



NMVFO NEWS

The Voice of the New Mexico Volunteers for the Outdoors

April 2009

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New Mexico Volunteers for the Outdoors (505) 884-1991 or (888) 836-5553

Visit our website at www.nmvfo.org. Email us at lnmvfo@gmail.com.

Volunteer Opportunities

NMVFO Spring Kickoff Social

We're having a get-together on Saturday, April 4 from 1:00pm to 4:00pm at the Clubhouse of Courtyards @ Cutler, 2403 San Mateo in Albuquerque. Everyone is invited to this informal social, where we'll talk about our 2009 projects and where you'll be able to mingle with our project leaders and cooks and ask them all you want about what we do, how we do it, and how to join us on our volunteer projects. Burgers, hot dogs, fixins' and more will be served. Please contact Kevin Balciar at (505) 293-1477 or email lnmvfo@gmail.com prior to March 31 if you plan to join us.

Manzano Waterer (🔧🔧)

Saturday, April 11, 2009

Leader: Barbara Hoehne, nymphaea123@msn.com, (505) 227-1673

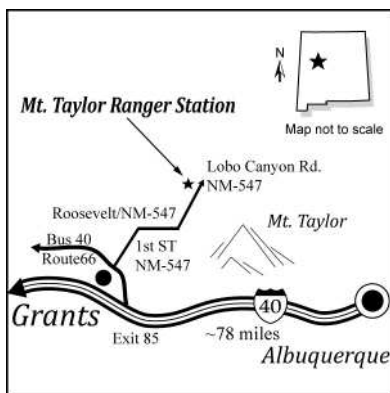


Help wildlife and enjoy a day in the foothills of the Manzano Mountains installing a 3500 gallon inverted umbrella tank and drinker (AKA "trick tank") for bighorn sheep and deer. We'll assemble the parts, make shallow excavations for placement, move the tanks into place, and dig a trench for the pipe that connects the tank and drinker. A maximum of 10 people are needed to complete this project. We will meet at 8:00 AM on Saturday morning at the intersection of Forest Road 422 and US-60 (see map) and carpool to the worksite. Remember to wear/bring: long pants, long-sleeved shirt, work boots, work gloves, sun hat, sunglasses, lunch, water. For volunteers who would like to camp Friday night, nearby Red Canyon Campground has picnic tables and restrooms but campers must bring their own water. Please sign up for this project by Tuesday, April 7; let the project leader know if you plan to camp so sites can be reserved.

Mt. Taylor Continental Divide Trail (🔧🔧)

Saturday, April 18 through Sunday, April 19, 2009

Leaders: Heather Gordon, (505) 842-7851, gordonh@saic.com and Jason Koschmeder, thekosh@netzero.com



The Continental Divide Trail wants you! The CDT will finally be completed near Mount Taylor this year. Come be a part of it! The NMVFO will be working with the Continental Divide Trail Alliance, breaking new tread. Instead of repairing trails, we will be building a new one! The route has been marked, and it will be up to us to establish the tread, as well as build cairns and establish markers.

The worksite is a short hike from where we will be camping. The campsite is dispersed primitive camping in a meadow at over 8000 feet at the base of Mount Taylor; expect beautiful scenery, but also the potential for cool and unpredictable weather. With that in mind, make sure to bring lots of layers, sunscreen, and rain gear, as well as your gloves. Car camping is an option. There are no developed facilities at the campsite.

We will meet at the Mount Taylor ranger station Saturday morning or at the Saturday night campsite if you come the night before. Directions will be given when you sign up, but do it quickly! This is surely to fill up fast; there is a 25 volunteer limit.

Introduction to Volunteer Trail Maintenance

Presented by New Mexico Volunteers for the Outdoors and Friends of Sandia Mountains

Saturday, April 18, 2009, 2:00pm – 3:30pm, at REI – Santa Fe

Wednesday, April 22, 2009, 6:30pm – 8:00pm, at REI – Albuquerque

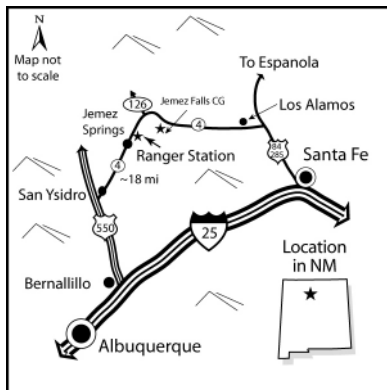
Leader: Bill Velasquez, (505) 881-0555 (w), (505) 292-6030 (h), bvelasquez@gardnerzemke.com

If you are an avid hiker, trail runner, mountain biker, and/or backpacker you may have wondered at some point who built the trails you enjoy and how are they maintained. Join us for a workshop, which will provide you with a combination of classroom and field introductory training. Learn about trails as they exist today and how you can help preserve them for your enjoyment and that of future generations. Two separate classroom sessions will be held: (1) at REI – Santa Fe on April 18 starting at 2:00PM and lasting approximately 1.5 hours, and (2) at REI – Albuquerque on April 22 starting at 6:30PM and lasting approximately 1.5 hours. The follow-up field training will be held in Albuquerque at Elena Gallegos Open Space in the Sandia Mountain foothills on May 2. You will need appropriate clothing and work gloves for the field session. There will be several different projects to choose from. Attendance at the classroom session **IS NOT** mandatory. You may attend the classroom session only and select from a different project organized and led by the NMVFO throughout the year in various locations (go to www.nmvfo.org and click on “Projects Page” for our schedule).

