

Bernalillo County Open Space

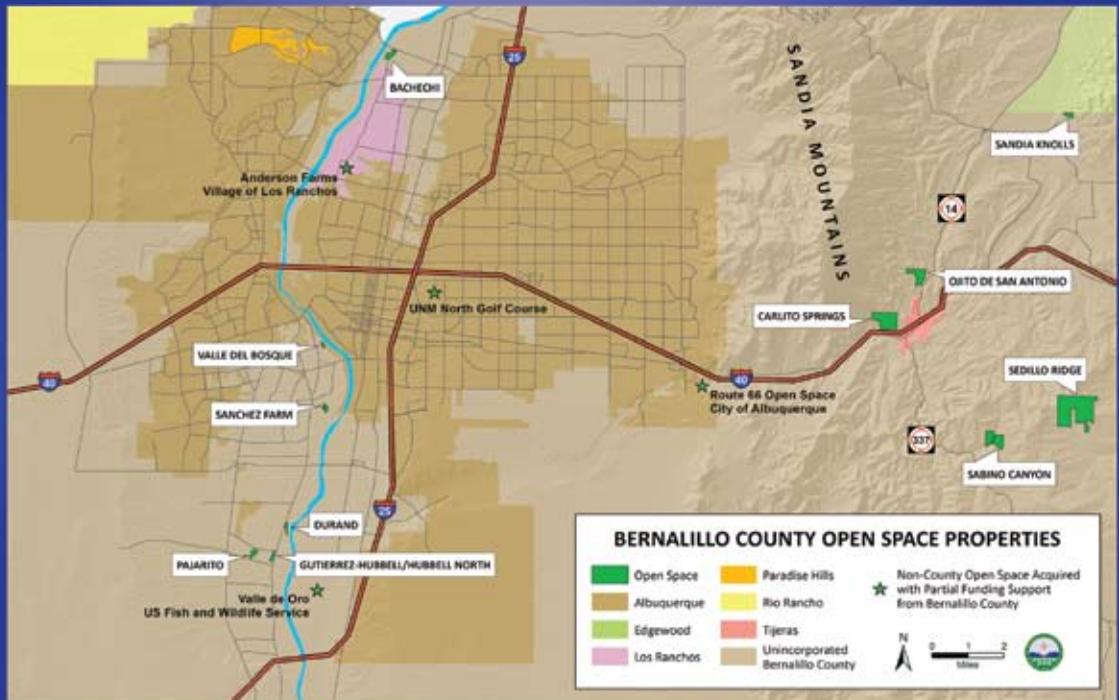
2014

Program of Events



Open Space, From the Mountains to the Valley

BERNALILLO COUNTY OPEN SPACE PROPERTIES



VALLEY OPEN SPACE PROPERTIES

BACHECHI
(9521 RIO GRANDE BLVD. NW)

VALLE DEL BOSQUE
(480 SUNSET RD. SW)

SANCHEZ FARM
(1180 ARENAL RD. SW)

DURAND
(4750 ISLETA BLVD. SW)

PAJARITO
(5995 BECK RD. SW)

GUTIERREZ-HUBBELL HOUSE
(6029 ISLETA BLVD. SW)

HUBBELL NORTH
(5945 ISLETA BLVD. SW)

EAST MOUNTAIN OPEN SPACE PROPERTIES

SANDIA KNOLLS
(35 CANYON RD.
SANDIA PARK, NM)

OJITO DE SAN ANTONIO
(30 SAN ANTONIO DR.
CEDAR CREST, NM)

CARLITO SPRINGS
(82 CARLITO SPRINGS RD.
TIJERAS, NM)

SEDILLO RIDGE
(193 BRANNAN RD
TIJERAS, NM)

SABINO CANYON
(34 FOREST RD. 252
TIJERAS, NM)

OPEN SPACE PARTNER PROPERTIES

UNM NORTH GOLF COURSE
(UNIVERSITY OF
NEW MEXICO)

**VALLE DE ORO URBAN
NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE**
(U.S. FISH AND
WILDLIFE SERVICE)

ANDERSON FARMS
(VILLAGE OF LOS RANCHOS)

ROUTE 66 OPEN SPACE
(CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE
OPEN SPACE)

Bernalillo County Open Space strives to be a dynamic network of properties with important natural and cultural resources. The land is managed to benefit people, plants and wildlife by protecting and enhancing viewsheds, water resources, wildlife habitat, cultural and historical sites, and prime agricultural land; and to provide resource-based recreation and environmental education.

