

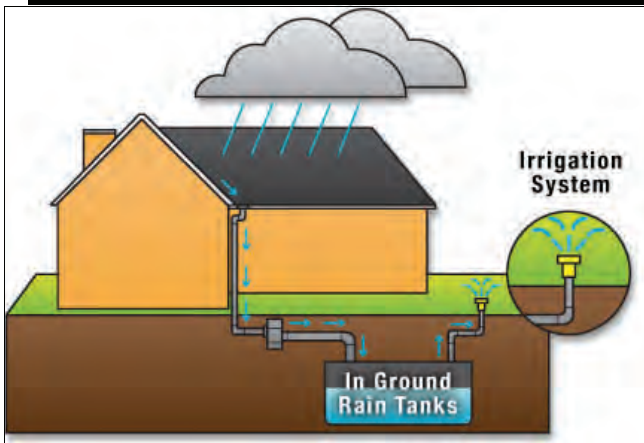
EAST TORRANCE DISTRICT NEWS

Volume 9, Issue 1

July—September 2011

EAST TORRANCE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Water Harvesting Cost Share Program?



East Torrance Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors are excited to announce they will begin to start the discussion of possibilities in starting up a water harvesting cost share assistance program for the landowners within the District.

Starting a new program takes time to work out the details of standards and specifications on what will be cost shared and considered eligible for assistance.

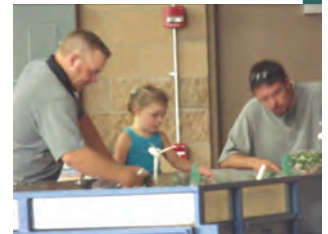
Please watch for up dates on the newly discussed program in the upcoming newsletters on when the program is up and running.

3rd Annual Water Fair for Private Well Testing



We are sorry to announce that the N.M. State Environment Department may not be able to test our local landowner private wells this year in person during the last day of the County Fair. But we are pleased that they are willing to allow East Torrance SWCD to accept the sample jars from landowners and take them into the District office for testing if they are unable to attend. Results will be mailed to the landowner once tested. Please fill out the sheet located

on page 6 and bring it with you to the East Torrance Educational Building on Saturday, August 13th from 11:00 P.M - 2:00 P.M, located 700 South, 10th Street, Estancia, NM. Sorry for the inconvenience of our landowners this year and we hope to have the New Mexico Environment Department back next year.



Once again non profit and state agencies are more than welcome to have a

booth in the East Torrance Educational Building located just outside of the west entrance of the fair grounds during the county fair, August 8th-13th. Booths will be secure and locked up every night. During the week special presentations such as the rolling rivers display will be up and running. Watch for demonstration times to be announced during the fair. If you are interested please contact Cheri Lujan at 505-384-2272 ext 103 to reserve a booth space for your agency.



FAMILY FUN KIDS DAY AT COUNTY FAIR



Watch for signs on events times and dates during the fair

Once again East Torrance SWCD will sponsor the Family Fun Kids days at the County Fair. Events this year planned are the stick horse race, bean sack race and a straw bale roll.

Events will be held on Wednesday, August 10th at 2 pm and

Thursday August 11, 2011 at 1 and 4 PM. Posters will be posted at the fair and at the East Torrance Educational Building Complex located just outside of the west entrance of the fair grounds, 700 south

10th street, Estancia, NM.



East Torrance SWCD would like to Thank everyone who has made Family Fun Kids day a success. We hope to see everyone there once again.



Support your local County Fair.

August 8-13, 2011

You can find the Fair Book located on the Torrance County web site at www.TorranceCountynm.org under important Department Downloads.

EAST TORRANCE ANNOUNCES FALL TREE SALE

East Torrance SWCD will begin their fall tree program.

Orders are now being taken from August 1st, 2011 through September 2, 2011 Please see the enclosed list and price order sheet.

Please return your order form with payment to East Torrance SWCD, at PO Box 58, Estancia, NM 87016; or stop by the office located 715 S. 5th

Street in Estancia at the USDA Service Center.

Please don't forget deadline to place and pay for your order will be 9/2/11. TREES are LIMITED. First Come first served.

Pick up dates for trees are planned for mid to late September. Dates will be confirmed at the end of August, 2011.

The District still plans on having their annual tree

program next spring, with orders beginning in January 2012. If you have any requests please call the district at 384-2272 ext.103.



McLain Greenhouses Invites you to the 2012 Variety Introduction & Evaluation



Tuesday, August 23, 2011, 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Event will be held at 970 State highway 55, Estancia, NM 87016. Please come and view the 2012 plant variety introductions and over 50 container designs.



