



Socorro SWCD Annual Plan FY 2026 (July 2025 - June 2026)



**Mission of the Socorro Soil & Water Conservation District:
To lead beneficial conservation efforts and the wise use of natural resources.**

Natural Resource Conservation

- Improve irrigation system efficiency on farmland while reducing soil erosion and increasing water conservation.
- Increase energy efficiency and consistency by converting windmill and generator powered livestock wells to solar power.
- Increase productivity of rangeland with reduction of monotypic plant stands using various methods of brush control.
- Provide survey and design assistance as well as financial assistance with our Cost Share Program for agricultural practices for landowners within the District.
- Provide design assistance as well as financial assistance through our Cost Share Program for Residential practices including drip irrigation, low flow toilets and rainwater harvesting systems for landowners within the District.
- Assist landowners with their Healthy Soils Grant Projects.
- Perform soil health assessments and soil sampling for private landowners.

Noxious Weed Treatment and Outreach

- Assist landowners with weed identification. Create a weed identification page for the most common weeds seen in Socorro on the socorroswcd.org website.
- Provide assistance to landowners who seek to obtain a pesticide applicator's license from the New Mexico Department of Agriculture or who need to hire a commercial applicator for noxious weed treatment on their land.
- Distribute “Troublesome Weeds of New Mexico” and New Mexico Noxious Weed Calendars

Salt Cedar/Russian Olive/Siberian Elm Treatment and Re-vegetation

- Develop treatment and restoration plan(s) with individual landowner(s). Implement plan(s) when funding from the NM State Legislature is available.
- Apply for available grants, including the District Opportunities grant, to treat Class A noxious species on private lands.
- Develop and implement native habitat restoration plans on private lands using district funds and grant funding.

Community Collaboration, Information and Education.

- Update and publish information on the website: www.socorroswcd.org.

- Publish and post on website quarterly newsletter with soil and water conservation issues and topics.
- Sponsor and/or participate in AG Explorer Day, New Mexico Envirothon, 4-H and FFA State Competitions.
- Assist the Socorro County Extension Office with informational and training events on soil health, weed identification, etc.
- Participate when requested by schools for Earth Day, Water Festivals, Harvest Festival, etc. Emphasize agriculture, watershed issues, and other environmental issues.

Grants and Supplemental Funding:

- Assist landowners with Healthy Soils Grant Applications.
- Apply for the SWCC grant.
- Apply for District Opportunities Grant Funding.

Trainings:

- Chief Procurement Officer.
- Budget/DFA app.
- Audit/AUP Administrative Code Changes.
- Pesticide CEUs.
- Notary Public.
- Open Meetings Act/Public Records Request Act.

Other:

- Complete and occupy new office building
- Install rain harvesting systems and drip irrigation to use as a demonstration area for private landowners wishing to install these items.