



MRGCD CONSERVATION PROGRAM

An overview of the upcoming outreach, technical and financial assistance programs available to MRGCD irrigators, partners, and other public members in February-March, 2022.

For more information on the Conservation Program, contact Gabriella Coughlin (gabby@mrgcd.us), Casey Ish (casey@mrgcd.us), or Yasmeen Najmi (yasmeen@mrgcd.us).



Technical Assistance

- **Community Soil Health Lab and Dynamic Soil Survey Program:** Schedule a site visit with our new soil scientist/ agroecologist to test your soils or develop a soil and irrigation management plan for the next growing season. Email Gabby Coughlin for more information.
- In partnership with the Village of Los Ranchos Agri-Nature Center, landowners in the Middle Rio Grande Valley will have access to a soils lab that will provide many services beginning in 2022.



Financial Assistance

- **Emergency Fallowing and Environmental Water Leasing Program:** Leasing payments are available to eligible irrigators to help reduce demand on water supplies. **Enrollment ends March 25, 2022.** Contact Casey Ish for more information.
- **Regional Conservation Partnership Program:** If you're in the South Valley in Bernalillo County, or in Valencia or Socorro Counties, you could be eligible for this 5-year program. The estimated program start is Fall 2022. The first step to applying is to have a USDA-Farm Service Agency Farm and Tract number established. Contact Gabby Coughlin for more information



Outreach and Education Events

The MRGCD has been hosting a series of community "Meet & Greet" for irrigators and to participate in an survey which will help us plan for the next irrigation season. If you would like to request MRGCD at your outreach event, contact the Conservation Program.

- **MRGCD Cochiti Meet and Greet - February 21st 12-2pm**, MRGCD Cochiti Division Office, 31 Carro de Caballos, Pena Blanca, NM.
- **MRGCD Town of Bernalillo Meet and Greet - February 23rd 12-2pm**, 370 Rotary Park Road, Bernalillo, NM.
- **Middle Rio Grande Valley Soil Lab Grand Opening March 26, 2022, 11 - 3pm**, Los Ranchos AgriNature Center
- **Coronado SWCD Board meeting** February 17, 2022
- **Valencia SWCD Board meeting** February 22, 2022
- **Family Farm Alliance Conference**, Reno, NV. February 24-25, 2022
- **Land and Water Summit**, Albuquerque NM. March 2-4, 2022
- **MRGCD Board of Directors meeting**, March 14, 2022 3:00pm



Ecosystem and Species Conservation

Fall and winter are great times to enjoy the bosque! To learn more about upcoming projects, events, field tours, or wildlife watching opportunities, stay connected to the [MRGCD's Conservation Program](#) and the [NM Audubon Society](#).

- **Isleta Reach Stewardship Association meeting** February 17, 2022, 1-3pm. Contact Paul.Tashjian@audubon.org for more information
- **Bosque Cultural Restoration Project tree planting**, February 26, 2022 10-12pm, Albuquerque, NM. Registration required, [sign up here](#).