*Lunch will be served so please RSVP at 505-384-2725 or mmclain@mclaingreenhouses.com



For more information please call 505-384-2725

East Torrance says Goodbye and Hello to Student Worker

East Torrance SWCD has participated in the Estancia High School's School-To-Work Program for incoming Seniors. We would like to thank our outgoing student worker Miranda Millar for a great year. Her last day will be the end of July, 2011.



Our incoming student worker is Kristi Shaw. We would like to welcome her. She will work though out the school year.

This is the tenth year participating in this program for East Torrance SWCD



Women and Hispanic Claims Program

The United States Government is establishing a claims process to make available \$1.33 billion or more to farmers who alleged discrimination by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) based on being female, or based on being Hispanic, in making or servicing farm loans during certain periods between 1981 and 2000.

NOTICE TO WOMEN AND HISPANIC FARMERS AND RANCHERS:

COMPENSATION FOR CLAIMS OF DISCRIMINATION

If you believe that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) improperly denied farm loan benefits to you between 1981 and 2000 because you are Hispanic, or because you are female, you may be eligible to apply for compensation. You may be eligible if:

- 1. you sought a farm loan or farm-loan servicing from USDA during that period; and**
- 2. the loan was denied, provided late, approved for a lesser amount than requested, approved with restrictive conditions, or USDA failed to provide an appropriate loan service; and**
- 3. you believe these actions occurred because you are Hispanic or female.**

If you want to register your name to receive a claims package, you can call the Farmer and Rancher Call Center at 1-888-508-4429 or access the following website:

www.farmerclaims.gov

In 2011, a Claims Administrator will begin mailing claims packages to those who have requested one through the Call Center or website. The claims package will have detailed information about the eligibility and claims process.

In order to participate, you must submit a claim to the Claims Administrator by the end of the claims period.

If you are currently represented by counsel regarding allegations of discrimination against USDA or in a lawsuit claiming discrimination by USDA, you should contact your counsel regarding this claims process.

USDA Cannot Provide Legal Advice to You.

You are not required to hire an attorney to file a claim, but you may contact a lawyer or other legal services provider in your community for additional guidance.

East Torrance Soil and Water Conservation District

Fall Tree Program 2011 Order Form

Anticipated delivery dates may be in late to mid September, 2011.

All prices are subject to change because of availability. We will advise you of any price changes.

DON'T BE DISAPPOINTED; ORDER EARLY to get what you want.

Some selections are in short supply and we update our supply order form as we receive orders.

FIRST COME FIRST SERVED ON ORDERS

<u>*CONTAINERIZED*</u>	<u>Size Available & cost of Trees</u>	<u>Number ordered</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
3 Leaf Sumac	5 gallon @ 15.00 ea		
Cottonwoods	5 gallon @ 15.00 ea		
Apache Plume	5 gallon @ \$15.00ea		
Desert Willow	5 gallon @ 15.00 ea		
Guara	5 gallon @ 15.00 ea		
Blue Mist Spirea	5 gallon @ 15.00 ea		
Butterfly Bush	5 gallon @ 15.00 ea		
Cottonwoods	15 gallon @ \$50.00 ea		
Spartan Juniper	15 gallon @ 80.00 ea 6 to 7 feet tall		

TOTAL \$ _____

PRINT NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

HOME#: _____

WORK PHONE: _____

CELL# _____

e-mail address: _____



**WATER QUALITY TESTING
PROVIDED FREE OF CHARGE
BY THE
NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**
*Sponsored by East Torrance Soil & Water
Conservation District*



WHO: Estancia and surrounding area residents
WHAT: Water Fair – water testing for residents with private wells serving homes not connected to a public water utility
WHEN: Saturday, August 13, 2011; 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
WHERE: Torrance County Fair, East Torrance Soil & Water Conservation Complex Center, 701 S 10th Street, Estancia New Mexico

How to Collect the Water Sample:

- Use a clean glass or plastic container (at least a quart).
 - Do not use containers that have a strong odor, such as pickle jars.
 - Let the water run for a couple of minutes before collecting the sample.
 - Collect the sample as close to the time of testing as possible.
 - Cover the container with a clean lid.
 - Collect the sample before any water treatment systems such as reverse osmosis, water softener, or carbon filter.
- ☐ If available, please provide well depth, depth to water, well casing material (i.e., steel, pvc) and distance from well to the nearest septic tank/leachfield system.
 ☐ Limited analysis will be performed the same day, and you can either pick up results or have them mailed to you.

Drinking water will be tested at the water fair for the following parameters:

- Δ Electrical conductivity
- Δ Iron
- Δ Fluoride
- Δ Nitrate
- Δ pH
- Δ Sulfate

For further information contact the NMED Ground Water Quality Bureau at: 505-222-9574.



