

North Albuquerque Acres Community Association



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President's Message:

Hello North Albuquerque Acres Neighbors,

Welcome to Spring and the beginning of longer days and warmer weather. Please let me bring you up to date regarding some issues, projects, and events that will be occurring in North Albuquerque Acres.

ROAD REPAIRS: The County is funding road repairs on the following streets and intersections in NAA: Coronado and Lowell; Browning and Lowell. The Holbrook and Wilshire intersection was completed April 2024. Regarding the other intersections, there is no definitive timetable yet, but it will hopefully be this summer or fall. I have also requested repairs to the following streets: Elena between Holbrook and Louisiana; and, Barstow between San Diego and Elena. I would encourage all neighbors to report potholes by calling the **Pot Hole Hotline: 505-848-1503**.

INOPERATIVE VEHICLES: I would like to remind all neighbors under the **Bernalillo County Code of Ordinances for A-1 Rural Agricultural Zone**, the open storage of inoperative vehicles or auto parts is prohibited. These must be stored in a building. They cannot be left out on your driveway or lot. We need to work together to protect our property values while keeping our neighborhood looking pristine. **If you see any violations, please report them to County Zoning by calling 505-314-0378.** A county inspector will go to the property and determine if there is a violation, then issue a warning and give the homeowner time to remedy the problem. If it is not resolved, this may result in fines and/or having to go to court.

SPRING CLEAN EVENT 5/18/24 @ 8am - Noon: This year's event is being run by the County. The event will have receptacles for household waste, hazardous waste, and tire disposal (9 tire limit/vehicle-no rims). The location is being moved to Ben Greiner parking lot, 10650 Wilshire Ave. NE 87122.

NAACA COMMUNITY EVENT 6/15/24 @ 8am - 11am: We will be having our own paper shredding and Habitat for Humanity Re-store truck event at Sandia Presbyterian Church in the back parking lot. More information will be forthcoming. See "Events" on our website: NAACA.info

FRIENDLY DUES REMINDER: Please renew your \$25 annual membership if you have not already done so for 2024. Electronic payments may be made on the NAACA.info website by clicking on the [membership link](#) on the Home page.

Lastly, please see my 4/27/24 President's Message regarding a church seeking exception to A-1 zoning at Holbrook and Allande. If you have any questions or suggestions for NAACA, please do not hesitate to contact me at President@NAACA.info.

Take Care, David Neale



Award-winning Canadian nature photographer and conservation photojournalist, Liron Gertsman, captured this image (left) of a frigatebird during the Total Solar Eclipse on April 8, 2024 from a boat off the coast of Sinaloa, Mexico. He spent an entire year preparing for this magnificent shot!



Water Conservation in Bernalillo County

Programs are still in effect for NAA residents. Incentives include free or discounted items in the following categories:

Smart Water Monitors	High-Efficiency Toilet Retrofits	High Efficiency Washing Machines
Smart Irrigation Controllers	Rainwater Harvesting	Laundry-to-Landscape Gray Water



Visit [BernCo Water Conservation](#) for more information or to submit an online application to receive a water efficiency consultation to evaluate water use and opportunities for water conservation. During the consultation, staff will evaluate opportunities for indoor and outdoor water efficiency and provide the estimated water savings and installation requirements for water conservation incentives.

To report water waste in unincorporated areas of Bernalillo County, such as water sprays into a public right-of-way or adjacent properties, NAA residents can submit an Environmental Complaint Form to [BernCo Water Waste](#).

