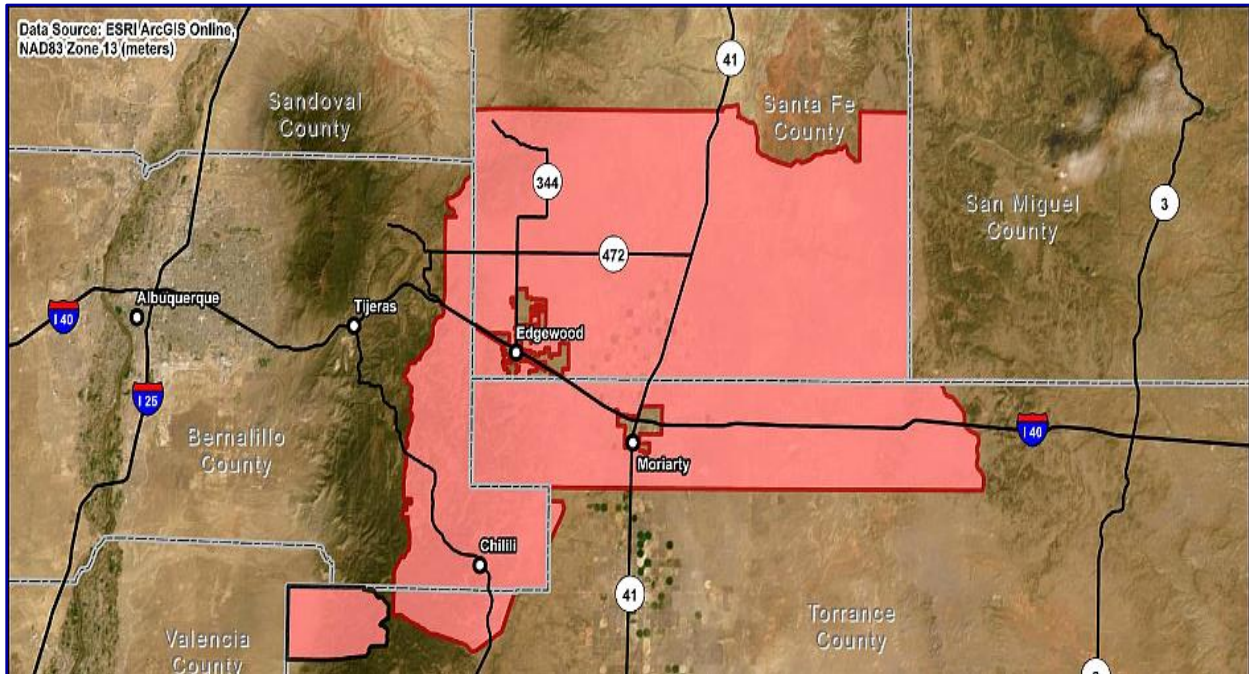




# 2019 ANNUAL REPORT

**EDGEWOOD SWCD**  
2506 ROUTE 66  
MORIARTY, NEW MEXICO 87035  
505-832-1111  
[WWW.ESWCD.ORG](http://WWW.ESWCD.ORG)

## EDGEWOOD SWCD BOUNDARY MAP



## ESTABLISHED - SEPTEMBER 27, 1941

A referendum for the formation of the District was carried by popular vote of landowners, as provided in the New Mexico Soil & Water Conservation District Law.

The Edgewood SWCD covers 513,860 acres in portions of southern Santa Fe, eastern Bernalillo, & northern Torrance counties. This includes 23,686 acres of the Chilili Land Grant and 26,325 acres of the Pueblo of Isleta.

## MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Edgewood Soil & Water Conservation District is to protect, restore, enhance, and promote the wise use of natural resources. This will be achieved through the development of projects, education of the public, and the cooperation of landowners, agencies, and other political subdivisions of the state.

