

OPEN SPACE newsletter



Mayor Richard J. Berry

A Quarterly Newsletter of the Open Space Division and the Open Space Alliance

Volume 15, Issue 3, July - September 2014

Summer in Open Space A Message from Mayor Richard J. Berry



Summer is a great time to get out and enjoy your favorite Major Public Open Space. The Open Space Summer Series (see page 11) continues through August and offers many chances to enjoy the outdoors and some of the best music, entertainment and speakers in Albuquerque. Additionally, the Open Space Visitor Center (OSVC) has a variety of workshops, educational displays, and art exhibits, and has access to hiking trails in the *bosque*.

Truly one of the best ways to enjoy and contribute to Open Space is by volunteering. This year we've seen a great turnout of volunteers who have come out to help the Division. Open Space volunteers and Division staff have accomplished many conservation and trail projects this spring and summer during events like National Trails Day and National River Cleanup. As Mayor, it makes me proud to see the amount of hard work that our volunteers put in on a daily basis. The City of Albuquerque could not run at the level it does without the dedicated service of volunteers.

Also, I'd like to congratulate the Open Space Alliance and the Open Space Division for receiving two major grants for conservation projects this summer. REI and the Albuquerque Community Foundation awarded a combined \$14,000 to the Alliance for projects in the *bosque*, Sandia Foothills, East Mountains, and Sandoval County Major Public Open Spaces. On August 9th, don't forget to join us in celebrating 30 years of Open Space. In addition to the Division's birthday party, you can contribute to this historic occasion with a story, poem, photo, video or other expression of your relationship with these lands. Submissions will be displayed at the 30th Anniversary Celebration at the Open Space Visitor Center on August 9th from 5pm-8 pm. Call 897-8831 for details!

Have a great summer and enjoy all that Open Space has to offer.

Sincerely,

Photo courtesy of the Albuquerque Journal

Please note: In the April-June 2014 issue of the Open Space Newsletter, the Open Space 30th Anniversary Event was incorrectly listed as scheduled for August 8th. The event will be taking place on *August 9th from 5pm-8pm* at the Open Space Visitor Center. Please see page 2 for more details. Thank you!

30 Years of Open Space

In 1984, a new Division was formed within the City's Parks and Recreation Department. Known as the Open Space Division, its employees were charged with the responsibility of protecting and managing environmentally and culturally significant lands in and around the City of Albuquerque. The Division's first offices were located in a portable trailer located at Pino Yards off of I-25. The Division started with a total of four employees. Open Space now occupies the site of an old National Forest Service tree nursery in Montessa Park and employs over 30 people.

Some of the first properties under the Division's management included land acquired in the early 1960s through the federal Recreation and Public Purposes Act including Golden, Gutierrez Canyon, La Boca Negra, Carolino Canyon, Four Hills Park, Placitas, San Antonito, and the Shooting Range Park.

Although the Division officially formed in 1984, the seeds were planted in 1969 when the City Goals Committee wrote a series of ambitious policies for land conservation: "...to preserve the unique natural features of the metropolitan area by achieving a pattern of development and open space respecting the river, land, mesa, mountains, volcanoes, and arroyos." In 1975 citizen groups working to preserve land throughout the City were brought together in the "Open Space Task Force" led by facilitator Philip Tollefsrud.

By 1979, the City/County Comprehensive Plan was published, laying the groundwork for a dynamic and diverse Open Space system. From these humble beginnings, the Open Space Division has expanded to be one of the top programs of its kind in the nation. The Trust for Public Land recently recognized Albuquerque as ranking first place nationally for its percentage of land devoted to open space and parks, with more than one-quarter of its land base protected as public open space.

With nearly 29,000 acres currently protected as Major Public Open Space, the Open Space Division manages a precious heritage that will be enjoyed for generations to come. An impressive feature of Albuquerque's Open Space system is the sheer diversity of properties. Open Space helps to preserve world class archeological sites, dormant volcanoes, forested mountains and uplands, desert grasslands, 366 acres of active farmland, migratory bird habitat, wetlands, and a 20 mile section of the world's largest riverside cottonwood forest, among others. The citizens of Albuquerque can be very proud of the accomplishments that have taken place over the last 30 years. For the next 30 years, the Open Space Division is ready to face the challenges of a growing city, and we will continue to provide excellent stewardship of our natural and cultural patrimony.