Bernalillo County Open Space is offering a wonderful program of events, workshops, and opportunities for you this year.

Get out and enjoy Open Space.

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Master Naturalist Program

Mission Statement

The Bernalillo County Open Space Master Naturalist Program aims to instill the pursuit of lifelong learning and promote environmental stewardship. Participants are actively engaged through education and service dedicated to the beneficial management of natural resources on Open Space properties.

The Master Naturalist Program provides an excellent opportunity to participate in conserving, preserving and restoring the local environment.

Through the Master Naturalist Program, a select group of dedicated participants will enjoy a wide range of FREE classes and hands-on experiences including 55 hours of classroom training and field studies over a two month period. Upon completion of the classes and field studies, participants will carry out a 40 hour service project on Open Space properties.

This program is ideal for individuals who have a love for the outdoors, curiosity of the natural environment, and desire to work with others and help support conservation measures that improve land health.

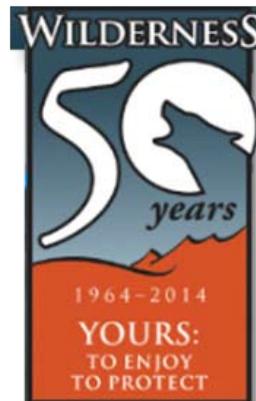


Applications will be accepted from March 1-31, 2014 at www.bernco.gov/openspace. The training will take place in June and July on Thursday evenings and every other Saturday.

To apply, visit www.bernco.gov/openspace

Wilderness Act 50th Anniversary Lecture Series and Films

This series will provide the public with an in-depth look at the establishment of the Wilderness Act in 1964, wilderness areas of New Mexico, challenges of managing wilderness areas in today's urban society and the future of our wilderness areas. Bernalillo County Open Space is partnering with federal agencies in celebration of the Wilderness Act 50th Anniversary through this **FREE** series and invites you to participate. Federal partners include the U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.



1. **Wilderness 101**
April 26 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Bachechi Open Space (9521 Rio Grande Blvd. NW)
 Karl Malcolm from the U.S. Forest Service will present an overview of the Wilderness Act. Following that, the documentary "Wild by Law" will be screened outdoors at the Bachechi Environmental Education Building.
2. **Wilderness in New Mexico: A Virtual Tour**
May 17 from 7-8 p.m. at the Petroglyph National Monument Visitor Center (Unser Blvd. at Western Trail NW)
 Enjoy an evening under the stars at the Petroglyph National Monument with Diane Souder who will present a slideshow of wilderness areas throughout New Mexico.
3. **Management, Challenges and Opportunities of Wilderness Areas**
July 19 starting at 2 p.m. at the Tijeras Pueblo Education Center behind the Sandia Ranger Station (11776 State Highway 337, Tijeras)
 A panel of experts will talk about some of the challenges and opportunities of managing wilderness areas in New Mexico. The focus will be on fire, wildlife, trails and public use issues.
4. **Looking to the Future of Wilderness**
August 23 from 7-10 p.m. at Valle de Oro National Urban Wildlife Refuge and the Gutierrez-Hubbell House in the South Valley (7851 2nd St. SW and 6029 Isleta Blvd. SW)
 This event will start with a sunset hike at the new urban wildlife refuge, Valle de Oro. Following that, there will be a short youth presentation and an outdoor screening of shorts made by youth, plus a featured film, at the Gutierrez-Hubbell House. Don't forget to bring a picnic blanket and dinner for this outdoor event.



Special Events

Cesar Chavez Day of Service

March 28-29

The Recuerda a Cesar Chavez Committee (RCCC) is organizing the 21st annual march on March 29 to and from the National Hispanic Cultural Center to educate the community about the life and work of the great American civil rights leader Cesar Chavez. The festivities will begin the day before, on March 28, with a Day of Service at Sanchez Farm Open Space. Hundreds of students will learn about Cesar Chavez's legacy and the importance of agriculture with hands-on activities and service projects. RCCC works with a number of partners including La Plazita Institute, Food Corps, and Bernalillo County Open Space. To hear more about the march or volunteer for the Day of Service, visit www.cesarchaveznm.org.

