

Bernalillo County Open Space News

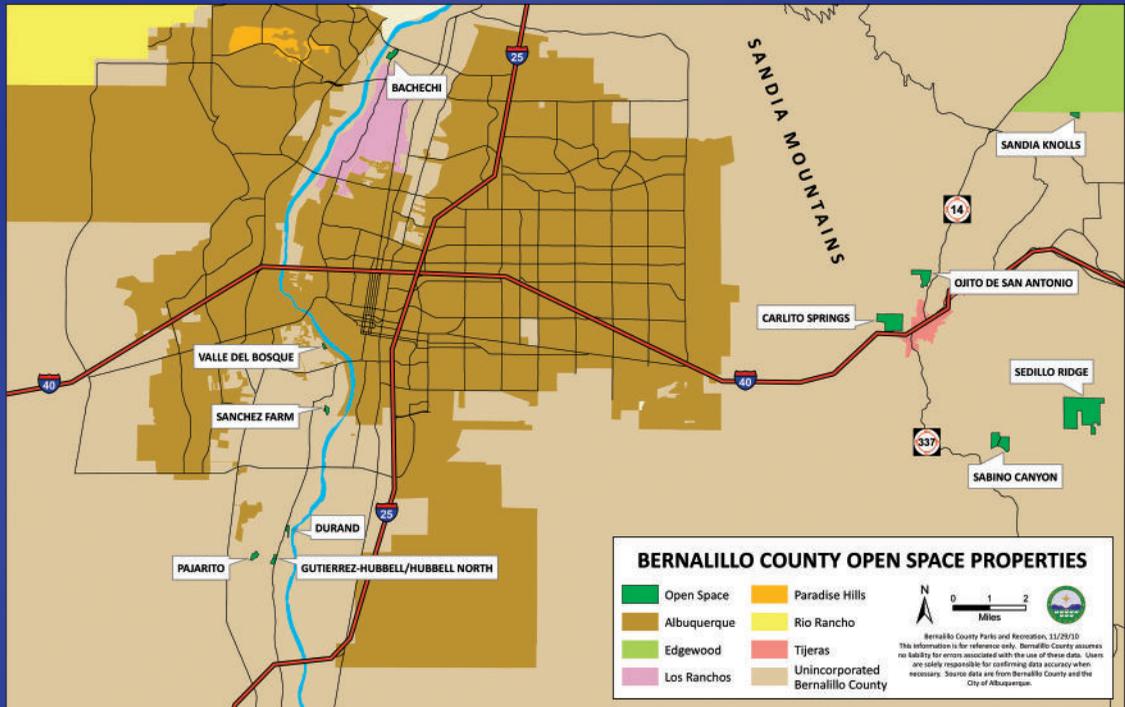
2011

Program of Events



Open Space:
Your County's Environmental, Historical
and Cultural Treasures

BERNALILLO COUNTY OPEN SPACE PROPERTIES



VALLEY OPEN SPACE PROPERTIES:

BACHECHI
(9 5 2 1 RIO GRANDE BLVD. NW)

VALLE DEL BOSQUE
(4 8 0 SUNSET BLVD. SW)

SANCHEZ FARM
(LOPEZ SW AND ARENAL SW)

DURAND
(4 8 1 2 ISLETA BLVD. SW)

PAJARITO
(6 0 0 1 BECK RD. SW)

GUTIERREZ-HUBBELL HOUSE
(6 0 2 9 ISLETA BLVD. SW)

HUBBELL NORTH
(5 9 4 5 ISLETA BLVD. SW)

EAST MOUNTAIN OPEN SPACE PROPERTIES:

SANDIA KNOLLS
(3 5 CANYON RD., SANDIA PARK, NM)

OJITO DE SAN ANTONIO
(2 0 SAN ANTONIO DR.)

CARLITO SPRINGS
(8 2 CARLITO SPRINGS RD.)

SEDILLO RIDGE
(BRANNAN RD.)

SABINO CANYON
(FOREST RD. 2 5 2)

Bernalillo County Open Space strives to be a dynamic network of properties with important natural and cultural resources. The land is managed to benefit people, plants and wildlife by protecting and enhancing viewsheds, water resources, wildlife habitat, cultural/historical sites, and prime agricultural land; and provide resource-based recreation and environmental education.

Bernalillo County Open Space is offering a wonderful program of events, workshops, and opportunities for you this year. Get out and enjoy Open Space.