Join the Open Space Division in Celebrating 30 years of Protecting Albuquerque's Natural Heritage!

When: August 9th, 2014 from 5:00 AM - 8:00 PM

Where: The Open Space Visitor Center

6500 Coors Rd. NW, 87120

505-897-8831

Submit your story, poem, photo, or other memory of Open Space! The deadline is July 16th.

See www.cabq.gov/openspace or call 897-8831 for full details!





Pieces of the Whole: A Collection of Mosaic Art

What: A Group Exhibit Celebrating Mosaics and Aldo Leopold's Land Ethic

Where: The Open Space Visitor Center, 6500 Coors Rd. NW 87120

Join us for an opening reception and meet the artists on **Saturday, July 5, 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM.**

Mosaics tend to be a collection of tiles or glass pieces of various size and color organized into patterns or forms. These artists, inspired by Aldo Leopold's "Land Ethic," will exhibit mosaic works that seek to "enlarge the boundaries of the community to include soils, waters, plants, and animals, or collectively, The Land." *Pieces of the Whole* will feature the following artists: Patricia Halloran, Erin Magennis, Lynx Lightning, Cate Clark, Lydia Piper, Holly Kuehn, Joel Davis, Julianna Kirwin, Scottie Sheehan, Cirrelda Snider-Bryan, Laura Robbins, Riha Rothberg, Barb Belknap, and Erica Hoverter. Call 897-8831 for more information.

More Summer Fun at the Open Space Visitor Center (OSVC)

July 27th, 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM, Contemplative Collage with Dante Jericho.

FEE: \$30, cash or check only. Registration required. Call (505) 897-8831 to register.

August 9th: Solar Telescopes on the Open Space Visitor Center courtyard. Times TBA.

August 23rd, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm: Albuquerque's Parks and Open Space, a booksigning and slideshow with author Matt Schmader.

August 23rd , 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm: Introduction to Water Harvesting and Green Infrastructure. Presented by Jeff Adams, Terrasophia LLC.

August 24th: Times TBA. The Role of Environmental Space in an Author's Work, with Irene I. Blea. Dr. Blea, a New Mexico native, will discuss the role of the environment in her two novels.

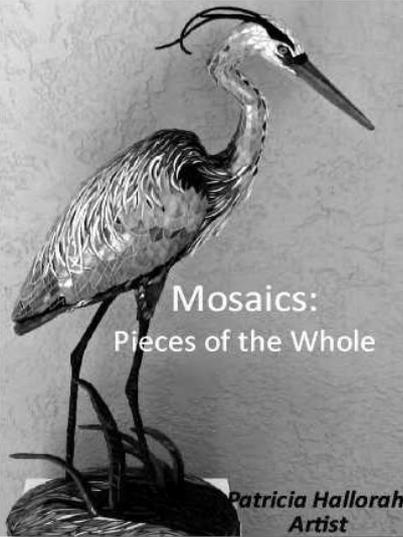


Parks and Recreation Department
OPEN SPACE VISITOR CENTER

july 2014
connecting people to place



Mayor Richard J. Berry



Mosaics:
Pieces of the Whole

Patricia Hallorah
Artist

On Display July 5 - August 29
Opening Reception
Saturday, July 5th 3-5 pm

In the Gallery

A mosaic tends to be a collection of tiles or glass pieces of various size and color organized into patterns or forms. These artists, inspired by Aldo Leopold's "Land Ethic" will exhibit work that seeks to "enlarge the boundaries of the community to include soils, water, plants, and animals, or collectively: the land."

MOVIE MATINEES

Every Saturday 1:30-3:30 pm
Cool off with these chilly titles! **FREE**
Ice Age July 5th
Golden Compass July 12th
Frozen July 19th
The Day After Tomorrow July 26th

**Open Space Visitor Center
New Volunteer Orientation**

Thursday, July 10th 6:30 - 8:00 pm &
Saturday, August 2nd 3:00 - 4:30 pm
To register, call (505) 897-8831



Pinch Pot Workshop with Michael Kanteena
Two Day Workshop: Saturday & Sunday, July 19th & 20th

12:00 pm - 4:00 pm \$30 Fee *Ask about the family fee.*
The art of pinch pots is deeply rooted in the Southwest. Michael Kanteena will teach you how to make these ancient vessels and then fire them for you. An award-winning potter from Laguna Pueblo, in the Maxwell Museum, the Wheelwright Museum, galleries and markets, Kanteena is also a skilled artist and teacher. All workshop materials will be provided. Registration is required. Call (505) 897-8831.