Soaring the South Valley

May 10 from 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.

at Durand Open Space (4750 Isleta Blvd. SW)

Durand Open Space was once home to Westernair Inc., an airplane maintenance business formerly owned by the Durand family. Today, the property commemorates more natural airborne creatures—birds. Bernalillo County Open Space is working with a number of partners to organize a fun-filled family event celebrating both birds and planes at Durand Open Space. There will be a number of exciting things happening both on the ground and in the air include the following:

Birds

- Guided bird walks, bird banding, and live birds of prey
- Birding 101 tips and tricks, featuring the South Valley Bird Guide
- Birds of a Feather, and other kids activities

Planes

- Real and model planes for display
- Glider plane demonstrations
- History of planes at Durand

Participants will also receive a free South Valley Bird Guide that is offered in English and Spanish.

For more information, visit www.bernco.gov/openspace or call 314-0398.

A Diamond on the Camino Real

August 23 from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. at the Gutierrez-Hubbell House (6029 Isleta Blvd. SW)

Bernalillo County Open Space and the Hubbell House Alliance are proud to invite the public to the unveiling of the completion of the Exhibit Master Plan project. The implementation of this three-year plan includes construction of a new plaza center, installation of indoor and outdoor interpretive signs and fully-outfitted exhibits that tell the rich stories of the Gutierrez and Hubbell families and others who made important contributions to the South Valley and Southwest region. The event will start with a blessing of the plaza and new exhibits followed by guest speakers who will present the historic site and its role on the Camino Real trade route. Snacks, refreshments and live music will also be available for the public's enjoyment.



Get Up and Out!

October 5 from 1-4 p.m. at the UNM North Golf Course

Bernalillo County invites residents and visitors of the state to get up and out by exploring the outdoors with geocaching. During this festive event, participants will learn all about geocaching with technical sessions, informational booths and geocaching challenges to the Bernalillo County Open Space properties. There will also be information on living healthy life styles and recreation opportunities in Bernalillo County, climbing walls to scale, live music to dance to and walking tours of the improved UNM North Golf Course and plans for incorporating natural areas into this Urban Open Space.

Annual Food Festival and Field Day

October 13 from 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the Gutierrez-Hubbell House (6029 Isleta Blvd. SW)

The annual event is organized by the Mid-Region Council of Governments, Edible Santa Fe and local partners. Sponsored by Bernalillo County Open Space, the Food Festival and Field Day is free to the public and offers a wide variety of family fun activities. Visit www.localfoodnm.org for more information and don't miss out on all the fun including:

- Fresh grown produce from local farmers
- Food and refreshments
- Fun for kids: face painting, seed spitting, farm animals and sack races
- Lecture series on backyard farming topics
- Food tasting prepared by local chefs
- Live music and entertainment
- Much, much more!



To register, visit www.bernco.gov/openspace

East Mountain Interpretive Series

Bernalillo County Open Space is working with local partners to offer this interpretive series. Participants will go on a tour of Open Space properties while learning about the history and environmental significance of the area. **The sessions are FREE however, space is limited and participants must RSVP.**



Water Harvesting Catchments for Wildlife

April 11 from 5:30 – 8 p.m. and April 12 from 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. at Sabino Canyon Open Space (34 Forest Rd. 252, Tijeras)

Bernalillo County Open Space and partners invite East Mountain land owners to attend a free training on constructing water catchments for wildlife. Wildlife water catchments in times of drought can be lifesaving for animals roaming the East Mountains in search of water. Participants who attend the training will get hands-on experience as well as qualify to apply for funding to install a wildlife catchment on their own property. Space is limited. Participants must register and own land in the East Mountains.

Carlito Springs Grand Opening

August 9 from 8:30-10 a.m. at Carlito Springs (82 Carlito Springs Rd., Tijeras)

Carlito Springs, located on the southeast face of the Sandia Mountains, encompasses 179 acres and ranges in elevation from 6,300 feet to 7,000 feet. For the first time this year, the county is opening Carlito Springs to the public. This event will introduce visitors to the newly established trailhead and trail that traverses this majestic property. County staff will also provide a historical overview of the property and present the next steps to rehabilitate the historic cabins and travertine house.

Bear Blitz Fair

September 13 from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. at the Sandia Mountain Natural History Center (60 Columbine Ln., Cedar Crest)

In 2013, Bernalillo County Open Space and numerous partners created the Sandia Mountain Bear Collaborative (SMBC). The collaborative's mission is to better understand our black bear population and to educate the public about co-existing with these wild animals. This year, the Collaborative invites the public to a festive fair to learn all about our state mammal and the citizen science project collecting data on bear population density and corridors.