## **BOARD MEMBERS & STAFF**

David King ~ Chairman  
Lewis Fisher ~ Vice-Chair  
Bill King ~ Secretary / Treasurer  
Mark Anaya ~ Member  
Juan Sanchez ~ Member  
Bill Williams ~ Member  
Art Swenka ~ Member  
Christina Allday-Bondy ~ Associate Member  
Mark Dixon ~ Associate Member  
Brenda Smythe ~ District Manager  
Kelly Smith ~ Technician  
Karlyn Bates ~ Administrative Assistant

*The Board of Supervisors meet the first Thursday of each month at 10:00 AM.*

## **CERTIFIED PROCURMENT OFFICER**

As mandated by New Mexico Governor, Susana Martinez in 2016, the Edgewood Soil & Water Conservation District's Manager became a Certified Procurement Officer (CPO). This ensures state procurement laws are being followed.

## **NM PUBLIC PESTICIDE APPLICATORS LICENSE**

Technician, Kelly Smith and Manager, Brenda Smythe hold a New Mexico Public Pesticide Applicators License.

Public Applicators are individuals who work for a government agency and whose duties include applying restricted-use pesticides.

The District also has a secure pesticide storage facility that is certified by the NM Department of Ag.

## **MEMBERSHIPS**

The District encourages staff to participate in the New Mexico and National Employee groups. Manager Brenda Smythe is the current NM Conservation District Employee Treasurer and the National Association Conservation District Employee Southwest Director Alternate.

## EDGEWOOD SWCD FUNDING SOURCES

The Edgewood SWCD receives funding from several sources:

- State of NM Base Funding
- State Land Office Rental
- Native Grass Seed Sales
- Wildflower Seed Sales
- Water Trust Board Funding
- NMSF ~ Non-Federal Lands (NFL) Grant
- USFS ~ Mexican Spotted Owl Survey
- Mill Levy Collection



## 2019-2020 FUNDING

- \$ 13,913.82 ~ State Appropriations ~ NM Department of Agriculture
- \$250,000.00 ~ NMSF Non-Federal Lands (NFL) Grant (3-yr funding)
- \$ 7,538.85 ~ Native Grass & Wildflower Seed Sales
- \$ 8,520.00 ~ State Land Office Rental Income
- \$109,000.00 ~ Water Trust Board Funding ~ via Claunch-Pinto SWCD (Forest Thinning)
- \$ 50,000.00 ~ Capital Outlay Funding ~ Building Renovation
- \$ 23,620.54 ~ USFS Spotted Owl Survey
- \$402,652.01~ Mill Levy Collections – Bernalillo, Torrance & Santa Fe Counties

## MILL LEVY COLLECTION

Through a resolution, the Edgewood District held a referendum to vote for a mill levy for the property owners with the district boundaries. A mill levy is one mill of  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the property's net taxable value.

Example: A \$30,900.00 property assessed at 10,299 ( $\frac{1}{3}$  of property value) The Mill Levy Tax would be \$10.30 per year. The mill levy is assessed at the county tax assessor's office.

## EDGEWOOD SWCD COST SHARE PROGRAM



District Funded Windbreak Planting



District Funded Water Harvesting Project

The District's 2019-2020 Cost Share Program was impacted due to Covid-19. Although many landowners out of work, 75% of our approved projects were completed! Edgewood SWCD had 4 projects completed totalling \$17,023.48.

Reimbursements are made at 75% of the total project with a maximum amount paid of \$4500 per landowner, per fiscal year.

### CONSERVATION PROJECTS FUNDED BY EDGEWOOD SWCD

Since 2004, Edgewood SWCD has funded 296 conservation projects totaling \$799,839.33 in cost-share assistance.

75% of the cost-share projects funded are Rainwater Harvesting Systems.

### SOME APPROVED PROJECTS INCLUDE:

- RAINWATER HARVESTING
- NATIVE GRASS RESEEDING
- WINDBREAK PLANTING
- DRIP IRRIGATION SYSTEMS
- LIVESTOCK PIPELINE
- EROSION CONTROL
- SLASH CHIPPING
- CHOLLA REMOVAL
- CROSS FENCING
- NOXIOUS WEED MANAGEMENT



**75%**  
**of the**  
**District's**  
**funded**  
**Cost Share**  
**Projects**  
**are**  
**Rainwater**  
**Harvesting**  
**Systems.**

### SAVING FROM A RAINY DAY

DIVERT, CAPTURE, AND STORE FOR A NOT-SO-RAINY DAY

#### WHERE TO USE YOUR HARVESTED RAINWATER

- Landscapes, lawns, and vegetable gardens
- Watering foundations
- Watering potted plants
- Filling bird baths
- Ponds and rain gardens

Harvesting rainwater on your property is **EASY** and helps to reduce the demand on our precious water supplies. It also reduces run-off, erosion, and contamination of natural water sources. Rainwater can be used for any purpose that requires water, but **rainwater is especially good for plants** because it is free of salt and other chemicals that can harm growing root systems.

