

State of New Mexico
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

Susana Martinez
Governor

David Martin
Cabinet Secretary

Brett F. Woods, Ph.D.
Deputy Cabinet Secretary

Tony Delfin, Division Director
State Forestry Division



May 19, 2014

News Release

Contact: Dan Ware – Fire Prevention and Outreach Program Manager
505-476-3336/505-690-8210
daniel.ware@state.nm.us

State Forestry Re-Leaf Grant to Plant Trees in Lordsburg

SANTA FE, NM – The New Mexico State Forestry Division has awarded \$6,000 in grant funding to plant 70 trees at the Lordsburg Schools baseball/softball complex, according to State Timber Management Officer, Andrew Frederick.

“Planting trees isn’t just about beautifying a park or adding ascetics to an open space area,” said Frederick. “Trees serve to protect and improve quality of life and recreation needs of a community’s residents as well.”

The trees to be planted at the sports complex will be used to create a windbreak around the ball field and will provide shade in spectator areas, according to project coordinator Don Smith.

“In addition to providing protection and shade at the complex, the school will set up an instructional program for students that help with the planting of the trees,” said Smith. “We will also provide educational programs to discuss tree maintenance and concepts of planting and caring for trees.”

Awards for up to \$6,000 per community were made to projects in five communities across New Mexico. These funds, administered by New Mexico State Forestry Division, support valuable community tree planting efforts aimed at improving the environment, educating citizens, and beautifying public places. This year’s grant recipients include the communities of Las Vegas, Raton, Rio Rancho, Fort Sumner and Lordsburg.

New Mexico Forest Re-Leaf was established in 1990 to provide a tree-planting grant program for public entities such as public schools, cities, towns, counties, soil and water conservation districts, rural fire districts and others. New Mexico Forest Re-Leaf fills a budgetary void for these entities that lack tree-planting funds. Since its inception, New Mexico Forest Re-Leaf has awarded more than \$600,000 for tree-planting and education efforts.

New Mexico Forest Re-Leaf is solely funded through private donations from individuals, businesses and corporations. Donations can be made through a “New Mexico Forest Re-Leaf” check-off box on the New Mexico Individual Income Tax Form, Schedule D. There is also a donation check-off box on the Forestry Division’s Seedling sales order form. Donations can also be made online at nmforestry.com or by contacting the New Mexico State Forestry Division at (505) 476-3343 or at 1220 South St. Francis Dr., Santa Fe, NM 87505

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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.