



NMVFO NEWS

The Voice of the New Mexico Volunteers for the Outdoors

October 2011

Volume 29, No.8

New Mexico Volunteers for the Outdoors, (505) 884-1991 or (888) 836-5553

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<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=51509327933>

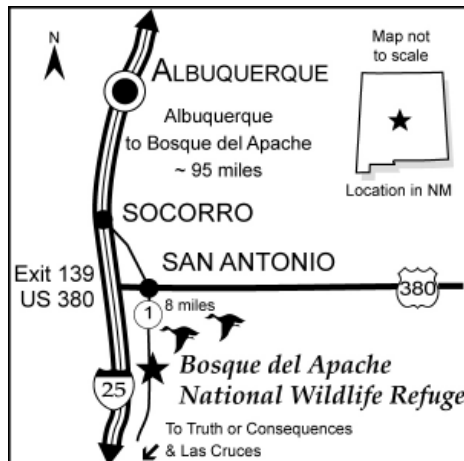
Email us at Inmvfo@gmail.com.

Volunteer Opportunities

Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge (⚡ - ⚡⚡)

Saturday, October 8 through Sunday, October 9

Leader: Barbara Hoehne, (505) 227-1673, nymphaea123@msn.com



Come for a day or the weekend to enjoy early Fall at the [Refuge](#) where we will again help prepare for the annual [Festival of the Cranes](#). This year we will replace posts and do other maintenance on trails and may create a new trail on the Farm Loop. Breakfast on Saturday and Sunday and dinner on Saturday night will be provided by the VFO and prepared by a volunteer cook. Everyone is welcome and newcomers are encouraged to attend. Volunteers should plan to meet at 7:30 AM on Saturday morning at the Volunteer Center. Carpooling is encouraged and will be facilitated by the Project Leader. A limited number of beds will be available on Friday and Saturday nights in a bunkhouse near the Volunteer Center on a first-come basis. Sorry, beds cannot be reserved; volunteers should bring camping equipment in case the bunkhouse

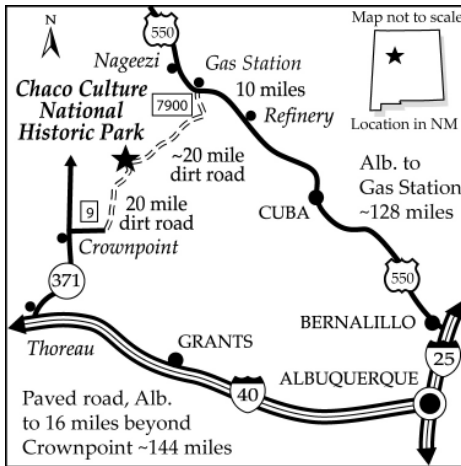
fills up. Tent and RV/truck camping is available in the area near the bunkhouse. Bathrooms with hot showers are available in the bunkhouse and Volunteer Center. Bring long-sleeved shirts, long pants, work gloves, work boots, sun protection, mosquito repellent, raingear, lunches & snacks, and water bottles or hydration packs. ***Please sign up for this project by Sunday, October 2.***

Chaco Culture National Historical Park (⚡ - ⚡⚡)

Saturday, October 15 through Sunday, October 16

Leader: Sharon Miles, (505) 836-5794, sharon@seniorcareoptions.net

Chaco Culture National Historical Park is always a favorite of the NMVFO with its historical wonder, striking scenery, magnificent ruins, and compelling architecture. Chaco Canyon is the most impressive prehistoric community in the southwest, with 32 square miles and about 2400 archaeological sites, from small scatters of shards and stone, to monumental structures, the thirteen “towns” and the great kivas, for which the canyon is well known. This year’s project will involve primarily trail maintenance and restoration work on trails, as well as other projects needed to preserve and improve this amazing park.



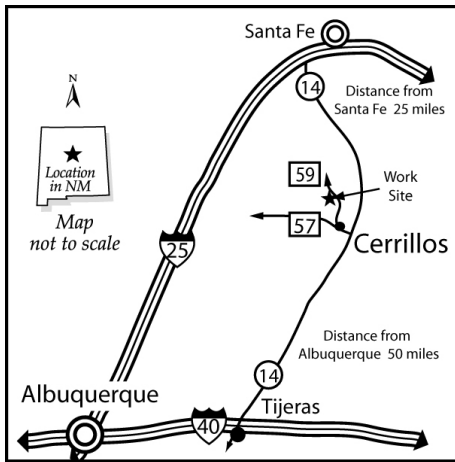
We will camp Friday and Saturday nights at the VIP campground which has bathrooms, showers and kitchen facilities, as well as a covered picnic area and nice fire ring. The work schedule is 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM on Saturday and 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM on Sunday. You must be able to work both days. NMVFO will provide a light Saturday breakfast and evening meal, and breakfast on Sunday. Please bring water bottles, a daypack, and your own lunch for Saturday and Sunday. Also bring work gloves, sun protection, and perhaps raingear. The evenings are very cool, and the days are hot and sunny, so prepare for both extremes.

You are welcome to stay in the VIP campground on Sunday night if you plan to do more exploring at Chaco. On Saturday night the observatory and other telescopes are open for star gazing, and often an interpretive program is given. The sign up deadline is Monday, October 10 and we still have plenty of space. Please notify the project leader by October 12 if you cannot attend.

