

State of New Mexico
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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News Release

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New Mexicans Encouraged to Celebrate Arbor Day and Arbor Month

SANTA FE, NM – Friday, March 8, 2013, is Arbor Day in New Mexico and the New Mexico State Forestry Division is encouraging all New Mexicans to celebrate by taking part in community activities, planting trees and enjoying the millions of acres of trees in the state's municipalities, state parks, open spaces, national forests and other public lands.

In honor of the occasion, Governor Susana Martinez has signed a proclamation, designating March 8, 2013, as Arbor Day in New Mexico and all of March as Arbor Month.

“Governor Martinez and I encourage everyone to recognize both Arbor Day and Arbor Month by enjoying the forested areas across the state in our mountains, bosque areas and in our urban areas as well,” said State Forestry Urban and Community Forester Kelly Washburn. “Trees are vital to our quality of life in New Mexico it’s our responsibility to take care of our forests so that future generations can benefit from them as well.”

In 1891, the New Mexico Territorial Legislature established the observance of Arbor Day on the second Friday of each March. In 1992, recognizing that the state’s diverse climate does not provide for tree planting opportunities for all areas on only one date, the New Mexico State Legislature passed a house memorial designating all of March as Arbor Month. Celebrating Arbor Day and Arbor Month is an opportunity for all New Mexicans to learn about how trees benefit our lives and our communities.

Governor Martinez’s proclamation calls for New Mexicans to observe Arbor Day and Arbor Month by calling attention to the need for trees and their proper care. Schools are encouraged to plant trees on Arbor Day and teach students about their importance.

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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.

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