**CORONADO SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

**SPONSORS A CHIPPER DAY APRIL 22, 2023**

Fire danger in the Placitas area is omnipresent. There are still lots of dead trees and brush. Coronado Soil and Water Conservation District (CSWCD), therefore, is sponsoring a Chipper Day on Saturday, April 22, 2023, 8:30am-1:30pm. The San Antonio de las Huertas Land Grant has graciously agreed to host the event again on their property just off State Highway 165 at 1 Camino de la Buena Vista, which is the first lot on the right on Buena Vista below Overlook in Placitas.

Residents throughout the community are encouraged to cut down, rake up, trim, or remove dead trees and plants from around their houses or in the arroyos, and bring the material to be chipped.

The chipper can handle branches up to six inches in diameter, and bundles of dead and dried limbs and twigs. The crew can work the easiest with branches bundled going in the same direction, so they can quickly be fed into the chipper, but will take less tidy bundles. It also can handle juniper branches. Still-green and moist leaves tend to clog the chipper, so it is best to stick with dry material.

Placitas residents can bring multiple loads throughout the morning. The resulting wood chips are free to take. Any leftovers can be picked up from the site for a few days following the event. First come, first served. Wood chips are very useful for protecting the soil, slowing erosion, and holding moisture. They break down and add organic matter to the soil. Chips should be spread no deeper than three inches for best results.