Master Naturalist Program page 2

Backyard Farming Series in the South Valley page 3

East Mountain Interpretive Series page 4

Leopold Legacy Film Competition page 5

Big Events including Cesar Chavez Day,
2011 Food Festival, and San Isidro Event page 6

Bernalillo County Open Space Partners pages 7-8

Bernalillo County Open Space programming, development, maintenance, and acquisitions are funded through a mill levy and supported by partners and volunteers. **Thank you for your support.**



Master Naturalist Program

Mission Statement

The Bernalillo County Open Space Master Naturalist Program aims to instill the pursuit of life-long learning and promote environmental stewardship. Participants are actively engaged through education and service dedicated to the beneficial management of natural resources on Open Space properties.

The Master Naturalist Program provides an excellent opportunity to participate in conserving, preserving and restoring the local environment. This is a three year pilot program that was launched in 2010.

Through this Program, a select group of dedicated participants will experience a wide range of FREE classes and hands-on experiences including 55 hours of in-class training and field studies over a two month period. Upon completion of the classes and field studies, participants will carry out a 40 hour service project on Open Space properties.

This program is ideal for individuals who have a love for the outdoors, curiosity of the natural environment, and desire to work with others and help support conservation measures that improve land health.

For more information or to apply for the Master Naturalist Program, contact the Open Space Coordinator at calangan@bernco.gov. Application deadline is April 1, 2011.



Backyard Farming Series

This year's series includes a larger hands-on component so that participants can get practical experience transforming their backyards into a thriving urban oasis of food, medicine and wildlife habitat. The series will continue to highlight experts in their field.

The workshops are free, however, space is limited and participants must RSVP in advance. To RSVP, email calangan@bernco.gov or call 505-314-0398.

This series of workshops will be held at the Gutierrez-Hubbell House located at 6029 Isleta Blvd, 3 miles south of Rio Bravo Blvd. Registration starts at 9:30am and the sessions go from 10:00am-2:00pm.

February 12, Fruit Tree Pruning and Plant Selection

Discover how to correctly prune back those dead branches and shape your fruit trees. Also, learn what plants thrive best in your area and when to plant.

March 12, Tool Management

Picking the right tools for the job and keeping them in good working order is essential for any backyard farmer. Get hands-on experiences using, sharpening, and repairing your tools.

April 2, Drip and Flood Irrigation

Actually install drip tape and flood irrigate the Hubbell field with acequia water. This workshop will also cover passive water harvesting.

April 23, Planting Bed Preparation

Build a garden bed and learn what to plant, keeping in mind succession planting and micro-climates.

May 21, Living Gracefully with Insects

Discover how to attract beneficial insects with insectory plants and deter pests without using harsh chemicals. Also, create habitat by building wood burrowing and topbar bee houses.

July 30, Fall Gardens and Season Extensions

Transition from season to season for year-round growing by starting seeds in flats, setting up row covers and hoop houses, and strategically shading for summer plants.

August 27, Food Processing

Discover both old school and new techniques for preserving food from your garden to fully enjoy the fruits of your labor.

Ongoing Composting Classes

Master Composters will hold ongoing composting classes throughout the year from 9:30am-12:30pm, on April 16, June 4, August 6, and October 22.



East Mountain Interpretive Series

Bernalillo County Open Space is working with local partners to offer this interpretive series in the East Mountains. Participants will go on a walking tour of Open Space properties while learning about the history and environmental significance of the area. The sessions are free, however, space is limited and participants must RSVP in advance.



Ojito de San Antonio Youth Presentations

March 24th 5:00-6:00pm at East Mountain High School

Ojito de San Antonio is a magical place that captures the interest of all who venture in its boundaries. Wildlife presence, historic fruit trees and a perennial spring, that provides water to the local community as an acequia, are all unique aspects of the property that require special care. Open Space staff have teamed up with the East Mountain High School students to help manage these natural resources and are taking this opportunity to inform the public about the students' projects.

Carlito Springs Open House

April 16th from 10:00am-12:00pm at Carlito Springs

Carlito Springs is a hidden treasure in the East Mountains that has spurred the curiosity of many who learn about its beauty. This open house will give the public an opportunity to explore the property, which is usually closed, and learn about the future plans for opening it to the public, while caring for its historic, cultural, and natural resources.



Land Grants and the History of the East Mountains

August 15 9:00-11:00am at Sabino Canyon Open Space

Land Grants are a significant part of New Mexico's history that has shaped the way we continue to manage land today. UNM history professor and member of the Cañón de Carnué Land Grant Board of Directors LM Garcia y Griego will lead this walk at Sabino Canyon painting the picture of the past land holdings, struggles throughout time, and current status of Land Grants in the East Mountains.