Sabino Canyon Plant Walk

September 27 from 10-11:30 a.m. at Sabino Canyon Open Space (Forest Rd. 252, Tijeras)

Master Naturalist and Native Plant Society members will lead a plant walk to present both common and rare plants of the Manzano Mountains including grasses, forbes and woody plants. Learn how to identify these plants and traditional uses of many plants in the East Mountains.

Carlito Springs Historic Gardens and Orchard

October 25 from 1 – 3 p.m. at Carlito Springs Open Space (82 Carlito Springs Rd., Tijeras, NM)

Carlito Springs is a haven from the urban environment mostly due to the springs and lush vegetation. The property is comprised of historic orchards, vegetable and flower gardens and a rich riparian area. Come learn about this historic landscape and efforts to enhance and manage them today through volunteer assistance.



To register, visit www.bernco.gov/openspace

Backyard Farming Series

This series features experts in their field who provide hands-on experiences giving participants practical information transforming their backyards into a thriving urban oasis of food, medicine and wildlife habitat. This series is FREE, but participants must RSVP. The workshops will be held at the Gutierrez-Hubbell House located at 6029 Isleta Blvd, 3 miles south of Rio Bravo Blvd. The series is developed in partnership with the Hubbell House Alliance and Erda Gardens and Learning Center.



Tree Care

February 8 from 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Learn correct techniques for pruning, which fruit trees thrive best in your landscape, when to plant and proper planting guidelines. New Mexico State University's tree expert, Joran Viers, will lead the presentation and hands-on demonstration.

Edible Shrubs and Pruning Techniques

February 22 from 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Shrubs are an important part of one's landscaping, offering a number of benefits including beauty, wildlife forage, and space delineation. Come and learn about which native shrubs are good to incorporate into your backyard as well as winter care and pruning techniques led by Wes Brittenham from Plants of the Southwest.

Garden Planning and Sustainability in the Home Garden

March 8 from 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Participants will learn how to observe and assess their current landscape in order to plan for a productive garden space. Special attention will be given to existing structures and the sun's path throughout the year. Let nature tell you where your garden fits best! Hosted by Michael Reed of La Orilla Farm, a permaculture project based in Albuquerque's South Valley. This is the first class in a six-part series.

Water Harvesting and Assessment

March 22 from 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

We live in a desert! Find out how to conserve water in your thirsty garden. Mapping hardscapes, observing low spots and understanding how water permeates different soils will all be addressed. Harvesting rain water and grey water for the garden will shift your thinking from water scarcity to water abundance. This is the second class in a six-part series.

Soil Structure & Soil Building

April 5 from 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Any gardener will tell you the most important thing is your soil. Come to this workshop to understand how to determine what type of soil you have and how to build healthy soil over time to increase fertility and productivity. Shawn Hardeman will cover soil science, what soil is made of and what that means to the backyard farmer. Bring a jar of your soil to complete a simple soil test. This is the third class in a six-part series.



Garden Planting and Appropriate Plants

April 19 from 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Choosing plants that are appropriate for our climate and region can make the difference. Participants will learn about tried and true varieties that add both beauty and abundance to the home landscape and garden. Correct timing and technique for planting will also be covered in this workshop. This is the fourth class in a six-part series.

Recycled and Natural Building Materials in the Garden

May 3 from 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Participants will learn how to identify what structures are needed and how they may alter the garden. Looking at available materials that nature gives us will also be covered. Using recycled materials and managing a "resource pile" will also be covered. This is the fifth class in a six-part series.

To register, visit www.berncogov/openpace

Completed Garden Designs - Presentations and Certificates

May 17 from 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

In this final workshop of our six part mini-series, we will have a chance to see and share ideas from our own home landscapes. Certificates will be given to all those who attended all six workshops in the series.

Backyard Barnyard I: Chickens, Ducks, Turkeys and Geese

August 2 from 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Learn what you need to keep fowl as part of your urban homestead. Participants will leave with knowledge of city regulations, best breeds as well as what animals need in terms of shelter, space and food. Ongoing care, common problems and potential products that can be harvested from fowl will also be addressed.

Backyard Barnyard II : Goats, Sheep, Pigs and Cows

August 16 from 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Learn what you need to keep small livestock as part of your urban homestead. Participants will leave with knowledge of city regulations, best breeds as well as what animals need in terms of shelter, space and food. Ongoing care, common problems and potential products that can be harvested from livestock will also be addressed.



