



Town of Taos
PRESS RELEASE
400 Camino de la Placita, Taos, NM 87571
(575) 751-2002

Contact: Beth Enson, Taos Tree Board Secretary, 779-3424, taostreeboard@gmail.com

Press Release - Taos Arbor Day 2016

For Immediate Release

The Town of Taos, Taos Tree Board and the Heartwood Coalition invite you to celebrate Taos Arbor Day 2016 with a tree planting at the Taos Eco Park at 940 Salazar Road, Friday April 29, 2016 from 2:00 to 5:00 pm. Thirty-nine trees will be planted through grants from the NM State Forestry Division's ReLeaf Program and Challenge Grant and from New Mexico Clean and Beautiful. The Town of Taos will issue an Arbor Day Proclamation and our elected officials will be invited join in the tree planting. The event includes activities for kids and a free, hands-on workshop led by certified arborists on correct tree-planting methods, as well as information on all of the tree species being planted that day. Every participant will receive a free tree seedling to take home. Refreshments will be provided. Participants are asked to bring a shovel and/or rake if they have one, and to wear a sun hat and gloves.

Students from Enos Garcia Elementary School and Taos Integrated School of the Arts will be taking part in the festivities. The students have been drawing pictures of trees and leaves and writing stories about trees as part of their studies. They have created banners which will be on display at the event. On Arbor Day there will be a raffle of prizes donated by Rio Grande Ace Hardware, Petrees Nursery and Plants of the Southwest.

Volunteers from Americorps and from the general public will plant a variety of native, drought-tolerant, and non-invasive tree species at the Arbor Day celebration, including Southwest White Pine, Austrian Pine, Gambel Oak, Sensation Maple, Western River Birch, Chokecherry, and New Mexican Privet. Proper tree-planting principles will be taught and practiced at the event: dig a hole two to three times as wide and the exact depth of the root ball, untangle the roots before planting and discourage circling roots, no soil amendments, create a berm around the hole to gather and hold water, and mulch within the berm but not directly around the trunk of the tree, and stake the trees that are subject to wind.

If you have questions about your trees at home or want to learn how to plant some, we warmly invite you to attend the Arbor Day celebration, ask questions of the arborists at the event, get some hands-on experience and a tree to take home with you. For information, please call Steve Kennebeck, Town of Taos Facilities Services Director, at 737-2628.

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TOWN OF TAOS GOVERNING BODY

Mayor Daniel R. Barrone
Mayor Pro Tem Judith Y. Cantu
Councilmember George "Fritz" Hahn
Councilmember Nathaniel Evans
Councilmember Darien D. Fernandez

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Town Hall Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Visit us on our website: www.taosgov.com