Please check our website, facebook and twitter (@openspace) for updates to this monthly calendar.
This summer: **Open Space Division** celebrates **30 years** on **August 9th 5 to 8 pm** with activities for the whole family. Star Parties, Open Space Gift Shop booksignings and presentations for all ages, Gallery workshops and more.
Don't forget to attend this year's **Summer Series**: Saturday presentations and Sunday hikes. 452-5222 for more info.



Bosque Wild Guided Nature Walk
Sunday, July 6th
9:00 am FREE
First Sundays. Register at 897-8831.



Open Space Gift Shop
Saturdays & Sundays
10:00 am - 4:00 pm
Look out for Science Sundays, Games for prizes and new garden-related merchandise.



Yoga with a View
Sundays 9:00 am - 10:30 am
\$15 class fee



6500 Coors Blvd NW Albuquerque, NM 87120

between Montano & Paseo del Norte at the end of Bosque Meadows Rd.
Tuesday - Sunday • 9:00 am - 5:00 pm • 897-8831 •
www.cabq.gov/openspace

Restoration and Planting Project Report

~by Bill Pentler and Steve Ryan



The 2014 winter and spring planting season was a busy one for Open Space! 1329 students and 244 adults participated in *bosque* restoration projects for a total of **1573 people**. The various plantings for January through mid-June totaled: 530 Cottonwood poles, 90 Willow poles, 470 Coyote Willow cuttings (aka 'whips'), and 35 Seep Willows, for a total of **1125 pole plantings**.

We also planted **375** native shrubs including New Mexico Olive, False Indigo, Golden Currant, Wolfberry, Three-leaf Sumac, Goodding's Black and Peach leaf Willow, and Four-wing Saltbush.

The total plantings so far this year in the *bosque* were around **1500!**

In addition, 313 new poles/twigs were planted at Alamo Farm, which is the Open Space Division's source for cuttings of native cottonwoods and willows. Each pole and twig we plant will grow into a new source of material for future reforestation projects. Other volunteer projects this season included wrapping 43 trees with wire to keep them safe from getting eaten by beavers.



Partner groups include for our projects include RiverXChange, Holy Ghost School, Inez Elementary, Highland High School, the Bosque School, Albuquerque Academy, Returned Peace Corps Volunteers, Boy Scout Pack 241, Arroyo del Oso School, Montessori of the Rio Grande, Chamisa Elementary, the Great Old Broads Adoption group, and Mountain Mahogany School.

Our appreciation goes to Chris Tavasci, David Mora, Dan Lucero, Richard Rodriguez, Steve Aragon, Joseph Hidalgo, Adolph Romero, Tom Moya, Cindo Griego, Benito Gonzales, Raymond Lente, Edwin Zamora and Ray Gomez. Among their daily tasks, they have been working to

create habitat features in recent *bosque* restoration projects, clearing the non-native vegetation, maintaining levee roads, and drilling holes for reforesting in burned areas.

We will continue to plant more shrubs throughout 2014, but pole plantings season is over until December 2014/ January 2015. Let the Open Space Division know if you and your organization or school group would like to be a part of our reforestation and restoration efforts in the *bosque*. Call 452-5222 or e-mail wpentler@cabq.gov for more information.

La Cebolla del Duende (The Onion of the Duende)

Police Pick Up Man Dressed as Pirate: A man dressed as a pirate complete with an eye patch and a ship's wheel hanging from his belt was found singing sea shanties on top of a picnic table at Rio del Norte Picnic Area during National River Cleanup. Open Space Police escorted the man to UNMH for observation. When asked about the ship's wheel hanging from his belt the man who identified himself as Captain Morgan replied, "Arrrrrr, it drives me nuts".



Introducing, Miss Gulch: Representing the West on the Bicycles, Trails, Tornadoes, and Flying Monkey Committee (BTTFMC). Ms. Gulch is ready to answer all questions regarding the West but warns all citizens to keep their little puppies on a leash and to avoid splashing her with water at all costs. Her email is wickedw@oz.net.