Food Preservation I : Hot Bath Canning and Pressure Canning

September 6 from 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

This much-loved workshop is back again! There are many ways to enjoy the harvest all year round. Find out how to store food for the winter with methods such as hot bath canning and pressure canning. Participants will learn about methods, appropriate equipment and trouble shooting. Bring your favorite recipes to sample and share!



Food Preservation II : Fermentation and Dehydration

September 20 from 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Back by popular demand. Find out how to put food up for the winter with methods such as lacto-fermentation and dehydration. Participants will learn about methods, appropriate equipment and trouble shooting. We will get hands on and tasting! Bring your favorite recipes to sample and share!

Local Food Festival and Field Day

October 12 from 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Growers, vendors, chefs and community organizations all converge on the Gutierrez-Hubbell House property for this special one-day event of celebrating all things local and edible! Live music, food tasting and children's activities are just some of the things planned for this community celebration.

Conservation Farming Forum

November 15 from 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

We all want to conserve and enhance our precious resources and wildlife. Learn innovative techniques that can create habitat that invites birds and pollinators on your property while creating a lovely garden for you and your family to enjoy. A panel of speakers will present on creating foodsheds that include and encourage all forms of life on the farm.

Naturalist Series

Awaken your senses to the natural world around you by observing the plants and animals in the bosque and learn from local experts about this extraordinary ecosystem. Bernalillo County Open Space presents the Naturalist Series featured at Bachechi Open Space located at 9521 Rio Grande Blvd NW. Parking is available at the Alameda parking area. **The workshops are FREE; however, space is limited and participants must register.**



Seasonal Sightings Along the Rio Grande February 1 from 10-11 a.m.

Take a moment to recall the first butterfly that arrives in the year, the first sound of sandhill cranes that resonate throughout the open skies or when cottonwoods start to display their colorful red flowers. Seasonal Sightings Along the Rio Grande is a project that aims to encourage citizens to gather

data on seasonal or phenological occurrences. Come learn about this project, how to get involved and receive a free 2014 calendar that features plants and animals in the Bosque.

Bug Love

February 13 from 6 – 7:30 p.m.

Entomologist Dr. Tess Grasswitz with New Mexico State University will present on the subject of “Bug Love,” a light-hearted but informative exposé of the weird and wonderful world of insect courtship and mating behavior. This is a perfect event for those couples gearing up for Valentine’s Day.

Silvery Minnow and its Relationship to the River February 23, 2014 from 1-2:30 p.m.

Discover the complex ecological connections of the Rio Grande ecosystem with a focus on the Silvery Minnow. Environmental Scientist, Rick Billings, will present the trials and tribulations of the Silvery Minnow’s journey of survival while the Harwood Art Center brings The Minnow Show to Bachechi Open Space by artist and Planning Manager, John Barney.

Frogs and Toads of the Rio Grande Valley March 22 from 6-7:30 p.m.

Tom Giermakowski, from the Museum of Southwestern Biology at The University of New Mexico, will introduce the wonderful world of frogs and toads with a focus on species one might find around Bernalillo County such as leopard frogs and woodhouse’s and spadefoot toads.

Jazz Under the Stars April 19 from 6-10:30 p.m.

Bernalillo County Open Space, The Albuquerque Astronomical Society and 103.7 The Oasis present a FREE Star Party. This fun family event will include a talk on astronomy, kids’ activities, solar scope set up during the daylight hours, powerful telescopes for viewing the evening stars and free prizes. There will be a live broadcast by 103.7 The Oasis and acoustic guitar performance by Ambrose Rivera. Bring your picnic blanket and dinner and enjoy a night under the stars.



History of the Wilderness Act April 26 from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Karl Malcolm from the U.S. Forest Service will present an overview of the Wilderness Act of 1964. After the presentation, the documentary “Wild by Law” will be screened outdoors at the Bachechi Environmental Education Building. This is part of the Wilderness Act 50th Anniversary Lecture Series.

Geomorphology of the Rio Grande May 4 from 10-11:30 a.m.

Geomorphology, the scientific study of landforms and processes that shape them, is an iconic process throughout the New Mexico landscape. Doug Bland with the New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources will present what shaped the Rio Grande Valley and surrounding area.

