree adopters were provided with planting instructions, species information, and the opportunity to chat with one of the many tree experts on hand to answer questions and provide guidance.

With a turnout of well over 1,150 participants, all the trees had found new homes by 11:15!

Part Two: April 12th: With the grand success of the March 15th event and the high demand for trees, Tree New Mexico and the City of Albuquerque Parks and Recreation Department worked together on April 12th to distribute an additional 5,000 trees, this time from Jerry Cline Park near Louisiana and Constitution.

Again, the turnout was significant, meaning long lines but lots happy locals (about 1,200 at this one) and another 5,000 trees getting planted! Mayor Chavez greeted the crowd and talked about the importance of planting trees and how they help Albuquerque become a more sustainable and healthier community. He also mingled with the folks as they lined up to chat with them about various tree species and gave out some planting tips!



The weather cooperated with fair skies and cool temperatures. At this event, we were honored by an appearance from “the Spirit of Johnny Appleseed,” the public persona of environmental educator, showman, and tree advocate, Tim Womick, who came all the way from North Carolina to talk about trees and help people understand their importance.

Johnny strolled amongst the crowd offering apples and a silver acorn to those who could solve the math riddle about Johnny's age and length of years he was here on this earth.

More than 17 volunteers that signed on to assist with this year's giveaways comprised of groups, individuals, and were young and old alike. They helped pass out trees, directed folks to the tree tables, and steered them to the tree experts on hand if they were asked questions beyond their knowledge. We also had a number of tree experts from the Parks and Recreation Department on hand to help as well. Everyone was an enormous help and we could not have done it without them. Thanks Everyone!

** All of the volunteers received a one-year membership to Tree New Mexico along with a Dan Godfrey print of the Bosque.*

Rio Rancho's 2008 Earth and Tree Festival



The Annual Keep Rio Rancho Beautiful Tree Giveaway, held in conjunction with Rio Rancho's Earth Festival, took center-stage with more trees to Build Neighborhood Tree Canopies in Rio Rancho neighborhoods. Thanks to the generous support of the Sandoval County Arroyo Control Authority, we were able to provide 2,500 trees this year – almost double the amount from previous years! This annual Earth Festival and Tree Distribution is a one of the spring events in the area and it attracted people from all over Sandoval County and beyond.

The tree recipients were provided with planting instructions, species information, and the local Master Gardeners were on hand to answer questions and provide guidance, along with several Tree New Mexico staff. As Sandoval County Master Gardener Mary Moore said, "Events such as the Earth Festival provide an opportunity for the Master Gardeners to help a large number of people find answers to plant-related questions and solutions to gardening problems. Our Master Gardeners love plants and love to work with community members."

We look forward to our continued partnership with Keep Rio Rancho Beautiful and are in the process of planning for a fall tree event in conjunction with the Alliance for Community Trees NeighborWoods Celebrations, which is held in October every year.

Thanks Sandoval County Arroyo Control Authority for the Trees!!!



Featured Business Partner

Mesa Enterprises joined Tree New Mexico in fall of 2007, with the pledge to donate one dollar for every BG Fuel / Air System Service kit sold. Not only does this product help plant trees, it helps reduce carbon emissions and saves folks money! This BG product and Mesa Enterprises is a great partner and a perfect fit to support TNM's *Carbon Neutral* and *Tree Planting Programs*.

Company Profile:

Mesa Enterprises was established in 1967 by Bill Dowling and has been a BG Distributors since 1972. The office and warehouse is located at 4500 Anaheim NE. Mesa's primary customers are New Car Dealers, Independent Repairs Shops and Fleets, with special emphasis on fleets and fuel service products, because "Clean is Good, Dirty is Bad", and YOU WILL get better *fuel economy* using BG products!

Thanks Mesa Enterprises!!



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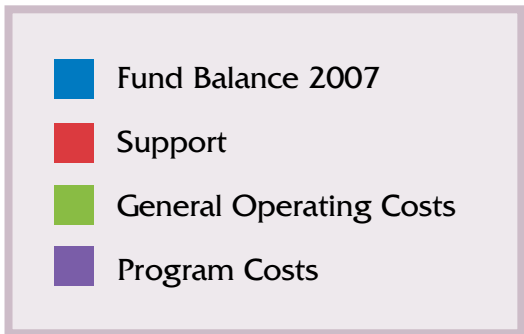
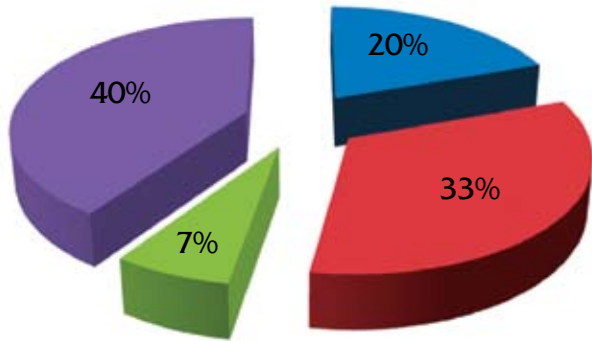
A portion of the cost of your service will be donated to Tree New Mexico.

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2007 Annual Report

2007 ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Tree New Mexico Core Programs – 2007

Plantings: 36,515 trees were planted in 42 events through the reforestation, riparian and urban plantings

Education: facilitated 49 classroom sessions and 17 in-the-field trainings, reaching 1,684 students at 27 New Mexico schools and other groups

Voluntarism: 4,277 volunteers logged in 13,232 hours for a value of \$248,364

Major Grants and Contributions

- City of Albuquerque
- NM State Forestry
- Alliance for Community Trees – The Home Depot Foundation
- PNM Resources
- USDA-Forest Service
- US Fish and Wildlife
- Ethicon Endo Surgery
- Mesa Enterprises
- United Way of Central NM
- Albuquerque Community Foundation
- Tree Bank
- Anonymous
- Jim’s Automotive

2007 Tree Partners

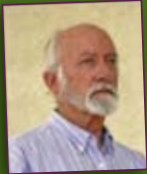
- Artesia Clean & Beautiful
- Atalaya Elementary
- City of Roswell
- City of Rio Rancho
- Hobbs Evening Lions Club
- City of Deming
- Eunice Lions Club
- Haaku Water Office
- Navajo Housing Authority
- Ohkay Owingeh Environment Department
- Pueblo of Jemez
- Carlsbad Downtown Lions Club
- Bottomless Lake State Park
- Neighborhood Associations
- Habitat for Humanity
- United South Broadway Corporation

- Pueblo of Acoma
- City of Bayard
- Alamogordo Community Earth Day Committee
- Santa Fe Environmental Task Force
- Wild Spirit Wolf Sanctuary
- Nambe Pueblo
- New Dawn
- Santo Domingo Tribe
- Keep Roswell Beautiful
- Laguna Pueblo
- Taos BLM Field Office
- Los Alamos Master Gardeners
- City of Albuquerque Parks and Recreation
Department - Parks and Open Space Divisions



TREE NEW MEXICO, Inc.
 P.O. Box 81827
 Albuquerque, NM 87198-1827

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"The subject matter which has taken my heart is the Rio Grande River with its most magnificent

Bosque. The wild beauty of the Bosque in summer, fall, winter, mornings and sunsets takes my breath away and I am compelled to paint. Even after thirty years the excitement is still there and I love sharing this excitement through my oil pastel paintings."

Dan Godfrey • www.dangodfrey.com

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