But Seriously Folks: Over zealous investigative reporter, Harry Wooffer accused Open Space newsletter staff of being having fun. "Do we pay them to make jokes or to work?" asked Wooffer. Andy Trigenta, Assistant to the Assistant Superintendent of Open Space replied, "We will investigate and if these accusations are found to be true the individuals responsible for this silliness will be sent to an 8 hour Seriousness Sensitivity training. After all seriousness is no laughing matter."

What's in a Name: The United States Department of Redundancy Department (DRD) announced that the official name of Albuquerque's river is the Rio Grande River. John Johnson, spokesman for the DRD held a press conference this month where he announced, "The official name of Albuquerque's river is the Rio Grande River."

Division Seeks Volunteers with Strong Stomachs: 40 acres of Open Space in the Sandia Foothills was acquired in 1963 through the Public Land for Santeria and Public Purposes Act (PLSPPA) with the condition that a chicken be sacrificed on the date of the signing of the Act in order to ensure that the land would remain in the City's ownership. Due to a recent hiring freeze and staff shortages, the OSD is currently seeking volunteers to sacrifice chickens to avoid futures curses.



Duende Departures

Our appreciation goes to Chris Tavasci, Joseph Hidalgo, and Raymond Lente, for their many years of service to the Division. Among their daily tasks, they have been working to create habitat features in recent *bosque* restoration projects, clearing the non-native vegetation, maintaining levee roads, and drilling holes for reforestation in burned areas.

Many thanks to these dedicated members of the Open Space team. Also, a big thanks and farewell to Joshua Willis is moving on from Open Space City Center to invest more time in his art career. He doesn't intend to ever be far away from Open Space. Lastly, the Open Space Division bids Park Attendant Perry Oswald a fond farewell. Perry will be moving to a job at the zoo where he will be circumcising elephants. "The money isn't that great, but I hear the tips are really big", said an excited Perry.



Volunteer Events are Fun and Productive Ways to Get Into Open Space!



Wow, what a spring and summer! Wildflowers and volunteers were in abundance. El Duende wants to take a moment to thank everyone for all their contributions and hard work that made Open Space's spring projects such outstanding successes. And people had fun too! El Duende received several emails from participants who enjoyed making Open Space a better place.

Jamie of the North Face Store had this comment about National River Cleanup: "We had such fun at last weekend's event!!! I hope you guys had as much fun as we did!!! We are all still buzzing about our adventure down the river and getting thrown in the water!" Well Jamie, El Duende had a blast at River Cleanup too. He was working in an area of the Bosque that resembled the planet **Dagobah** where Yoda lived. (See the above photo of volunteers in the Dagobah System.) Much fun he had working with young apprentice Kenneth of the Albuquerque Academy of Trades and Technology. But the most fun at any Open Space event comes from the sense of accomplishment and the camaraderie that develops amongst staff, volunteers and El Duende.

Of course spring wouldn't be the same without our April Foothill Cleanups. This year El Duende and Open Space teamed up with Bernalillo County to kick off the "There is No Poop Fairy" campaign to encourage more people to cleanup after their pets. Of course there are many people who are responsible pet owners and who do clean up after their pets and El Duende thanks you.

The busy spring culminated with National Trails Day which is El Duende's personal favorite. Over 100 volunteers worked on 13 different projects. This year's projects included new trail construction at several picnic areas, restoration of old trails and user created trails, and general maintenance on many trails throughout the Elena Gallegos picnic areas. Thanks also to all of our volunteer crew leaders who led individual projects, and thanks to our Trail Watch Volunteers who helped with set up, registration and served lunch. El Duende also wants to take a moment and to thank all of our sponsors who help make these events possible. This year El Duende welcomes several our new sponsors: B2B Bistronomy and the North Face Store. A final thanks goes to the U.S. Forest Service Sandia Ranger District for hosting a Trails Day project with over 20 volunteers doing work in the East Mountains. Hasta next year!!!



(Photo of volunteers in the Dagobah System courtesy of the www.amuchdeeperlevel.blogspot.com)



Open Space Officers involved in Rescues in the Sandia Mountains

In May, Open Space officers were dispatched to the area of the Elena Gallegos Open Space Trail System. Two women were hiking the wilderness area just north of the Open Space and the Domingo Baca wilderness trail when one of their dogs

suffered injuries to its front paws. The 90 pound dog was unable to walk or move. Officers walked the subjects through their phone and located GPS coordinates. They were spotted and officers hiked to their location with water and a dog stretcher. They were located sitting under a small tree in 90 degree weather. After giving the dogs and their owner's water, the Officers carried the dog 2.5 miles off the mountain back to the car.