Medicinal Walk and the Pueblo Village

September 24th from 10:00am-12:00pm at Ojito de San Antonio Open Space

Ojito de San Antonio is the natural backdrop for the oldest village in the East Mountains, a village occupied since prehistory, and it has an enchanting story to tell. Two members of the East Mountain Historical Society will tell us this story while pointing out medicinal plants native to the area and describing their historical use.

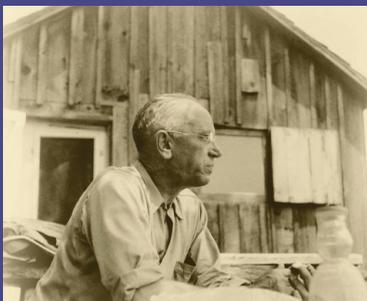
Bear Aware!

October 15th from 10:00am-12:00pm at Ojito de San Antonio Open Space

Bears are both a source of fascination and fear for many. This session aims to inform participants about the charming characteristics of bears, their importance and place in our ecosystem, and how to minimize the threats and havoc they can play in our community.

To RSVP email calangan@bernco.gov/openspace or call 314-0398

Leopold Legacy Film Competition



Bernalillo County Open Space sponsored the World Premiere of *Green Fire: Aldo Leopold and Land Ethic for Our Time*. This prestigious event drew over 1,000 participants and celebrated people instrumental in creating the film and continuing Leopold's Legacy throughout the Country, including Leopold's daughter and renowned botanist Estella Leopold. To continue his legacy here in New Mexico, Open Space is partnering with The Leopold Foundation to organize a film competition. We invite you to create a film about a local environmental hero.

Theme:

Local Environmental Heroes

Description:

Tell a compelling story about a local environmental hero describing their land ethic and contribution to the community and environment. The hero can be someone well-known in the environmental field, or a person who is near and dear to your heart.

Categories:

- Adult Category, 5min and under
- Adult Category, 20min and under
- Youth Category 18-15yrs, 5min and under
- Youth Category 14yrs and younger, 5min and under

Prizes:

Includes \$200.00 for first place in each category, plus screening during the Award Ceremony and the Leopold Education Project Conference. Winning films will also be shown on The Aldo Leopold Foundation and Bernalillo County websites, and featured on a local TV station.

Criteria:

Films will be judged on purpose, creativity, storytelling, engagement, cinematography, sound, and editing.

Submissions:

Submission deadline is April 15, 2011. Upload your film onto the following website, www.LeopoldCelebration.org.

Big Events!

Cesar Chavez March and Day of Service on March 31st and April 2nd

The Recuerda a Cesar Chavez Committee is organizing the 18th annual march on April 2nd to and from the National Hispanic Cultural Center (NHCC) to educate the youth and community about the legacy, life and work of the great American civil rights leader, Cesar Chavez. The celebration will continue after the march at the NHCC featuring music, awards, kid's activities, and festivities.

This longstanding event will start off on March 31st with a Day of Service at Sanchez Farm Open Space in partnership with La Plazita Institute. Over 300 students will get their hands dirty at the farm and learn about the importance and history of local agriculture. For more information visit www.cesarchaveznm.org.

San Ysidro Day on May 14, 2011 from 10:00am- 12:00pm

San Ysidro Day is a traditional celebration in New Mexico for hundreds of years where the acequias, farmlands, and tools are blessed. The South Valley celebration starts with a procession led by Azteca dancers at the corner of Isleta & Arenal SW and goes to Sanchez Farm Open Space for the blessings of the acequia and farm. Following the celebration, there is a traditional mantanza to benefit the South Valley Regional Association of Acequias.



2011 Local Food Festival and Field Day on October 9 at the Gutierrez-Hubbell House

This annual event is organized by the Mid-Region Council of Governments, Edible Santa Fe and local partners and sponsored by Bernalillo County Open Space. It is free to the public and offers a wide variety of family fun activities including:

- Fresh, locally grown produce from local farmers
- Food and refreshments
- Fun for kids: face painting, seed-spitting, farm animals and sack races
- Lecture series on backyard farming topics
- Local food tasting prepared by local chefs
- Live music and entertainment
- Much, much more!

Tree Planting in the South Valley

Stay tuned for a pole tree planting event in the South Valley at Hubbell North and Pajarito Open Space this fall to create wildlife habitat and improve the perimeter walking trails of Open Space agriculture properties. Neighboring community groups and the general public will be invited to learn about native woody species while planting trees poles. More information will be posted on the Open Space website at www.bernco.gov/openspace.