To register, visit www.bernco.gov/openspace

EcoRegions of New Mexico and Albuquerque Area

May 18 from 10 – 11:30 a.m.

New Mexico's natural beauty and diversity is largely due to its different EcoRegions including the Chihuahuan Desert, Great Basin Grassland and Montane Forest. William W. Dunmire has authored many books on this topic, including *New Mexico's Living Landscapes: A Roadside View*. Come learn about what makes this the Land of Enchantment.

Identification and Uses of Native Grasses

August 2 from 9 -10 a.m.

Delicate grasses that dot the New Mexico landscape are often inconspicuous; however, these simple plants play a very important role in the ecosystem supporting wildlife of all sizes, providing erosion control and beautifying our yards. Come learn about the ecological importance of native grasses and how to identify them.

Excavation of the Old Plaza de Alameda

August 16 from 1 – 3 p.m.

Dr. Richard C. Chapman, Ph.D. will present on the Old Plaza de Alameda Settlement in Albuquerque. A portion of this settlement, near Bachechi Open Space, was recently excavated in 2003 and revealed secrets of the past from early Hispanic settlers, including the challenges they faced living along the Rio Grande.

Archaeology 101 and Native Communities along the Rio Grande

September 7 from 10 – 11:30 a.m.

Whispers from people long ago still drift in the winds today. Discover the practice of archeology in our arid state that is littered with clues to the ancient past. Archeologist from the New Mexico Office of Archaeological Studies will talk about discovering, excavating and caring for artifacts that are casually found in the landscape and the stories locked into these fragments of time.

Traditional New Mexico Arts Demonstrations

October 3 from 6 – 9 p.m.

Celebrate the great historical tradition of art in New Mexico with this evening event. A number of art forms will be demonstrated and sold such as weaving, punched tin and retablos. Participants can also experience micaceous pottery-making around an open fire while sipping hot chocolate and listening to a native flutist.



Traditional Plant Uses

October 26 from 10-11:30 a.m.

Learn about the historical and current use of plants for medicine, food, dyes and other daily needs. Many of the native plants in your backyard or weeds along a road may actually provide numerous benefits. This workshop will include a walk around Bachechi identifying plants and their traditional uses.

Bats: Creatures of the Night

October 26 from 3:30-5 p.m.

Bats are amazing flying mammals that use extraordinary senses to navigate the night's sky when looking for prey. Get into the Halloween spirit by learning about these creatures of the night with Wildlife Biologist Ernest W. Valdez, Ph.D.

Urban Bird Conservation Treaty

November 1 from 8– 10 a.m.

The Urban Conservation Treaty for Migratory Birds program was created to help local governments protect birds and their habitat for resident and migrating birds. This year Albuquerque has become an Urban Bird Treaty City. This event will present what that means for our community and celebrate this new status with bird walks and family activities.



To register, visit www.bernco.gov/openspace

Families Exploring the Wonder of Nature

Bernalillo County Open Space is partnering with The Cottonwood Gulch Foundation and Nature, Nurture, Play to offer monthly family workshops and nature walks that foster a curiosity of the natural world. Workshops led by Cottonwood Gulch will include appropriate information for adult audiences as well as children from ages 8 on up. Nature, Nurture, Play will provide nature walks and activities intended for early childhood (babies-8 years old), however, the whole family is welcome and one adult per three children must attend. All of these events will take place at Bachechi Open Space (9521 Rio Grande Blvd. NW). For more information about this series or to register for the workshops and nature walks, visit www.bernco.gov/openspace. Space is limited, so register today!



How Do Seeds Do That? Presented by Nature, Nurture, Play

April 19 from 10 – 11:30 a.m.

Participants will hunt for seeds on a nature walk and compare types of seeds to see how each one makes the journey to becoming a plant. Children will plant their own seed to take home.

April Showers presented by The Cottonwood Gulch Foundation

April 26 from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

April is the notorious month of rain in some parts of the country. Why isn't it raining here? And what is the weather forecast ahead? Adults delve deeper into New Mexico's climate patterns while kids test out some weather experiments. Then we'll come together and build our own weather stations that you can take home.

Buds and Blooms presented by Nature, Nurture, Play

May 18 from 12 – 1:30 p.m.

Are flower buds and leaf buds the same? What does a flower look like up close? Do all flowers smell good? We'll be drawing and painting this day.

May Flowers presented by The Cottonwood Gulch Foundation

May 31 from 1 – 3 p.m.