In June, a 15-year-old boy stuck on a cliff in the Sandia Mountains was assisted by Open Space Division officers. Albuquerque police say the boy became separated Saturday while hiking with his church group. Police spokesman Simon Drobnik says officers from the Open Space Unit joined Bernalillo County Fire Department medics for a search and rescue operation. Officers found the boy nearly a mile up the trail stuck on a cliff face. They say he had slid about 200 feet down and was stuck 500 feet from the bottom. It reportedly took about two hours to lower the boy down using ropes and harnesses. The boy was then taken to a hospital for abrasions to his back and arms and injuries to his hands.

Also this June, two young men were at the top of the Sandia Mountain Tram with family members when they attempted to walk back down to the city. Later that evening they called 911 stating they were lost and stuck on a cliff. APD Open Space dispatched a Search and Rescue Team in attempt to locate the subjects and assist them off the mountain.

After four hours of strenuous hiking, officers were able to locate the brothers in one of the most remote and rugged areas of the Sandia Mountains. Officers had to feed and re-hydrate the individuals before attempting to hike them down the mountain. At about 4:00am, officers were able to reunite the boys with their parents who were waiting for them at the Glenwood Hills Open Space access. Albuquerque Ambulance treated the boys and released them at the scene.

Open Space Officers involved in the rescues include Sgt. J. Bassett, A. Martinez, C. Melvin, M. Schmidt, Sgt. M. Meisinger. The citizens of Albuquerque thank these officers for their great work!

The Open Space Alliance Receives Albuquerque Community Foundation and REI Grants

This spring, the Open Space Alliance was awarded a \$10,000 grant from REI. The Alliance and the Open Space Division will use the funds for purchasing additional tools for trail maintenance for use during volunteer projects in the Rio Grande Valley State Park, the John A. Milne/Gutierrez Canyon Open Space, and in the Sandia Foothills. Mountain bikers, day hikers and horseback riders will benefit from new sustainably designed trails, restored habitats, and an enhanced user experience.

Additionally, the Albuquerque Community Foundation (ACF) awarded the Alliance a \$4,000 grant for 2014. The goal for the projects funded by the grant is to begin to mitigate the desertification process in the Placitas Open Space caused by drought and overgrazing, and to stop the severe erosion in areas of the Milne Open Space. The grant will fund educational workshops in erosion control techniques so that there will be a core of staff and volunteers to continue this work in other Open Space areas in the future.

The Open Space Alliance thanks REI, the ACF and Open Space staff and volunteers for their hard work on these efforts!

Got Weird Trash? We Do!

Here's a summary of this year's strange, odd, weird or old trash from this spring's cleanup projects:

5 commemorative Coke bottles from the 1996 Olympics, 1 Roger Miller cassette tape (Roger Miller's Greatest Hits), 1 ceramic poodle head, part of a dog toy – you would have to see a picture of it,



but the picture would probably be censored, a 1971 Illinois license plate, 1 metal movie poster of Bruce Willis' Sin City, a homemade sign about 4'x4' that read "Quarantine," 1 ceramic rabbit figurine, 1 couch, 1 ottoman, and 1 ATM machine.

Mystery item: Can anyone identify the object on the left? It is a metal (Aluminum?) cylinder, about 7 ¾ inches long, with a 3 inch diameter and there is a decorative design embossed on two sides. E-mail jsattler@cabq.gov with your best guess!



The Wonder of (Open Space) Wanderlust

~By *George Peknik, Trail Watch Volunteer*

I recently had the pleasure of spending time with a fellow “Burqueño” whose infectious passion keeps him well – physically, mentally, spiritually, socially, and emotionally. David Ryan shares his knowledge through his web site and his book whose title reveals his secret: the “**Gentle Art of Wandering.**”

The Gentle Art of Wandering explores the purpose, benefits, and principles of Ryan’s studied approach to walking, hiking, running, and traveling that emphasize the principles of PRESENCE, CONNECTEDNESS, and DISCOVERY. They might surprise you if you, like many others, think of “wandering” as going off course as Alzheimer’s patients often do.

