

State of New Mexico
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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EMNRD Has Major Presence at the 2016 New Mexico State Fair

Albuquerque, NM –New Mexico’s Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD) is “bringing it” to this year’s State Fair running now through September 18, 2016, at the Bob Gerding Natural Resources Building on Main Street.

“Historically, EMNRD has had a strong presence at the State Fair and this year is no exception,” said Acting Cabinet Secretary Tony Delfin. “Our job is to promote and protect New Mexico’s natural resources and we hope fairgoers visit our exhibits and come away with greater knowledge of what we do.”

Visit the following exhibits in the Bob Gerding Natural Resources Building:

New Mexico State Forestry:

New this year, the New Mexico State Forestry Division will be selling conservation tree seedlings at their exhibit booth **every day during the fair**. This popular fair program features native, well established trees and shrubs that are first-come, first-served and will be available from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

State Forestry will also be presenting information on wildfire preparedness and prevention, woody biomass utilization and other Division programs that benefit private landowners.

State Forestry will participate in Firefighters Day and Smokey Bear Day on Friday, September 9th and members of the Returning Heroes program will be on Main Street for Military & Veterans Celebration Day on Tuesday, September 13th.

New Mexico Mining and Minerals Division:

The New Mexico Mining and Minerals Division’s (MMD) Abandoned Mine Land (AML) Program features an exhibit designed to allow the public to get a feel for the dangers of being inside an abandoned mine. The exhibit provides important abandoned mine information and allows the public to participate in a touch screen quiz. It is also equipped with a sensory system to trigger the sound of falling rocks when a fairgoer steps too close to a shaft photo on the floor.

Nothing of value is left in abandoned mines - that is why they were abandoned. It is vital to know about abandoned mine dangers of not only the environmental and health variety, but also the very real possibility of personal injury and death. This exhibit is designed to alert the public, particularly the young and young adults, to the dangers of abandoned mines. Statistics show

that more accidents and fatalities in abandoned mines involve high school-aged and college-aged students.

The Abandoned Mine Land Program is a federally funded state program whose mission is to safeguard and reclaim pre-1977 mining-related disturbances. There are approximately 15,000 abandoned mines in New Mexico. Since its inception AML has closed or safeguarded more than 3,100 hazardous mine features in the state.

New Mexico State Parks Division:

Which New Mexico State Park has your next adventure? Park Rangers and personnel will be on hand to answer questions about any of our 35 State Parks throughout the State.

We know lifejackets save lives! The New Mexico State Parks Division's Boating Safety, Education, and Enforcement Program has a lifejacket display with demonstrations on inflatable lifejackets with free lifejacket fittings for children. The emphasis of these exhibits will be focused on increasing child safety on and near the water through the use of a lifejackets.

You, too, can be a Park Ranger! State Parks will be outside on Main Street on Wednesday, September 14th for Career Day/Environment Day. We'll have experts available to answer questions about the dynamic career opportunities with New Mexico State Parks.

State Parks is New Mexico True! Join us every day in the Bob Gerding Building to view gorgeous photo submissions from our Find Your New Mexico True Park Photo Contest!

Energy, Conservation and Management Division:

The Energy Conservation and Management Division (ECMD) develops and implements effective clean energy programs – renewable energy, energy efficiency and conservation, clean fuels and efficient transportation – to promote environmental and economic sustainability for New Mexico and its citizens.

Stop by the ECMD booth in the Natural Resources Building to experiment with the latest LED lights! These lights now cost less than ever; they can reduce your electric bill dramatically, last more than 20 years, and provide awesome light quality. You can measure the electricity footprint of a variety of lights (LEDs, CFLs, and incandescent lights) in watts and compare qualities.

New Mexico's rich resources of wind and sun are being harnessed to generate electricity; come learn about where the development is taking place throughout New Mexico. These electricity sources are clean, require no fuel once they are built, and provide New Mexico with energy security.

Have you tried biking, ridesharing or transit? Share your experience and learn more about these multi-modal options at the ECMD booth. Traveling smart can improve your health while helping to protect our wonderful natural resources.

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The Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department provides resource protection and renewable energy resource development services to the public and other state agencies.