Bzzzz, bzzz. What's that sound? Is it a plane? A weed wacker? No, it's a pollinator. Adults learn the importance of pollinators including bees, hummingbirds and butterflies to name a few, while kids try to collect some critters for a first-hand look. Families will go home with a sweet reminder of the importance of pollination.

Bachechi from Bottom to Top presented by The Cottonwood Gulch Foundation

June 28 from 8 – 10 a.m.

What runs, plays, flies, swims, and sits in Bachechi in the summer? We'll take a look at our Open Space from top to bottom with the help of our Nature Packs and Master Naturalists. Adults will receive some ideas for keeping learning fun in the summer, while kids will discover true curiosity for what's around them.



To register, visit www.bernco.gov/openspace

What is the Taste of Rain? Presented by Nature, Nurture, Play

August 16 from 10 – 11:30 a.m.

What is the Taste of Rain? Participants will try to figure out how to answer this question, create our own rain music and watch a few clouds.

Discovering Darkness presented by The Cottonwood Gulch Foundation

August 30 from 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.

Do you find yourself saying goodbye to the parks when the sun goes down? Come learn about the creatures that live in the night and grow an appreciation for what happens after sunset. Adults and kids will do several activities that enhance our night senses.

Shade and Shadows Presented by Nature, Nurture, Play

September 7 from 12 – 1:30 p.m.

As the sun moves lower in the sky at the beginning of autumn, we'll take a look at how our shadows are changing and trace some shadows, too. Shade tag is also on the agenda. If you are tagged, you get a hug!

Green Design presented by The Cottonwood Gulch Foundation

September 27 from 9 – 11 a.m.

Many of the buildings and structures around us were designed based on observations in the wild. Adults will learn some elements of green design at our Open Space, as well as ideas that can be tried at home, as kids create their own design to withstand nature's challenges.



Living Off the Land presented by The Cottonwood Gulch Foundation

October 25 from 1 – 3 p.m.

How did people live here before there were grocery and hardware stores? Use your hands to make a helpful tool then taste some foods that redefine fresh in this interactive hike that explores some uncommon or unknown uses for plants you see every day.



Birds on the Move Presented by Nature, Nurture, Play

November 1 from 10 – 11:30 a.m.

During this nature walk, participants will make their own (cardboard) binoculars and visit the pond to see what we can see. Come learn to use real binoculars and learn bird calls of New Mexico birds.

Can I Touch It?

Presented by Nature, Nature, Play

November 16 from 12 – 1:30 p.m.

Exploring the feel of natural materials, from tree bark to feathers. We'll also talk about appropriate risk as a way to build children's competence.

We're All Connected presented by The Cottonwood Gulch Foundation

November 29 from 1 – 3 p.m.

Why does a tree matter to a duck? Why is a rock important to a fungus? Participants will make connections between the animals and plants in the Bosque during this last exploration of the year. Kids will enact an exciting example of the food web at Bachechi before they go on a hunt to connect the dots of our ecosystem.

Bernalillo County Open Space Partners

Acequia Madre de San Antonio Community Ditch Association. The Acequia Association is a key partner in managing Ojito de San Antonio Open Space. They oversee the acequia and work with BC Open Space on programming opportunities.

Alliance of Natural Resource Outreach and Service Programs (ANROSP). ANROSP promotes awareness and citizen stewardship of natural resources and provides assistance to the BC Open Space's Master Naturalist program by offering resources, materials, advice, and opportunities. www.nralliance.org

Bernalillo County Agricultural Extension Office. The Extension Office provides BC Open Space with technical advice and training on best land management practices. www.bernalilloextension.nmsu.edu

Bosque Ecosystem Monitoring Program (BEMP). BC Open Space is a major sponsor of BEMP, a long-term ecological research program using volunteers to monitor key indicators of structural and functional changes in the Middle Rio Grande Bosque. BEMP assists BC Open Space with interpretive signs and materials, as well as educational events. www.bosqueschool.org/bemp.htm

Center of Southwest Culture. Center of Southwest Culture is assisting Bernalillo County Open Space with a two year pilot project that will help support local food initiatives. Currently, they are farming the Gutierrez-Hubbell House. www.centerofsouthwestculture.org.

