

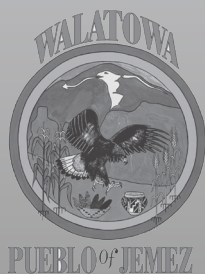
THE

Walatowan

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2021

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Office of the Governor

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The Battle of San Diego Mesa or Munstiashinkikwa

Submitted by: Tribal Council Member Paul Tosa

On July 20, 1694, at the direction of Governor Diego De Vargas, the official town crier of Santa Fe (Holy Faith) called all residents to the town square, where he announced that the long-delayed campaign against the Xemes (Hemish or Jemez) would begin the following day. On July 21st, De Vargas set forth with one hundred and twenty soldiers and their camp attendants and supplies, along with chaplains Alpuente and Farfan. Every able body soldier, except the town guards, went off to war.

On July 22, they reached San Felipe Pueblo, where they met Bartoleme De Ojeda. He went ahead to Zia to organize the warrior auxiliaries from the three Keres villages (Zia, Santa Ana, and San Felipe). The Spaniards met them at Zia on July 23rd. Then by following the Rio Xemes (Jemez River), they reached the east side of Munstiashinkikwa at midnight on July 23. There De Vargas split the army into two forces. His brother Eusebio took twenty-five soldiers and many auxiliaries about one mile north to the far end of the mesa trail. While De Vargas, with the remainder of the troops, went to the south side of the main course, they made their camps, sharpened their swords, and waited for daylight.

At dawn, they began their simultaneous attack. De Vargas and the main force came up the main south trail by which the Jemez descended to their fields and the pueblo. Despite the Spaniard's swords, guns, poleaxes, armored horses, and auxiliaries, the battle at Munstiashinkikwa raged through the morning and early afternoon, and it was very bloody and desperate. It wasn't until the mid-afternoon that the Spaniards gained the victory. Eighty-four Jemez were killed, including twenty in the battle, five were burned to death in their houses, and seven jumped off the cliff to their death. Only a handful of warriors escaped, and the firing squad executed most. They then captured three hundred and forty-six women and children along with one hundred and seventy sheep, several horses, and great heaps of corns. The food was much needed.

The Jemez believe that it was a miracle, but for a different reason. While Jemez people were jumping off the cliff, the image of San Diego suddenly appeared, and the people landed on their feet and survived. Thereinafter, the image has remained engraved in the east face of the mesa. Legend has it that the second image-this one of the Virgin of Guadalupe-appeared on the west wall.

The image of San Diego is a fifty-foot-high view of a tall thin man with long hair and beard wearing a gown and standing above a small burro. Jemez people believe that Saint San Diego possesses miraculous powers.

To this present day, we celebrate in honor of our patron Saint San Diego on November 12 and the Virgin of Guadalupe on December 12.



2021 Tribal Governors

Governor

Governor Michael Toledo, Jr.

1st. Lt. Governor

Michael Chinana

2nd. Lt. Governor

Kurt Mora

Tribal Council

Joe Cajero

Paul S. Chinana

Raymond Gachupin

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Raymond Loretto, DVM

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The Walatowan

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Edition

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LAW ENFORCEMENT TEAM

Recently Hired Jemez Police Officers



CHIEF OF POLICE

Clinton Weatherspoon

On May 24, 2021, Clinton Weatherspoon was appointed Chief of Police for the Pueblo of Jemez. Chief Weatherspoon's career in law enforcement spans over twenty-eight years, beginning with the Bernalillo Police Department, Rio Rancho Police Department, Sandoval County Sheriff's Department, and the Gallup Police Department.

Weatherspoon strongly believes in the importance of higher education and made a significant investment in his education. He is a graduate of the Northwestern University School of Police Staff and Command.

Chief Weatherspoon retired from the Gallup Police Department on December 31, 2011, at the rank of Captain. Chief Weatherspoon also holds his executive law enforcement certification from the New Mexico Law Enforcement Training Academy. He is a certified general police instructor and has extensive experience in treating people with dignity and respect.