For more information contact the Open Space Coordinator at calangan@bernco.gov.

Bernalillo County Open Space Key Partners

Acequia Madre de San Antonio Community Ditch Association The Acequia Association is a key partner in managing Ojito de San Antonio Open Space. They oversee the acequia and work with BC Open Space on general site improvements and programming.

The Aldo Leopold Foundation BC Open Space is partnering with The Aldo Leopold Foundation, a national not-for-profit based in Wisconsin, to promote the world premiere of Green Fire: Aldo Leopold and a Land Ethic for our Time, as well as to organize this year's Leopold Legacy Film Competition. <http://www.aldoleopold.org>

Alliance of Natural Resource Outreach and Service Programs (ANROSP). ANROSP promotes awareness and citizen stewardship of natural resources and provides assistance to the BC Open Space program in launching the Master Naturalist Program in New Mexico. www.nralliance.org

Bernalillo County Agricultural Extension Office. The extension office provides BC Open Space with technical advice on land management and is assisting with the Master Naturalist Program. <http://bernalilloextension.nmsu.edu>

Bosque Ecosystem Monitoring Program (BEMP). BC Open Space is a major sponsor of BEMP, a long-term ecological research program using volunteers to monitor key indicators of structural and functional change in the Middle Rio Grande Bosque. www.bosqueschool.org/bemp.htm

City of Albuquerque Open Space Division CABQ Open Space is a general partner of BC Open Space as we continue to build our program. The City and County are also partners on the development and construction of Bachechi Open Space. www.cabq.gov/openspace

Ciudad Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD). BC Open Space works with Ciudad SWCD to promote healthy forests and wildfire protection in the East Mountains through fuel thinning projects. A Ciudad Supervisor also sits on the Master Naturalist Advisory Committee. www.ciudadaswcd.org

East Mountain High School (EMHS). EMHS students are activity engaged in Land Health Monitoring and Orchard Restoration at Ojito de San Antonio Open Space. www.eastmountainhigh.org

East Mountain Historical Society (EMHS). BC Open Space works with the EMHS to develop interpretive materials in the East Mountains and lead informational talks. www.eastmountainhistory.org

Bernalillo County Open Space Key Partners

Environmental Education Association of New Mexico (EEANM). BC Open Space is a member of EEANM. EEANM provides valuable educational resources and helps to promote the Open Space events. www.eeanm.org

Hubbell House Alliance (HHA). HHA is a not-for-profit organization that manages the Gutierrez-Hubbell House and property. HHA works with BC Open Space to develop public events such as the Backyard Farming Series. www.hubbellhousealliance.org

La Plazita Institute (LPI). LPI manages Sanchez Farm Open Space in the South Valley, and works with BC Open Space on collaborative events and property enhancements. www.laplazitainstitute.org

Mid-Region Council of Governments (MRCOG). BC Open Space sponsors the annual Food Festival and Field Day event at the Gutierrez-Hubbell House organized by MRCOG. MRCOG also helps to promote Open Space events. www.mrcog-nm.gov

Museum of Natural History The Museum has a representative who sits on the Master Naturalist Advisory Committee. www.nmnaturalhistory.org

National Parks Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Program (RTCA). BC Open Space manages a NPS grant with the assistance of RTCA to develop a trail system and interpretive signage at Sabino Canyon Open Space. www.nps.gov/ncrc/programs/rtca

New Mexico State University (NMSU). NMSU has a Memorandum of Agreement with BC Open Space to help develop programming and provide technical assistance. NMSU is also assisting with the development of the Master Naturalist Program. www.nmsu.edu

Rio Grande Nature Center State Park. The Nature Center has a representative that sits on the Master Naturalist Advisory Committee and also helps promote Open Space events. www.emnrd.state.nm.us/PRD/RGNC.htm

State Forestry Division. BC Open Space works with the New Mexico State Forestry Division to promote healthy forests in the East Mountains through hazardous fuels treatment projects. The Division also provides technical assistance to landowners regarding forest management. www.nmforestry.com

University of New Mexico, Natural Science Program. UNM is assisting with the development of the Master Naturalist Program and providing educational expertise to additional Open Space projects. www.unm.edu/~natsci

US Fish and Wildlife Services, Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program (USFWS). The USFWS provides technical advice to improve wildlife habitat on Open Space and serves as a partnering agency for the Master Naturalist Program. www.fws.gov/partners

Bernalillo County Open Space

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