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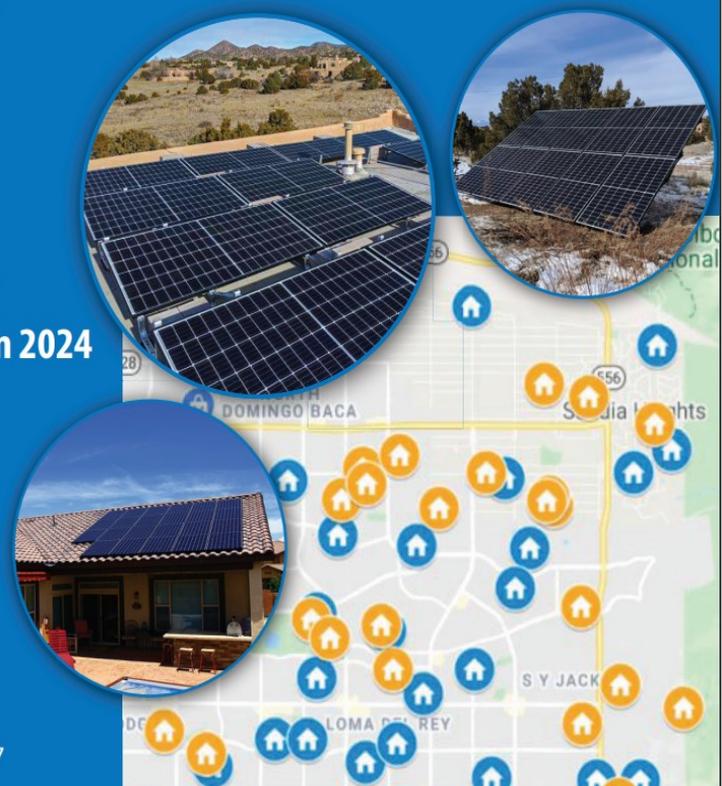
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Volunteer for National Trails Day

When:	June 01, 2024 8:30 AM — 1:00 PM
Where:	Elena Gallegos Open Space 7100 Tramway Blvd NE Albuquerque, NM 87122

Join the City of Albuquerque Open Space Division, the U.S. Forest Service, the Open Space Alliance, and other local organizations for this annual celebration of trails and outdoor recreation!

Volunteers work on over 10 different conservation projects including land restoration, trail maintenance, and new trail construction in the Sandia Mountains and Open Space trail systems. There will be activities for all ages and fitness levels. Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

Please see our [full calendar of events page](#) to learn about National Trails Day and to learn about more opportunities to get out and enjoy your favorite Open Space area.

See our [Open Space volunteer web page](#) for information on how you can support the Open Space Division!

After event picnic and prizes: At the end of the event, we reward our volunteers with a free lunch and lots of prizes donated by our generous sponsors!

ABOUT NATIONAL TRAILS DAY



National Trails Day is celebrated with special events throughout the United States and is considered the largest and most influential trails celebration in the country. Every year, the American Hiking Association helps citizens organize hundreds of trails projects throughout the country. The Open Space Division and other local organizations including the U.S. Forest Service, REI, Friends of the Sandia Mountains, and the Open Space Alliance have planned an exciting day of trails projects that will take place at the Elena Gallegos Open Space. The theme for National Trails Day 2010 is "Find Your Happy Place." This is your opportunity to get outside and contribute to our outdoor recreational heritage by improving and maintaining the Sandia Foothills trails systems.

National Trails Day serves three main purposes:

- 1) Educate the public on the importance of trails and their conservation
- 2) Strengthen alliances of different agencies that work together beyond National Trails Day
- 3) Create new trail advocates

NATIONAL TRAILS DAY IS SPONSORED LOCALLY IN PART BY REI, WHOLE FOODS, LA MONTANITA COOP, THE OPEN SPACE ALLIANCE, FRIENDS OF THE SANDIA MOUNTAINS, and SPORTS SYSTEMS.

Join us in giving back to our trails!

Contact

Jenny Blackmore
jblackmore@cabq.gov
 505-768-3072

Website: <https://www.cabq.gov/parksandrecreation/open-space/events/national-trails-day-event>