Pines Trail (↖↗)

Saturday, April 25, 2009

Leader: Heather Gordon, (505) 842-7851, gordonh@saic.com



Please join us on the Jemez Ranger District of the Santa Fe National Forest for work on the Pines Trail. This trail has been neglected for several years, and needs comprehensive maintenance. Consequently, there is something for everyone with all abilities to do! We will install signs, and prune overgrowth, as well as perform heavier-duty work such as repair retaining walls and fix drainage problems. This is a one-day project. Volunteers can camp for free on Friday night at the Jemez Falls Campground. Please also join us on Sunday morning for an NMVFO social hike leaving from the Jemez Falls Campground, which is open to Pines Trail volunteers as well as anyone who would like to learn more about the NMVFO and what we do. Contact Heather Gordon (gordonh@saic.com, 505-842-7851) for more information and to sign up for this project. Please bring your lunch, water, gloves, and appropriate clothing for the variable weather conditions we may experience.

Jemez Falls Social Hike

Sunday, April 26, 2009

Leader: Jason Koschmeder, (505) 681-1713, thekosh@netzero.com

Interested in learning more about what volunteer groups do on your trails? Want to meet other people interested in hiking and caring for our recreational resources? Please join the NMVFO for a social hike leaving from Jemez Falls campground on Sunday, April 25 at 9 am. (See map under Pines Trail description). This hike is open to everyone, members and future members. Please contact Jason Koschmeder (thekosh@netzero.com, 505-681-1713) to sign up or for more information.

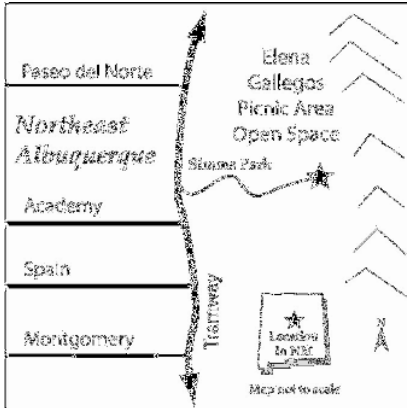
Cook's Class Entertains, Informs

A lively group of volunteers attended the Cooking for the VFO class on March 12. Attendees included prospective and novice cooks as well as experienced cooks who shared their experiences and knowledge. Barbara Hoehne (who says she was delighted to have an opportunity to hone her PowerPoint skills) planned and led the class, which covered project cook responsibilities and the information and tools to fulfill them. Attendees also received resource materials and gear demonstrations. Barbara plans to schedule future classes.

Albuquerque Open Space and Sandia Wilderness Projects



Presented by New Mexico Volunteers for the Outdoors and Friends of Sandia Mountains
 Saturday, May 2, 2009



Join us for a short day of work in the Sandias and foothills! You can choose from one of several projects including multi-use and wilderness trails. We need all levels of effort and are particularly interested in volunteers who can help us mentor some of the new people that will show up to learn general maintenance. The wilderness projects will be on the Pino trail and Domingo Baca. We will also be working on FS trail #305 and open space trails. We will meet at the Elena Gallegos parking area between 0800 and 0830 where we will divide up in to small groups. We will provide bagels and juices in the morning. We will work for approximately five hours and then meet back at the large double shelter for a lunch we will provide and lots of great door prizes! Please sign up by contacting REI-Albuquerque directly at (505) 247-1191 so that you can be assured to get one of the free T-shirts given to the first 75 that sign up prior to 12 April!

A Reminder for Project Leaders

Photographs taken of your project can be shared via a slide show in the Projects Page of our website. Select a dozen of your most interesting shots, write captions for each, and send them to Lowell Hioki (lhioki@msn.com). Not everyone can participate in your project, but many more than your participants can enjoy what was experienced by sharing your photos!

Need Camping Equipment?

If you've been hesitating about going on one of our overnight or longer projects because of a lack of camping equipment, we have some for loan to you. Jan Underwood and Cindy Hess donated a dome tent, and the VFO purchased a 0° sleeping bag and foam mattress pad. These are available on a first-come, first-served basis, so check with the project leader if you want to borrow them. If these have already been borrowed, another source is the REI store near I-40 and Montano; they have a wealth of camping (and other) equipment for rent, including tents, sleeping bags, and sleeping pads.



We want to again thank Wilson & Company, Engineers and Architects, for printing our flyers during this and many past seasons. In Albuquerque, Wilson & Company's services include architectural, environmental planning, railroad and surveying and mapping services.



New Mexico Volunteers for the Outdoors
P.O. Box 36246
Albuquerque, NM 87176

Website: www.nmvfo.org
Email: 1nmvfo@gmail.com

Join the NMVFO Today!

Your membership dues help fund all our activities to make improvements to trails and outdoor recreation areas throughout New Mexico. Mail in the form below, along with your check, to NMVFO, P.O. Box 36246, Albuquerque, NM 87176.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip + 4 _____

Home Phone (with area code): _____

Work Phone (with area code): _____

email address: _____

May we send you our newsletter by email? _____

Please indicate what information above we may include in our posting of your name in the Members-Only section of our website.

The New Mexico Volunteers for the Outdoors is a 501(c)(3) corporation in the state of New Mexico. We are an all-volunteer organization with no paid staff.

NMVFO Membership Categories

- Individual (\$20)
- Family (\$30)
- Contributor (\$30)
- Sponsor (\$50)
- Benefactor (\$100)
- Life (\$250 and above)
- Corporate (\$250 and above)
- You Name It (above \$250)