

State of New Mexico
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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NEWS RELEASE

State Forestry Announces New Online Donation Tool for Re-Leaf Program

Santa Fe, NM – Each year, the New Mexico Forest Re-Leaf Program grants thousands of privately donated dollars to plant trees in parks, school yards, open space areas and on other public lands. Now, the New Mexico State Forestry Division has made it easier to donate to the program through a new online donation function on their website – www.nmforestry.com.

“Our program depends completely on donations from private individuals and corporations,” said Re-Leaf Program Manager Kelly Washburn. “With the ability to donate directly via our website, the hope is that more New Mexicans will take part in the program and help us plant trees in our communities.”

The New Mexico Forest Re-Leaf Program was designed to provide tree planting grants and promote environmental education. Since created by the New Mexico Legislature in 1990, more than \$550,000 has been granted to plant over 19,000 trees on public lands throughout the state. Up to now, donations could only be made in-person, by mail or by individuals donating through their annual New Mexico State tax refund.

“We’ve seen a change in the traditional ways people donate,” Washburn said. “With more people now online and comfortable making payments electronically, this online donation tool seemed a more convenient and very secure option to offer them.”

There are several ways that the citizens of New Mexico can contribute to this community tree planting program:

- Click the green “Re-Leaf” button at the top of the Forestry Division homepage (www.nmforestry.com) to make a secure online donation. All major credit cards accepted;
- Donate to New Mexico Forest Re-Leaf on your New Mexico State Tax Return Form (PIT-D);
- Mail a donation directly to: New Mexico Forest Re-Leaf Program.
- Donate when you purchase seedlings through the New Mexico State Forestry Conservation Seedling Program;
- Volunteer at a tree planting event funded by the New Mexico Forest Re-Leaf Program.

For more information or to contribute to the New Mexico Forest Re-Leaf Program contact: Kelly Washburn, Program Manager, New Mexico State Forestry Division; 1220 South St. Francis Dr.; Santa Fe, NM 87505. Telephone: (505) 476-3332; E-mail: kelly.washburn@state.nm.us .

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