Upcoming Events

BernCo Waste Management Spring Clean

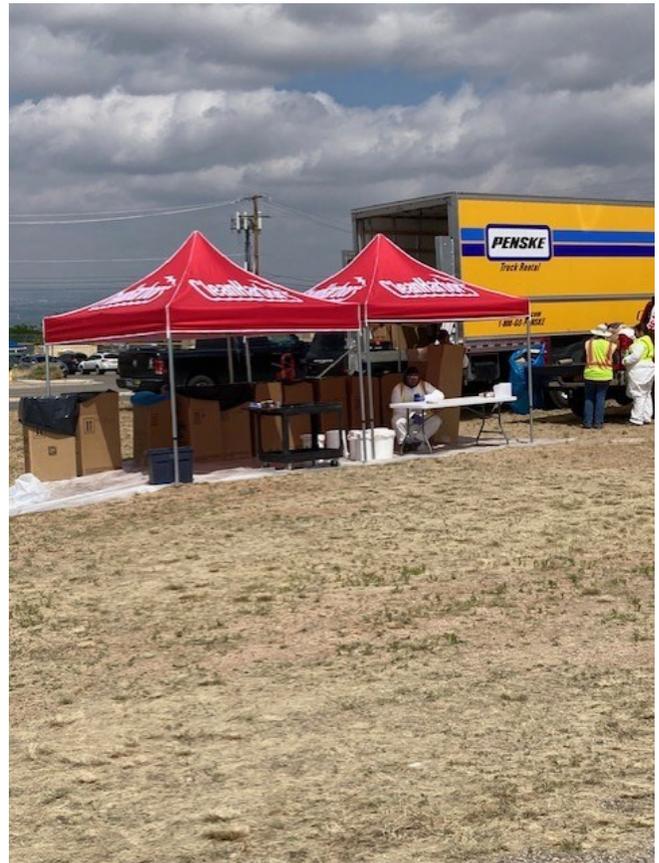
Saturday, May 18, 2024

8:00 AM — 12:00 PM

Ben Griener Park

10650 Wilshire Ave NE 87122

Household waste, hazard waste, and tire disposal (9 tire limit/vehicle — no rims).



For information on upcoming and future events, visit: [NAACA.info/events](https://naaca.info/events)

Upcoming Events (cont.)

NAACA Household Document Shredding Event + ReStore/ Habitat for Humanity Collection

Saturday, June 15, 2024

8:00 AM — 11:00 AM

Sandia Presbyterian Church (Back Gravel Parking Lot)

10704 Paseo Del Norte NE 87122

Limited amount of documents/vehicle



Thank you Sandia
Presbyterian
Church for your
support!

For information on upcoming and future events, visit: [NAACA.info/events](https://naaca.info/events)

Sourdough Starter (Natural Fermentation) Without Yeast

adapted from [King Author Baking](#)

Flours: **Regular Sourdough Starter:** Unbleached AP Flour, or Whole Wheat Flour; **Gluten-free Starter:** use Rye flour (Do not use any gluten-free flour containing: starches, oat, quinoa, or amaranth).

To **begin** your starter:

1 cup choice of flour (use fresh as possible)

1/2 cup water (always use **filtered**)

To **feed** your starter:

Scant 1 cup choice of flour

1/2 cup water (**always room temperature**)



Day 1: Combine the choice of flour with the water in a quart canning jar.

Stir everything together thoroughly; make sure there's no dry flour anywhere. Cover the container with the coffee filter/rubber band around lip and let the mixture sit at warm room temperature (about 70°-74°F) for 24 hours.

Day 2: You may see no activity at all in the first 24 hours, or you may see a bit of growth or bubbling. Either way, discard half the starter (1/2 cup), and add to the remainder: 1 cup Choice of Flour, and 1/2 cup water.

Day 3 -5: By the third day, you'll likely see/smell — bubbling; a fresh aroma, and some evidence of expansion. Begin two feedings daily, as evenly spaced as your schedule allows. For each feeding: measure a generous 1/2 cup of the starter (once it's thoroughly stirred down). Discard any remaining starter.

Add a scant 1 cup of choice of Flour, and 1/2 cup water to the 1/2 cup of starter. Mix the starter, flour, and water, cover, and let the mixture rest at room temperature for approximately 12 hours before repeating.

Keep repeating every 12 hours.

By the end of day #5, the starter should have at least doubled in volume. You'll see lots of bubbles; Also, the starter should have a tangy aroma — pleasingly acidic, but not overpowering. If your starter hasn't risen much and isn't showing lots of bubbles, repeat discarding and feeding every 12 hours on day 6, and day 7, if necessary — as long as it takes to create a vigorous (risen, bubbly) starter.

Once the starter is ready, give it one last feeding. Discard all but a generous 1/2 cup. Feed as usual. Let the starter rest at room temperature for 6 to 8 hours; it should be active, with bubbles breaking the surface.

Remove however much starter you need for your recipe — typically no more than about 1 cup. If your recipe calls for more than 1 cup of starter, give it a couple of feedings without discarding, until you've made enough for your recipe plus 1/2 cup of starter to keep and feed again.