Presence: Being present is about being mindful and seeing while wandering -- seeing deeply (“with the whole body”), like you may have never done before. He describes the day he discovered a tiny ancient fetish in the backcountry of New Mexico and how that find was a wandering experience that both enhanced his own awareness of his surroundings and stoked his curiosity about the found object. He writes, “Look around and think about what the maker’s life must have been like..., when and where the fetish was made... What was it used for? Was it used once and tossed away, or was it cherished and kept for generations?”

Connectedness: While wandering gently, Ryan believes that by knowing how to avoid distractions we will observe the unexpected and connect to our surroundings. He writes: “This quieting is necessary because our active mind likes to be in control and wants things to be the way it wants them to be... That’s why it is easy for people to miss changes happening right in front of them... By being present and connected, your senses can spot and bring to your attention something that is different and out of place.”

Discovery: Ryan brings together all three key principles of his triad by positing that as a result of being present and connected to one’s surroundings while wandering, whether in a city, village, desert, or meadow, the true reward is attained; i.e., the discovery of something meaningful and enriching: maybe a strange ancient artifact, or a living thing that you had never before encountered (like a neighbor), or the sound of a hive of bees, or the smell of ferns right after a rain.

WANDERING IN NEW MEXICO: David has been a regular city wanderer in Albuquerque. He feels that more and more people, even – or maybe especially – city-dwellers, are looking for “walkability” in their lives. “Many of them not only want to be able to run errands on foot,” he says, “but who would also like to take an interesting walk without driving to a trailhead.”

The entire state of New Mexico offers hundreds of both marked and unmarked, both backcountry and urban, trails to wander. Based on my own observations in the Duke City, it appears that most wanderers are found in three areas: The *bosque*; the Petroglyph National Monument (on the western margin of Albuquerque, it’s the largest petroglyph site in North America with 24,000 “rock art” designs and symbols carved on rocks by Native Americans and Spanish settlers) and abuts a chain of dormant fissure volcanoes that are another great wandering site, and the Open Space foothills and Sandia Mountain trails. Get out, wander, and wonder at these magical places soon!

Summer Series Calendar



We're sure you'll enjoy the Summer Series while we nudge you and your family to expand your views and begin a lifelong ritual of returning to your newly discovered favorite Open Spaces. We hope you experience new wonders, enjoy old favorites, discover information that will widen your perspective of the world around you, and entice you to explore the benefits of 30 years of Open Space.

Saturday SUNSET SERIES at Elena Gallegos Picnic Area

All the Saturday events begin at 7 pm. All talks and performances are free with a \$2.00 entry fee per vehicle to the park. The Elena Gallegos Park is located at the end

of Simms Park Road, east of Tramway Boulevard, just north of Academy.

The Saturday Sunset Series will feature talks, demonstrations and shows by some of Albuquerque's best speakers, educators, and performers at the Elena Gallegos Double Shelter Amphitheater on Saturdays at 7:00pm.

July 5th: The Nahalat Shalom Community Klezmer Band with Rikud Dance Troupe: A small orchestra playing Eastern European music for an evening of sensory joy and dancing.

July 12th: Flamenco- Kiwanis Shelter. A Flamenco performance by the Students of Casa Flamenca under the direction of Jesus Muñoz.

July 19th: Meet the Birds of Avian Ambassadors. A talk and display of birds by Sid Price of Avian Ambassadors.

July 26th: Strange But True Tales of New Mexico. An evening of stories and tales by talented Storyteller Mary Diecker.

August 2nd: Poetry and Spoken Word. A wonderful evening of offerings from a collection of talented artists led by Gina Marselle.

August 9th: Kubatana Marimba Ensemble. Traditional and contemporary music largely inspired from Zimbabwe and played by Albuquerque's African Marimba Band.

August 16th: Ballads and Runes. An Evening of Ancient Tales and Original Music – Innovative music and remarkable stories with Scott and Johanna Hongell-Darsee and special guests.

August 23rd: Seth Hoffman. A performance of original music by a talented local singer/songwriter whose songs are the stories of our lives, travels, and the many unique characters we meet along the way.

