



# CARLSBAD SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

3219 S. CANAL •

CARLSBAD NM, 88220

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SUMMER 2021

[WWW.CARLSBADSOILANDWATER.ORG](http://WWW.CARLSBADSOILANDWATER.ORG)



We continue to work with our partners at the Bureau of Land Management and the State Land Office to reclaim old caliche pits and roads, bringing them back to a more natural slope and reseeding with a native grass mix.

Last school year, CSWCD was approached by students and PTA members from Jefferson Montessori Academy who wanted to change out old drinking fountains for new ones that included water bottle filling stations. They found that there were few places on campus to safely and sanitarily fill a bottle. These new stations would encourage students to reuse water bottles, producing less plastic waste and also reduce the amount of water going down the drain from the fountain. The new fountains include counters that keep track of how many plastic bottles have been saved by the refilling station. Students are able to track the impact they are making on conservation efforts. CSWCD adopted the project and after approval from Carlsbad Municipal Schools, had three of the water bottle filling stations installed at JMA.



Water bottle filling stations



Another project taken on by the CSWCD was the second hoop house for Firm Foundation Farms. Rey Sosa and his family had plans to expand on the no-till market gardening model that they had implemented. After much research, they held to the principals and ideas of developing healthy soils as the most important part of a sustainable regenerative organic farm. They are happy to share their knowledge and experience with the community to further these principles. You might catch them as well as other innovative farmers at Carlsbad Downtown Farmers & Makers Market on Thursday evenings from 5:30-7:30 pm.





6 Mile Dam June 29th, 2021  
Left picture taken at 1:20 pm.  
Right picture taken at 4:30pm.

### **Finally! It rained!**

And with all the blessings of rain comes more noxious/invasive weeds. Remember that we have a Brush Management cost-share program that can help you deal with Mesquite, Salt Cedar, Malta



Starthistle, and the highly invasive and noxious African Rue. Come by or email the office and get an application. Applications are reviewed once per month at the regular board meeting.

#### **BRUSH MANAGEMENT PROGRAM GUIDELINES**

1. Cost-share is limited to \$5,000.00 per landowner per year.
2. Cost-share will be fifty percent (50%) of the bills submitted for payment by Carlsbad Soil and Water Conservation (SWCD). Bills are to include chemical costs, equipment rental, labor costs, or application costs by licensed applicators, fuel costs, etc.
3. The Natural Resource Conservation Service standards and specifications for brush management and prescribed fire will be followed when applying practices.
4. Herbicide application rates will follow the recommendations on the manufacturer's label. The total amount of herbicide will not exceed allowable rates.
5. Cooperator (landowner) will sign a waiver releasing Carlsbad SWCD from any liability connected with his/her application of brush management practices.
6. Cost-share will not be allowed on a practice being cost-shared by another agency, group or individual.
7. Pictures of proposed project site must be submitted with Brush Management Program application.



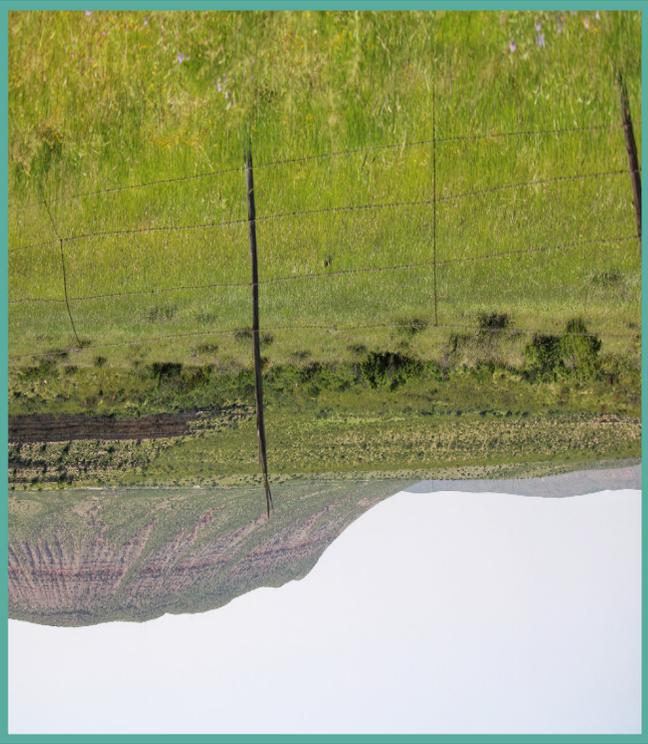
Over 80 volunteers showed up to plant 30 Cottonwood seedlings and more poles at the Cottonwood Day Use Area as well as clean out the irrigation ditches and return water to the picnic area and the fields below. This project has been ongoing since last year and we can now see the fruits of everyone's labor. While we did lose the deck and the newly planted poles to a wildfire a few weeks after this, all of the seedlings survived. Plans are in the works to replace the deck and rehabilitate the burned area.



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**Remember: The SWCD meets the 2nd Monday of each month at 6:00pm at 3219 S Canal, on the Pecos Hwy. Please join us!**



**Office numbers are:  
 575-628-1532; phone  
 575-885-5386; fax  
 swcd@carlsbadsoilandwater.org; email**

**Our district board meetings are on the 2nd Monday of each month at 6:00pm. Meetings are held at 3219 S Canal in the district building.**

**The current Board of Supervisors are:**  
 Nathan Jurva, Chair  
 Kristin Pope, Vice Chair  
 Jim Carr, Secretary/Treasurer  
 Lupe Carrasco, Member  
 Fred Beard, Member  
 Henry Vasquez, Member  
 Charles Goodwin, Member  
**District Employees:**  
 Sandi Wilkie, District Manager  
 Riki Lopez, Business Administrator  
 Ray Keller, Natural Resource Specialist