Older/mature starter will have a sourer flavor when baked than a young new starter. It will develop over time.

Transfer the remaining 1/2 cup of starter to its permanent home: a clean canning jar with lid. Feed this reserved starter with 1 cup of choice flour and 1/2 cup water, and let it rest at room temperature for several hours, to get going, before covering it with lid. When you're **storing starter** (in refrigerator) in a screw-top jar, screw the top on loosely rather than airtight (to let any gasses escape). Keep a rhythm of monthly feedings/discarding even if not baking by stirring any separated contents, bringing starter to room temperature, and feeding as before. Happy baking!

Flaky Sourdough Biscuits

Recipe by Peggy Valencia

Yield: 6 generous biscuits!

Preheat oven: 425°F, arrange rack in middle

- ¾ C AP Flour
- 1 ½ tsp Baking Powder
- 1 tsp Kosher Salt
- 8 Tbsp cold butter (almost frozen)
- 1C sourdough starter (discard) at room temperature
- 1 Tbsp half and half



In a large bowl, whisk the first three ingredients to combine.
 Using a large hole grater, grate cold butter on top of flour mixture. Use your fingers to quickly toss and coat butter.
 Make a well in the middle of the mixture and add sourdough starter. Stir/fold until a rough shaggy dough forms.
 On a clean work surface, dust with a little flour and scrape out dough onto surface.
 Sprinkle a little flour on top and pat into a rectangle (5"x7" with 1" thickness).
 Using bench scraper, fold in half and pat into rectangle again.
 If sticky, add a dusting of flour. Rotate rectangle and fold again.
 Keep rotating, folding, patting, sprinkling for 8 folds.
 Using clean bench scraper, cut (without smashing sides) final rectangle into 6 biscuits.
 Carefully place onto buttered baking pan, arranging so that they almost touch.
 Brush each biscuit with half and half.
 Bake 18-20 minutes.
 Enjoy!!



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Neighbor Spotlight



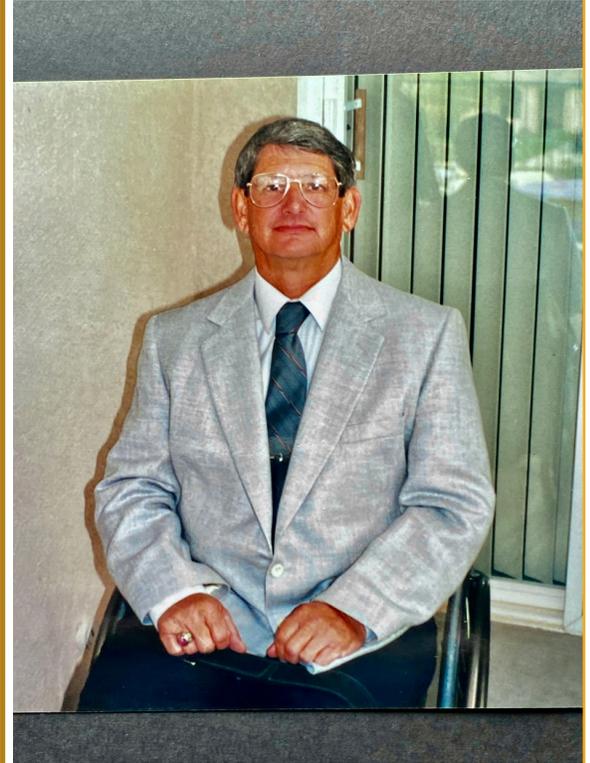
Christopher Scott Ewer of Albuquerque, NM passed away peacefully on December 14, 2023 at his home in North Albuquerque Acres.

Chris was born October 6, 1947 in Glendale, CA and spent his childhood years in Pacific Grove, CA graduating from Pacific Grove High School in 1965. He had many jobs during his high school years to include working on fishing boats, in a radiator shop, and as a manager at a Sambo's restaurant. He also was in the Navy ROTC during high school and upon graduation enlisted in the Navy. He was a valiant Vietnam Veteran, serving as a mine man specializing in underwater weapons. Chris was stationed in Japan for many years and then in Guam where he suffered a gun shot wound that left him paralyzed. He was medically discharged from the Navy in 1976.