Sunday Hikes Calendar



With this being the 30th anniversary of Open Space, our Sunday Hikes will explore the earliest purchases of Open Space's outlying properties in the East Mountains and elsewhere. Please check our website, www.cabq.gov/openspace under Open Space Events for more information on details and directions to the individual events or call Bill Pentler at 452-5222 for Pre-registration or other questions.

July 6th: *Five Pieces of Brocade*– Poblanos Fields. A 1 to 2 hour introduction and demonstration of Qigong by Sifu Dug Corpolongo of Lotus Dragon Tai Chi and Qigong.

July 13th: *A Hike at Gutierrez Canyon*– Meet at 8:30 am. A strenuous hike to one of Open Space's outlying properties. Bring water and whatever you need for a comfortable hike. Pre-registration Required

July 20th: *Bonsai Demonstration and Talk* – Open Space Visitor Center. The basics of creating and maintaining Bonsai by members of the Albuquerque Bonsai Club.

July 27th: *Wild Herb Hike* - Milne Open Space. A 2 to 3 hour moderately strenuous hike led by Dara Saville who will share her extensive background in Herbalism. Bring water and whatever you need for a comfortable hike. Pre-registration Required

August 3rd: *Introduction to GPS* – Elena Gallegos Double Shelter. A 2 to 3 hour instruction led by Erik Zsemlye of the City Open Space Division. Bring your GPS, limited borrowing of extra GPS units. Pre-registration Required

August 10th: *Volcanoes and Geology* - Meet at 8:30 am. Volcanoes at the Petroglyph National Monument. A 2 to 3 hour hike led by noted Volcanologists Larry Crumpler and Jayne Aubele of the NM Natural History Museum

August 17th: *The ABC's of Simple Bike Repair* –The Open Space Visitor Center. A 1 to 2 hour session led by Chuck Malagodi of the City of Albuquerque Parks and Recreation Department's Bicycle Safety Education Program and the Esperanza Community Bike Shop. Bring your bike for assessment and helmet for a possible ride afterward.

August 24th: *A Day of Mindfulness and Nature* – **Meet at 8:30 am.** Carolino Canyon. A morning of tranquility and meditation led by Dug Corpolongo of Albuquerque Buddhist Fellowship lasting a few hours or longer. Wear comfortable clothes, bring water, snack or lunch, and an open mind. Pre-registration Required.

Please call Bill Pentler at 452-5222 or email wpentler@cabq.gov for pre-registration and directions to events.

See www.cabq.gov/openspace for a full calendar of Open Space events.



Poop Awareness

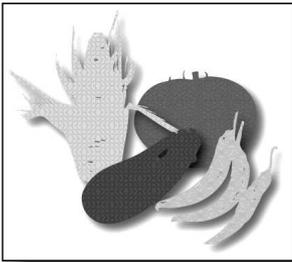
The title could take you anywhere but this is another poop article the point of which is to create a catch phrase, increase signage, and make a push to blanket the public with educational, humorous and impact filled messages to get them to take responsibility for their animals. This includes keeping animals, both dogs and cats, on leashes if they are outside and especially when they are on walks with their owners. I could create a comedy routine from all the excuses I've heard but the bottom line is that it's the law and there really aren't any excuses. We realize that the dog needs to run but truthfully, and I don't mean to insult anyone, it's really the owners that need the exercise which is why the dog was gotten in the first place.

The other things is that it's much safer for the dog to be on leash as there is greater control if your paths cross a non-friendly animal, whether it's a coyote, badger, porcupine, or another animal-aggressive pet. In creating this protection, you are also controlling the collection of it's droppings because how are you supposed to pick it up if you don't see where your buddy is going? Not knowing may be a relief to you but I can assure you that it isn't to anyone else who might use the trail. I can get into the health hazards or the fact that poop in NM petrifies and will be there for 10 to 15 years, or even the fact that those hugely desired rainstorms that we all want will just carry all the bacteria from the accumulated feces down to the river where the counts are already off the charts but again, this is a call out for assistance and ideas in how to educate the general public.

