THE TREE PRESS

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

Spring 2011

Tree New Mexico Announces New Program Energy Conservation and Trees (ECTP)

Trees and energy conservation: Trees are a key factor in reducing consumer energy costs; avoided energy purchase, production costs, and overall water savings. Tree shade helps lower energy needs in the summer while allowing winter sun access. Trees also absorb atmospheric carbon which reduces the greenhouse effect, and in turn lowers temperatures city-wide. Well placed, mature trees can save consumers up to 30% of annual cooling costs and save 10-25% of energy used for heating. It is estimated that an additional one million trees strategically planted could save \$10 million in energy savings in a city of similar size and climate as Albuquerque. (Center for Urban Forestry Research – UC Davis)

This program will promote energy conservation and environmental benefits by providing shade trees to residential homeowners, including low-income families. The ECTP program will provide trees that save energy and dollars, education materials on tree planting and maintenance, monitoring and verification of the trees planted, and a cost benefits analysis annually. We will be partnering with a diverse group of funders; energy providers, banks, mortgage companies, realtors, government agencies, and private foundations. **Read below about our first major planting under this program!**

Coming this spring, we will be planting about 75 trees at several new affordable housing sites with Sawmill Land Trust and YES Housing, thanks to the generous support of Wells Fargo Bank, Ethicon, and PNM Resources!!!



Storm water run-off



Energy Savings



Carbon Sequestration



Saves DOLLARS!



Increased property value

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

Tree New Mexico Announces New Program	. 1
Home Depot Foundation and Alliance for Community Trees Affordable Housing Planting at Solar Villa	2
Community Forestry in New Mexico	
Grassroots Urban Forestry Taking Hold	. 3
New Mexico's Tree City USA Program is healthy and growing	. 3

THE TREE PRESS Spring 2011

The Home Depot Foundation and Alliance for Community Trees Affordable Housing Planting at Solar Villa



Thanks TEAM DEPOT!!!

On December 9th 2010 at Solar Villa, 1135 Texas St NE, Tree New Mexico and Team Depot associates from local The Home Depot stores tion, and beautification.

Some 87 new trees were planted at Solar Villa Apartments by the Team Depot associates from local The Home Depot stores who strategically planted

the trees to maximize benefits for residents. The trees will provide heat-beating and energy-saving shade, as well as clean the air, reduce the heat island effect, and enhance the property value. Team Depot will also put their skills to work by installing an irrigation system and repurposing lava rock for a beautification project on-site, to minimize waste from the project.

undertook a major green revitalization project at the Solar Villa Apartments.

These trees will benefit Solar Villa and their residents through energy conservation, water savings, carbon sequestraEstimated overall savings of the trees planted at this event*:

Energy Conservation: 23,260 Kilowatts

Dollar Savings: \$317,900

Carbon Sequestration: 96,720 lbs Stormwater Runoff: 124,280 gallon Property Value Increase: \$5,046

* Tree New Mexico uses TreeBenefits.com to calculate the tree benefits over the next 20 years period.



This campaign to make housing in Albuquerque healthier, greener and more affordable through trees is made possible by a \$10,000 National NeighborWoods Grant from the Alliance for Community Trees and The Home Depot Foundation. Tree New Mexico is one of eleven organizations nationwide that received this highly competitive challenge grant in support of urban forestry and affordable housing partnerships.

Community Forestry in New Mexico

Over four years ago, New Mexico Forestry Division's Community Forestry Program and the New Mexico Urban Forest Council identified very progressive goals to ensure we are serving our communities' needs. One of the highest priorities identified was an increase in program funding to offer community financial assistance. Over the last few years we've seen significant progress toward achieving this goal. Program funding allocation has increased greater than 30% as the result of improved performance and success in competitive grant programs. Below are a few examples of the resources now available to New Mexico communities:



Rural Community Forester for Lincoln & Otero Counties

Partnerships are the key to assisting communities and developing creative solutions to challenges facing New Mexico Communities. (From left to right: Rick DeIaco, South Central Mountain RC&D Coordinator; Mike Caggiano, Rural Community Forester; Eddie Tudor, NM Forestry Division -Capitan District Forester)