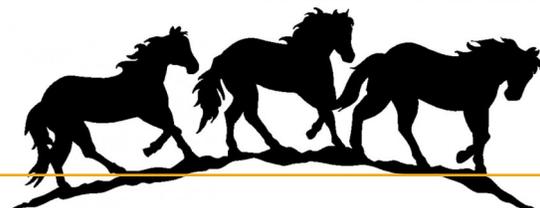
Chris lived 47 years as a wheelchair user and enjoyed hunting, fishing and shooting competitively. He earned many awards in shotgun, pistol and rifle competitions. His passion was shotgun sports. As an avid member of the Albuquerque Trap Club, he mentored beginning shooters and helped with the youth shooting program. Chris was also an active member of the Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA). He held many board positions and also served as a national director. He also served as sports director, where he worked tirelessly to organize wheelchair sporting events and mentor other veterans in many sports. He participated in the Veteran's Wheelchair Games in archery, shotgun, air rifle and ping pong.

Chris' hobby later in life was beekeeping. He enjoyed educating people about bees and the important role they play in the environment. He was a respected member of the beekeeping community, but the thing he enjoyed most was selling honey and talking to all the people he would meet. Along with his wife Lynette they started Sandia Foothills Honey Farm selling honey and beeswax products, raising and selling queen bees and colonies of bees.

Chris is preceded in death by his parents Henry B. Ewer and Otilie V. Ewer also his stepson Eric J. Williams. He is survived by his wife Lynette Ewer, his son Michael Ewer, his stepson Benjamin Williams, his sisters Sonja Clark, Sandra Ewer, and Natalie Barlow, and his grandchildren Emily and Rowan Williams. Christopher is interred at the Santa Fe National Cemetery.



NAA residents walking their humans through the neighborhood.



Legislative News

House Capital Outlay Request

Each year the New Mexico legislature funds projects for each county in the state. This year, the capital project from NAACA was \$2,000,000 to purchase right of way and to plan, design, construct and improve drainage on Browning St. from Anaheim Ave. to Elena Dr. in Bernalillo County. The NAACA board worked with Bill Rehm to identify the need and Bill requested the funding. If approved, the funds should be available July 1st.

The NAACA board would like to express their gratitude to Bill Rehm for his work on this project. Thank you for your service to our community, and congratulations on your retirement!



Bill Rehm, Representative,
District 31



New-and-improved Holbrook, April 2024



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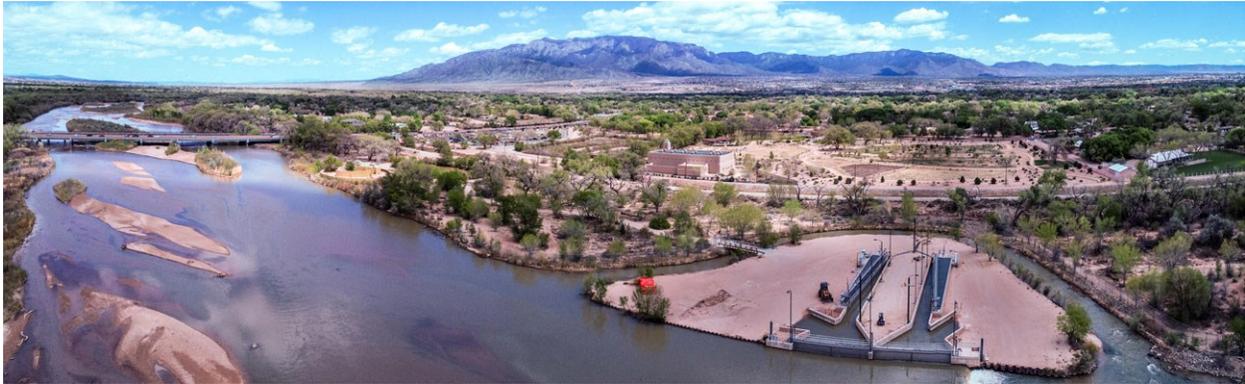
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BERNALILLO COUNTY GROUNDWATER RESOURCES OUR AQUIFER AND WELL HEALTH



The Middle Rio Grande and the San Juan-Rio Chama Drinking Water Facility

Steve Shackley, VP NAACA, Director, Geoarchaeological XRF Laboratory

Recently, the Bernalillo County Office of Public Works offered a meeting on the health of our aquifer water in North Albuquerque Acres (NAA) to the residents. A number of NAA members attended, and Mr. Corbin Carsud, the project engineer for the groundwater project in the County led the meeting and lecture. There are a few points that should be of interest to the community, particularly those that receive their water from the aquifer through private wells. Please connect through the links in this report for further information.