#### WHEN YOU HARVEST RAINWATER, YOU HELP

- Reduce demand on municipal water resources.
- Make efficient use of water.
- Reduce erosion, flooding, and water contamination.
- Save money.

The roof on a 2,000 square foot house can capture 1,200 gallons of water during a 1-inch rain event.

In DFW, that translates to about 43,000 gallons of potential harvested rainwater per year.

#### FACTS: RAINWATER QUALITY

- Rainwater is almost perfectly pH balanced to create optimal growing conditions for plants.
- It is free of salts, chlorine, and chloramine, all of which can be detrimental to plant/root systems. Always wedge with rainwater when possible.

AGRI LIFE RESEARCH EXTENSION | WATER UNIVERSITY

## FOREST HEALTH PROGRAM (FOREST THINNING)

The forest thinning program provides financial and technical assistance for watershed management focusing on restoration projects on private and state land.



### These projects include:

- Forest Stand Improvement
- Defensible Space
- Brush Management
- Fire Breaks

## ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS

- Native Grass Seed Sales
- Native Wildflower Seeds
- Noxious Weed Management
- NMSF Funded~Non-Federal Lands Grant
- USFS Funded~Mexican spotted owl survey
- Point of Contact ~ Sandia Collaborative
- Assisting USFS with the Cibola 1985 Forest Plan Revision



Gayfeather



Perennial Gaillardia



Blue Grama Grass

## STAFF TRAININGS

- Governmental Budgeting
- Forest Restoration
- Open Meetings Act Training
- Grant Writing
- Hemp Farming
- Wildfire Preparedness
- Public Pesticide Re-Certification
- Certified Procurement Re-Cert
- Rainwater Harvesting



## TRAININGS & MEETINGS

The Edgewood SWCD has hosted several trainings and meetings that benefit our landowners in cooperation with state, federal, and local organizations.

Due to Covid-19 several of our scheduled trainings were moved to online. We hope to be hosting in-person meetings and trainings again soon!

### **Some of the previous hosted events include:**

- Grant Writing Training
- New Mexico Coalition of Conservation District's Meeting
- Supervisor Election Training
- Cooperative Weed Management Training
- Estancia Basin Watershed Health & Monitoring Meetings
- Mountainair Collaborative Meetings
- Sandia Collaborative Meeting
- Annual Beekeeping Workshop
- Estancia Basin Water Planning Meetings
- Native Seed Exchange Workshops
- Bioreactor Composting Workshop
- Certified Procurement Officer



## PARTNERSHIPS

Edgewood SWCD continues to work with US Forest Service through a signed Cooperative Agreement.

Partnership with San Antonito Elementary School – Gifted Education Class and SWCA Environmental Consultants for post-fire restoration work within the Chilili Land Grant.



Continued partnership with Santa Fe-Pojoaque SWCD for conservation projects within Santa Fe County.

Newly formed noxious weed coordinated group that includes Edgewood SWCD, Santa Fe-Pojoaque SWCD, Claunch-Pinto SWCD and the NM Department of Transportation.

## COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS

Although the District Office has been closed due to the Governor Grisham’s Covid-19 restrictions, staff has continued to work.

To follow the Covid-19 restrictions, the District office is disinfected on a regular basis. No public access was granted, and changes in administrative office as well as manager & technician office design to provide the required social distancing mandated by the state. All meetings were held virtually or teleconference. We offered grass seed orders with credit card payment via telephone and “curb-side” pickup.

The District’s Website was updated with drop-down menu lists, new photos, and color changes in March of 2020. As of June 30, 2020, we have 365,127 hits, which accounts for 12,194 hits since Covid-19 restrictions were established.

With the website traffic, we received a tremendous number of requests for technical assistance for trees, tree pests, drought issues, erosion control, pest management, and rainwater harvesting. Some of these requests have been from out-of-district landowners, however all pertinent information is being emailed or mailed along with their respective district contact information.