To focus on fines alone won't work because those of us who can issue tickets have to be on the spot to see the offense and there are just too few of us covering a huge area to manage it. The fine for any animal chasing or interfering with wildlife, which can include birds, lizards, and even insects along with the larger critters, on any of our lands is substantial and alone is worth saving people from incurring it through simple education, but do they want to be educated? Here's the challenge... please send us your ideas for signs or the best and most effective ways to reach people and we'll see if we can accomplish this huge task together. I personally thank you for your thoughts and any effort you put into this. Sincerely,

Bill Pentler, wpentler@cabq.gov

www.riograndefarm.org



The 7th Annual Urban Farm and Harvest Festival

Celebrating Albuquerque's Agricultural Heritage

What: A Celebration of Open Space, Urban Agriculture, Local Food, and Community

When: September 14th, 2014, 10am-4pm.

Where: Open Space Visitor Center, 6500 Coors Blvd NW between Montañño and Paseo del Norte at the end of Bosque Meadows Rd.

Cost: FREE

This year's theme is "Preserving the Harvest." Activities will include: Booths from local farmers, businesses, and artisans; live music; workshops and presentations; hay-bale ride; children's arts and crafts; and delicious food. See our website for an updated schedule of activities.

Thanks to Our Awesome Sponsors!

This year, Albuquerque's local businesses came out in force to support Open Space projects and events. We'd like to thank our 2013 event sponsors and partners. In no particular order, they are:

REI, City of Albuquerque Aquatics Division, City of Albuquerque Golf, Trader Joe's Uptown, Long Leash on Life, Michael Thomas Coffee, I Scream Ice Cream, the US Forest Service Sandia Ranger District, American Rivers, the American Hiking Society, Friends of the Sandia Mountains, Sports Systems, Frito Lay, Wolfe's Bagels, Whole Foods, Starbuck's Coffee on Rio Grande, Starbuck's Coffee on Wyoming, 2 Wheel Drive, the New Mexico BioPark Society, Nicodemus Wilderness Project, Passage Community Church, Stone Age Climbing Gym, Kirtland Air Force Base Outdoor Recreation, the Albuquerque Fire Department and Swift Water Rescue Team, Quiet Waters Paddling Adventures, the Rotary Club of Albuquerque, the West Central Alliance of Neighbors, the Open Space Alliance, the Greenside Café in Cedar Crest, the North Face, La Montanita Co-op, B2B Bistronomy and Great Harvest Breads.



Trail Watch Volunteer and Adopt-an-Open Space Training

Become a vital part of Open Space - become a volunteer!

When: Sep 27th, 2014, from 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM.

Where: Open Space Visitor Center, 6500 Coors Rd. NW 87120

Contact: Jolynn Maestas at jmaestas@cabq.gov or call 452-5207 to sign up!

Get involved in the Open Space Alliance *today* and contribute to the future of YOUR Open Space!

Your generous contribution to the Open Space Alliance supports OSA's mission of enhancing our quality of life through: heightening public awareness of Open Space lands; building and strengthening partnerships with groups who share Open Space values; promoting conservation, acquisition, and stewardship of Open Space lands; strengthening volunteerism and community outreach programs; and providing financial support.

For information about our current activities, contact Sallie McCarthy, OSA Board President, at mccarthy_sal@hotmail.com

To join, please fill out the information and return the form with your check or money order.

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

- NEW MEMBER
- RENEWAL
- TRAILS DAY**
- \$15 STUDENT (18 & UNDER) / SENIOR
- \$20 INDIVIDUAL
- \$30 FAMILY
- \$250 SUSTAINING
- \$500 CORPORATE
- \$1000 LIFE MEMBER

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Open Space Alliance, P.O. Box 91265, Albuquerque, NM 87199

Open Space Alliance
 P.O. Box 91265
 Albuquerque, NM 87199



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OPEN SPACE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
 3615 Los Picaros Rd. SE
 7:00 am to 5:00 pm
 Monday through Friday
 (505)452-5200

ELENA GALLEGOS PICNIC AREA
 Winter: 7:00 am to 7:00 pm
 Summer: 7:00 am to 9:00 pm
 all week
 \$1.00 weekdays / \$2.00 weekends
 (505)857-8334

**PETROGLYPH NATIONAL MONUMENT
 BOCA NEGRA CANYON**
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 \$1.00 weekdays / \$2.00 weekends
 (505)897-8814

OPEN SPACE VISITOR CENTER
 6500 Coors Blvd. NW
 (505)897-8831
 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
 Tuesday - Sunday

TO REPORT VIOLATIONS
 8:00 am to 6:00 pm, all week
 (505) 452-5206 (voice/relay)
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