A Rural Community Forester was recently hired through a partnership between NM Forestry Division and South Central Mountain Resource Conservation & Development Council (RC&D) to serve Lincoln and Otero County communities in south central New Mexico. Mike Caggiano graciously accepted the position of Rural Community Forester in August 2010. In seven short months Mike has already proved a valuable resource for the communities in this expansive two county area:

Making our communities safer and forests healthier:

Over 55 private landowner contacts have been made resulting in completion of 42 cost-share forest thinning projects. This number grows daily as the program increases its visibility and effectiveness (see Otero County WUI Cost-Share Flyer).

Building program foundations & biomass strategies:

In addition to enhancing existing partnerships in the area, the Rural Community Forester is building a program foundation that can be followed in similar regions of our state and throughout the country. An important focus in the coming months will be development of forest biomass and small wood diameter utilization strategies that can create jobs and produce products that support the local economy.



Spring 2011 THE TREE PRESS 3

Community Forestry Assistance Now Available

On March 4th New Mexico Forestry Division announced our State's first Community Forestry Assistance Grant Program. For a complete list of resources available through the Community Forestry Program and further information about the Community Assistance Grants, visit: www.nmforestry.com (link to Community Forestry).

Grassroots Urban Forestry Taking Hold

Mountainair: Tree New Mexico and New Mexico Forestry Division are partnering with local citizens and city officials to begin a long term partnership for the project MountainairBeautiful.

The strategic plan is considering strategies that would include: planting trees on private business and public properties; an Adopt a Street program; beautification of public property such as park, schools, library, city complex, rodeo grounds; and areas at gateway signs to Mountainair.

Taos: A group of town volunteers recently formed the Taos Tree Society. This Society was instrumental in the Town of Taos to being recognized as a Tree City USA in 2010 and continues to hold meetings to discuss strategies to maintain healthy trees in their town.

Rio Rancho: Throughout the summer of 2010, twenty-one volunteers from Sandoval County Master Gardeners and Keep Rio Rancho Beautiful completed a complete tree inventory of their city parks. The value of the volunteer hours spent eclipsed \$6,000 and yielded data that the City Parks Department is now using to develop strategies to better manage their public trees.

Congratulations on your tree efforts Mountainair, Taos and Rio Rancho! We look forward to helping and supporting these groups now and in the future.

New Mexico's Tree City USA Program is Healthy and Growing

In these difficult financial times New Mexico's communities are showing resolve by maintaining and enhancing investments in their trees. In 2009, our state saw the first increase in Tree City USA communities in over seven years and the largest percent increase (22%) of any state in the nation! This year we recognize our twelve Tree City USA's who last year dedicated over \$2.8 million to care for their community trees.

21 years Roswell (also recognized with a TCUSA Growth Award) 14 years Albuquerque 13 years Cannon Air Force Base 12 years Clovis, Las Vegas, San Jon, Tucumcari 10 years Kirtland Air Force Base Holloman Air Force Base 8 years 2 years Santa Fe (also recognized with a TCUSA Growth Award) New in 2010 City of Carlsbad and Town of Taos

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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New On-Line Resource Available for Community Tree Boards



Tree Board University, a new online training program, was unveiled at the recent Partners in Community Forestry National Conference. This unique training was designed specifically for members of local planning commissions, parks boards, beautification committees, urban forestry commissions, or other local advisory committees that deal with tree issues. To learn more about or sign up for Tree Board University courses, visit www.treeboardu.org



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For a great read,
Tree New Mexico recommends: For the Love of Land

For the Love of Land: Global Case Studies of Grazing in Nature's Image is a wonderful story-filled book that truly brings Holistic Management to life. Savory Institute co-founder, Jim Howell points the way to an ecologically, economically, and socially regenerative future in this incredibly insightful book.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



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Tree New Mexico is a 501c-3 non-profit organization, and all donations are tax-deductible.