Cerrillos Hills State Park (↖ ↗)

Saturday, October 22

Leader: Sarah Wood, (505) 474-0196, sarah.wood@state.nm.us



We'll be doing trail maintenance on two trails and installing rolling dips and covered water bars in places. Wear layers; hats and boots or sturdy shoes are a must. Cerrillos Hills State Park is located in Santa Fe County approximately 16 miles south of Santa Fe and 4 miles north of Madrid. The Park can be accessed through the Village of Cerrillos via State Highway 14. From Highway 14 turn west into the village of Cerrillos. At the first stop sign, turn right (north) onto 1st street. Just after you cross the cattle guard, veer left onto County Rd 59. The main parking lot is on the left hand side about 1/4 mile up the road. We will meet there at 9:00 AM. Bring a lunch; I'll provide snacks and water.

Board Meeting

The NMVFO Board of Directors will meet on October 12 at 6:30 pm at 11930 Menaul Blvd, NE, Suite 109. Anyone interested may attend. Two of our current members will be leaving the board at the end of the year. We need replacements to keep this important administrative process active. Please send any nominations to Kevin Balciar at kevin@soleilwest.com. Nominations should be sent prior to October 12 for inclusion on the November ballot.

2012 Projects Committee Meetings

Wednesday, October 12 and Wednesday, December 14

Leader: Lowell Hioki, (505) 474-0913, lhioki@msn.com

Our annual Projects Committee meetings are scheduled for Wednesday, October 12 and Wednesday, December 14, 2011. They will be held in the Courtyards@Cutler Clubhouse, 2403 San Mateo NE, will begin at 7:00 p.m. and last approximately two hours. The first meeting will be a general discussion of the project scheduling process, what should be repeated, what should be done differently, and just about any subject involving the Projects Committee and its activities. The second meeting will define our 2012 schedule. A tentative schedule will be suggested, based on inputs from prospective project leaders and their interface with agency personnel, and will be discussed and amended during the meeting; the output will be a near-firm plan for 2012. These meetings are open to everyone, and all are encouraged to attend and participate. It's the time to let your druthers be known and to influence what we do next year.

Message from the Membership Chair, Jim Scanlon

It's not a surprise to anyone that our membership is shrinking. We need new volunteers and we need younger volunteers. And most of all we need the help of current volunteers. We all joined the VFO because we wanted to be outdoors, to do work that helps public lands, and to meet other like-minded folks. We've swung pulaskis, hefted rocks, gotten our feet wet, and couldn't wait for that Saturday night meal. But now that's not enough. Because we are an all-volunteer organization, we have no staff to do the behind the scenes work. That falls on our shoulders because we are not just part of a trail building group; you and I and everyone else ARE the VFO.

The membership committee has been meeting regularly for several months. We've come to the conclusion that the strategies we've been using to recruit new volunteers are sound. What we need, though, is better implementation and coordination. As a result, we're trying to organize our efforts into specific areas such as media, community outreach, and follow-up on inquiries to the VFO. We also know that the only way this will be successful is with the assistance of current VFO members.

We'd like to ask you to take a moment to see if you might be able to donate a few hours a month to help. Listed are just some of the areas where we need assistance:

Staffing information tables; giving presentations to community groups; contacting other nonprofits and businesses; designing recruitment materials; developing power point presentations; identifying resources in cities outside of Albuquerque and Santa Fe; personalized telephone calls and e-mails to inquiries and first time volunteers; tracking inquiries to the VFO; entering data; assisting in the writing and distribution of news releases; identifying new media outlets

If you could volunteer time for any of these efforts, or have ideas for other activities, please contact any of the membership committee listed below:

Jackie Hertel, jhquickbeam@msn.com
Mike Myers, michael_myers@q.com
Rickey Richardson, rikiravenspeaks@yahoo.com
Bill Velasquez, bvelasquez@gardnerzemke.com

Elaine McGivern, elainemcgivern@gmail.com
Deborah Radcliffe, dradcliffe@salud.unm.edu
Jim Scanlon, scanlon.jim@gmail.com



We thank Wilson & Company, Engineers and Architects, for printing our flyers and newsletters during this and many past seasons. In Albuquerque, Wilson & Company's services include architectural, environmental planning, railroad and surveying and mapping services.



New Mexico Volunteers for the Outdoors
P.O. Box 36246
Albuquerque, NM 87176

Website: www.nmvfo.org
Email: 1nmvfo@gmail.com

Join the NMVFO Today!

Your membership dues help fund all our activities to make improvements to trails and outdoor recreation areas throughout New Mexico. Mail in the form below, along with your check, to NMVFO, P.O. Box 36246, Albuquerque, NM 87176.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip + 4 _____

Home Phone (with area code): _____

Mobile Phone (with area code): _____

email address (for NMVFO Monthly Newsletters on service projects, social events and other good news): _____

The New Mexico Volunteers for the Outdoors is a 501(c)(3) corporation in the state of New Mexico. We are an all-volunteer organization with no paid staff.

NMVFO Membership Categories

- Solo Shoveler (\$20)
(Individual)
- Pruners 'n Loppers (\$30)
(Family/Contributor)
- Crosscut Sawyer (\$50)
(Sponsor)
- Pulaski Champion (\$100)
(Benefactor)
- Lifetime Trail Defender (\$250)
(Lifetime Member)