



Socorro Soil and Water Conservation District

Socorro's Soil & Water Conservation Leaders Since 1944

Winter 2021/2022 Newsletter

New Mexico Department of Agriculture's **HEALTHY SOIL PROGRAM** based on the 2019 Healthy Soil Act

Healthy Soils Grant Program

New Mexico Department of Agriculture will open the Healthy Soils Grant Program in March of 2022. Grants will be accepted

Each Healthy Soil Program project submitted for possible grant funding must occur in New Mexico, aiming to improve soil by implementing one or more of **five soil health principles**:

1. Keeping soil covered;
2. Minimizing soil disturbance on cropland and minimizing external inputs;
3. Maximizing biodiversity;
4. Maintaining a living root;
5. And integrating animals into land management, including grazing animals, birds, beneficial insects or key-stone species, such as earthworms.

Individual Applicants seeking to improve the soil on land they own, lease, or manage may apply. Individual Applicants are defined as farmers, ranchers, and other land managers; and businesses and nonprofits engaged in farming, ranching, or other forms of land management. Individual Applicants will need two items to submit with their application. The first is a letter of support from the Soil & Water Conservation District in which their land is located. The Socorro Soil & Water Conservation District will be more than willing to assist landowners with this. Please contact our office. The second item required is a Conservation Plan written with the landowner by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Their office phone number is (575) 835-1710. Landowners will need to contact the Socorro NRCS to get this plan written. The NMDA Healthy Soils website is: <https://www.nmda.nmsu.edu/nmda-homepage/divisions/apr/healthy-soil-program/>

Please go to their website for more detailed information. You can also sign up for their Healthy Soil Program newsletter on this site. Email and phone number for more information are listed below:

hsp@nmda.nmsu.edu

575-646-2642

Important Upcoming Dates

January

1-New Year's Day (office closed)
10-Monthly Board Meeting
17-Martin Luther King Jr. Day (office closed)

February

14-Monthly Board Meeting
14-Valentine's Day
21-Presidents' Day (office closed)

March

13-Daylight Savings Time Starts
14-Monthly Board Meeting
17-St. Patrick's Day

Socorro Soil & Water Conservation District

103 Francisco de Avondo, Socorro, NM 87801
(575) 838-0078 Phone
(575) 418-5979 Cell

will@socorrosxcd.org
nyleen@socorrosxcd.org
socorrosxcd.org