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Santa Fe Area Outdoor Education Sites Looking For Volunteers

Santa Fe, NM - Cerrillos Hills State Park and the Santa Fe Botanical Garden will be holding a combined volunteer training on Saturday, March 17 at the Cerrillos Hills State Park Visitor Center in the village of Cerrillos. The two organizations are partnering to recruit and train volunteers to serve as docents at Cerrillos State Park and the Ortiz Mountain Education Preserve. A docent is volunteer who leads hikes, greets visitors and helps with visitor needs.

The Docent Training Program is a free one-day event with both classroom and on-site presentations. Training includes classes, nature walks and digital presentations taught by staff, educators and resource professionals. The training program will cover topics on plant life, geology, history, mining and how to lead a public hike.

"The Park and the Preserve share similar natural and cultural histories," says Santa Fe Botanical Garden Outreach Director Fran Cole. Cole initiated the joint training project between Santa Fe Botanical and Cerrillos Hills State Park. "This is a great opportunity for collaboration and building community partnerships."

"Public education is a priority for the Park," says Cerrillos Hills State Park Manager Sarah Wood. Wood directs public programs year-round at Cerrillos Hills State Park. "We are always looking for interested people to enhance our park programs."

The Santa Fe Botanical Garden manages the 1,300 acre Ortiz Mountains Educational Preserve located just a few miles south of Cerrillos Hills State Park. The State Park Division manages 1,116 acres of park land just north of the village of Cerrillos.

The training will be held at the Cerrillos Hills State Park Visitor Center, 37 Main Street, Cerrillos on Saturday March 17 from 9am to 5pm. Registration is required. Visit www.santafebotanicalgarden.org to register online; or call 471-9103 (SFBG) or 474-0196 (CHSP). Please bring a lunch. Coffee and snacks will be provided.

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