First, unlike other areas of the County, such as the East Mountains where some wells are dropping 10 feet per year, the aquifer below the Middle Rio Grande Valley is in good health, and the water level is stable, and should be sustainable for many years. This is partly due to the conservation activities of citizens and governments, as well as the San Juan-Chama Drinking Water Project that has been injecting fluvial (river) water into the aquifer for some time (more on that below).

So, what does the Office of Public works and the groundwater group under Carsud actually do? Look here:

<https://www.bernco.gov/public-works/public-works-services/water-wastewater-stormwater/groundwater-resources/>

- Assist homeowners with water well questions and issues
- Provide speakers for neighborhood and community functions
- Perform water level and water quality monitoring
- Review subdivision water availability and conservation plans
- Perform targeted groundwater inquiries and studies
- Participate in regional water planning activities
- Provide groundwater technical support for other county departments



The Bernco Office of Public Works Groundwater Office periodically monitors 740 wells throughout the County, including NAA, three to four times per year. These local wells include the US Geological Survey well at Noreste, as well as some private wells. The "index" wells that represent our area and water level are spatially distributed and monitored:

- for longevity
- to confirm well information over time
- to determine whether the well is no longer used (i.e. no functioning pump)
- to determine whether it is representative of the aquifer

The San Juan-Chama Drinking Water Project

The project consists of a series of tunnels and diversions that take water from the drainage basin of the San Juan River – a tributary of the Colorado River – to supplement water resources in the Rio Grande watershed. The project furnishes water for irrigation and municipal water supply to cities along the Rio Grande including Albuquerque and Santa Fe. The main storage facility for the project is [Heron Lake](#), a reservoir formed by [Heron Dam](#) on Willow Creek about 8 miles (13 km) downstream of the terminus of Azotea Tunnel and 20 miles (32 km) southwest of Chama, New Mexico. Albuquerque receives 55.91% of the water from the project each year.

Albuquerque and Bernalillo County rely on groundwater from the Santa Fe Group Aquifer as well as surface water from the [San Juan-Chama Drinking Water Project](#). Groundwater wells combine with the San Juan-Chama project to produce about 32 billion gallons of drinking water for the Albuquerque-Bernalillo County Water Authority’s service area every year. The Water Authority’s Source Water Protection Program is part of the agency’s draft [Rivers and Aquifers Protection Plan](#), the 2018 updated version of the Water Quality Protection Policy and Action Plan, which establishes program goals, protection measures, and recommendations. The program also includes continuation of the Water Authority’s membership on Albuquerque’s [Water Protection Advisory Board](#), which advises local governments on threats to our sources of drinking water. For more information on local source-water protection efforts, an [educational video](#) is available for viewing on YouTube: https://youtu.be/J5VR2_rMcw4.

Reliability of Supply:

Plans for ensuring a long-term supply center around a **four-fold strategy** involving:

Conservation	Aquifer Storage & Recovery
Re-use	San Juan-Chama Drinking Water Project

Details are available in our [WATER 2120 Resource Management Plan](#). Details of Water Authority plans for protecting water resources during periods of drought can be found in our [Drought Demand Reduction Plan](#).

While it might seem that your well is you private water supply, it is actually part of a large supply system fed by water created during the Pliocene and Pleistocene millions of years ago during the last ice ages. Without an ability to recharge the aquifer, like the San Juan-Chama project, our aquifer would be depleted in decades, and while there is technically a seemingly unlimited supply of water, the lower portions of the aquifer are brackish with too many salts to serve as drinking water. The fresh water is a different density than the brackish portion and floats on top of the unusable portion of the aquifer, so drawing down the aquifer too much would result in undrinkable water.

It behooves those of us with private wells and sewage disposal systems to be careful with the water we use and its disposal. Our aquifer is one of the most precious resources we have in our great state of New Mexico. We are all tied together.



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- Full page (7.5" x 10.5 ") — \$300

Sizes are approximate.

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