City of Albuquerque Open Space Division. CABQ and BC Open Space partner on managing adjacent properties such as Bachechi Open Space and Alameda Open Space, as well as on select events such as Dia del Rio. www.cabq.gov/openspace

Ciudad Soil and Water Conservation District (CSWCD). BC Open Space works with CSWCD to promote healthy forests and wildfire protection in the East Mountains through fuel thinning projects. A CSWCD representative also serves on the Master Naturalist Advisory Committee. www.ciudadaswcd.org

Cottonwood Gulch Foundation. Representatives with the Cottonwood Gulch Foundation serve as caretakers for Bachechi Open Space and assist with program development at Bachechi. www.cottonwoodgulch.org

East Mountain Historical Society. BC Open Space works with the EMHS to develop interpretive materials. EMHS also assists with the East Mountain Interpretive Series. www.eastmountainhistory.org

Environmental Education Association of New Mexico (EEANM). BC Open Space is a member of EEANM. EEANM provides valuable educational resources and opportunities, and helps to promote Open Space events. www.eeanm.org

Harwood Art Center. The Harwood Art Center is working with Bernalillo County on a new initiative this year to support art activities and feature art exhibits at Bachechi Open Space. www.harwoodartcenter.org.

Hubbell House Alliance (HHA). HHA is a not-for-profit organization that manages the Gutierrez-Hubbell House and property. HHA works with the BC Open Space to develop public events such as the Backyard Farming Series. www.hubbellhousealliance.org

La Plazita Institute (LPI). LPI manages Sanchez Farm Open Space in the South Valley and collaborates with BC Open Space on site enhancements and educational events for youth. www.laplazitainstitute.org

To register, visit www.bernco.gov/openspace

Middle Rio Grande Conservation District (MRGCD). MRGCD oversees and manages the acequias throughout the Middle Rio Grande Valley. They provide technical assistance and scheduling for flood irrigating on Open Space properties, as well as assistance with interpretive signs and educational programs. www.mrgcd.com

Mid-Region Council of Governments (MRCOG). MRCOG organizes the annual Food Festival and Field Day at the Gutierrez-Hubbell House. They also provide networking and educational opportunities for sustainable agriculture practices. www.mrcog-nm.gov

Museum of Southwestern Biology. The Museum of Southwest Biology is a major partner of the Master Naturalist program, and also assists with public program such as Frogs and Toads of the Rio Grande. www.msb.unm.edu.

Native Plant Society of New Mexico, Albuquerque Chapter. The Native Plant Society assists the BC Open Space land health monitoring efforts as it pertains to vegetation studies and identification. They also help with interpretive materials and educational programming. www.npsnm.unm.edu/albuq.html

Pajarito Village Association (PVA). PVA assists BC Open Space with site enhancements, interpretive signage, and educational programming at Pajarito Open Space. www.svcna.org/pajaritovillage/index.html

Recureda a Cesar Chavez Committee (RCCC). RCCC educates youth and the community about the legacy, life and work of Cesar Chavez by promoting his universal values and timeless vision for a better world and engaging the community in the spirit of service. RCCC organizes the annual Cesar Chavez March and Day of Service.

RiverXchange. RiverXchange is an experiential environmental education project that engages 5th graders in hands-on field experiences learning about river ecosystems, watersheds, stormwater and water quality issues in New Mexico, including on Open Space properties. www.riverxchange.com

State Forestry Division. BC Open Space works with the New Mexico State Forestry Division to promote healthy forests in the East Mountains through forest health initiatives projects. www.nmforestry.com

The New Mexico Wonder of Learning Collaborative. is made up of several individuals and organizations throughout New Mexico that are planning the arrival of the traveling exhibit, The Wonder of Learning, from Reggio Emilia, Italy to Albuquerque in 2014. The Collaborative works with Bernalillo County Open Space to offer Families Exploring the Wonder of Nature workshops.

University of New Mexico. Bernalillo County is working with the School of Architecture and Planning on a number of initiatives, the pollinator garden at Bachechi Open space and the 2nd Street Corridor that will connect downtown Albuquerque to the Valle de Oro Urban Wildlife Refuge. www.saap.unm.edu.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services, Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program (USFWS). The USFWS provides technical advice to improve wildlife habitat on Open Space and serves as a partner agency for the Master Naturalist Program. www.fws.gov/partners

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Valle de Oro and Friends of Valle de Oro. Bernalillo County has contributed substantial funding to help purchase Valle de Oro. The U.S Fish and Wildlife Service works with Bernalillo County on a number of initiatives including the Master Naturalist program and public events. www.fws.gov/refugre/valle_de_oro

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