**Get Tested: The importance of
Private Well water testing.**

Regular testing is important to:

- Identify existing problems
- Ensure water is suitable for the intended use
- Track changes over time
- Determine the effectiveness of a treatment system



The Quality of a water source may change over time, even suddenly. Changes can go unnoticed as the water may look, smell, and taste the same

It is recommended to test annually.



NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT - GROUND WATER QUALITY BUREAU
www.nmenv.state.nm.us 1-800-219-6157
 WELL TEST FORM



How to take a water sample:

1. Collect the sample before any water treatment system, such as reverse osmosis, water softener, or carbon filter.
2. Turn on the tap and let the cold water run for at least five minutes.
3. Collect at least one quart of water in a clean glass container, such as a canning jar.
4. Old samples can give inaccurate results. Collect the sample as close to the time of testing as possible and write down the date and time you took the sample.

WELL INFORMATION (1-15 to be completed by well owner or user) use ball-point pen and PRESS HARD

1. Name:		2. Phone number:	
3. Mailing Address:			
4. Physical Address (location of the well):			
5. Age of well:			
6. Is your well used as a source of drinking water?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
7. How many people use this well as a source of drinking water?		8. How long have you been using this well as a source of drinking water?	
9. Distance from well to the nearest septic tank leachfield system _____ feet			
10. Well depth _____ feet		11. Depth to water _____ feet	
12. Casing Material: <input type="checkbox"/> Steel <input type="checkbox"/> PVC		13. Well cap or sanitary seal: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
14. Do you suspect water quality problems? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, please describe the suspected problems			
15. Do you use a water filter or treatment system? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, please describe the unit used			

Test Results

Drinking Water Standard

pH (units):	Between 6.5 and 8.5*
Temperature (°C):	None
Specific Conductance (micromhos/cm):	Less than 1000 micromhos/cm
Sulfate (mg/L):	Less than 250 mg/L*
Nitrate as nitrogen (mg/L):	Less than 10 mg/L**
Fluoride (mg/L):	Less than 2.0 mg/L*, Less than 4.0 mg/L**
Iron (mg/L):	Less than 0.3 mg/L*

* National Secondary Drinking Water Standard (Aesthetic) ** National Primary Drinking Water Standard

KIDS CORNOR

Activity

Clean the Water

Water in lakes, rivers and swamps often contains impurities that make it look and smell bad. The water also may contain bacteria and other organisms that can cause disease. Sometimes the water looks clean but is it? How can we get this water clean enough to drink?

Water treatment plants clean water using some or all of the following processes:

1. Aeration
2. Chlorination
3. Ozonation
4. Filtration
5. Disinfection with ultra violet light

Visit NACD website for words and definitions to print off and use with this activity.

<http://www.nacdnet.org/stewardship&education/>

If you have your own well and septic system you depend on the natural resources around you to clean your water to reuse again.

It's your turn to clean dirty water. Follow the experiment below.

Items needed:

- A homemade filter (sock, cotton, paper towels, coffee filter, sponge, sand)
- 2 empty plastic bottles - (1-liter soda bottles are okay but one bottle should be clear)
- Cooking oil
- Dirt & grass
- Clean water
- Dish soap

Procedure:

1. Fill one of your bottles half-way with water from the faucet.
2. Put cooking oil, dish soap and some dirt and grass into the bottle of water.
3. Shake the bottle to mix the dirt around.
4. Take the unused bottle and cut it in half. Rest the top half in the bottom half (see diagram below).
5. Grab your filter and stuff it in the "neck" of the bottle you just cut.
6. Pour the dirty water from the first bottle through the filter on the second bottle.

Does the water poured through the filter look cleaner? **It's not clean enough to drink, so don't try it!**



Questions and Discussion

1. Compare the water you filtered to the dirty water. How are they different?
2. Can you get dirty water cleaner? How?
3. How hard is it to clean dirty water?
4. Share what you learned with your community friends and family.

Source: <http://www.h2ouniversity.org>

ESTWCD promotes Stewardship of Natural Resources by providing Leadership, Education, Technical and Financial Assistance to the Citizens of the District.

EAST TORRANCE SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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www.EastTorranceSWCD.org

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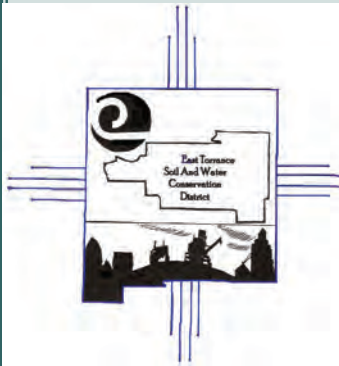
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Student Clerk