Chief Weatherspoon embraces the concepts of 21st century policing, which provides key elements that help strengthen community policing and trust among law enforcement officers and the communities they serve. He has been instrumental in helping to build and maintain productive and trustworthy relationships with the Pueblo of Jemez community and tribal leadership.

Chief Weatherspoon is committed to serving the Pueblo of Jemez community to ensure a safe community for all through sound principles, practices, and partnerships.

Chief Weatherspoon is married to Georgina Tarin Weatherspoon. He has three sons and two daughters. In his spare time, Chief Weatherspoon is with family or on the golf course.

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LAW ENFORCEMENT TEAM

Recently Hired Jemez Police Officers Continued.....



Officer Joseph Martinez

On May 24, 2021, Joseph Martinez became a certified officer with the Jemez Pueblo Police Department. Martinez has been an officer for approximately twenty-eight years. He started with the Albuquerque Police Department. While he was there, he served many different roles, including DWI officer for about three years. Officer Martinez was also a detective for about four years in the crimes against children unit. After that, he became a school resource officer, where he served at a middle school teaching the gang resistance program. He ended his career as a school resource officer moving onto several security jobs until an opportunity came open here in Jemez Pueblo. A good friend of his, Jemez Pueblo Officer Holmes, told him they were hiring and encouraged him to apply. After the interview process Jemez Pueblo hired Martinez as a police officer in his current role. Officer Martinez said, Jemez Pueblo is an excellent place to be. I got to interact with some people in the community, and it's been nice." The position came open for a Victim Resource Advocate officer, so he applied because he has done it throughout his career. Officer Martinez made his transfer to Jemez Social Services in May 2021. He now works under the social services department as a police officer. Officer Martinez still takes action as far as arrests, patrols but works closely with social services to help victims of domestic violence, elder abuse, and child abuse. He assists social services when they do home visits to ensure children who are involved are safe. His advice for youth is to "keep pursuing your dream and doing what you want to do. If it's a police officer, do it when you are young and then grow into it. It's a lot of learning, but just don't give up." Officer Martinez expressed, "It's an honor to be here, he is thankful to the Jemez people for having him here, and he intends to do the best job that he can to serve the community."



LAW ENFORCEMENT TEAM

Recently Hired Jemez Police Officers Continued.....

Officer Pilar Gachupin

On May 24, 2021, Pilar Gachupin became a certified officer with the Jemez Pueblo Police Department. Officer Gachupin grew up in the village of Walatowa, where he attended elementary and middle school. Pilar graduated from the Walatowa Charter high school, and after he wanted to pursue a career in the Police Department. He expressed that "It has been a ride" for him to get where he is today. He took a journey working in the construction industry for two years and even worked at the Jemez Health Clinic as a Security Guard until November of 2019. Gachupin then applied with the Jemez Pueblo Police Department. He went through the interview process and was required to take physical assessments and Psychological exams before the Jemez Police Department decided to hire him. Officer Gachupin said, "My son experienced me being away at the Santa Fe Police Academy. It was a long four months, but when I got back, he looked up to me and said he wants to be a police officer and work just like me." As far as the youth, I would say, follow your dreams, follow your heart, and put it in your work, and you get what you work for." Pilar thanked his family and the department for allowing him to work here and look forward to working with them for as long as he desires and gain as much experience as he can and providing the services to the community.



TRIBAL ADMINISTRATION

Tribal Council Resolutions

2021-17: Authorizing the Pueblo of Jemez Fiscal Year 2021-2025 Tribal Transportation Improvement Program (TTIP) and submission of TTIP Priorities to the Office Of Federal Lands Highway, U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration.

2021-18: Approving a resolution of sponsorship for a transportation project fund and project match commitment for the Walatowa Fitness Center Parking lot and Bear Head Canyon Road improvement project.

2021-19: Approving a resolution of sponsorship for a transportation project fund and project match commitment for the Owl Springs Way Bridge Replacement project.

2021-20: Approving Albuquerque Cabling, a network cabling company, to upgrade the network cabling infrastructure at the Jemez Comprehensive health center.

2021-21: Authorizing an addendum to the cooperative tax agreement with New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department.

2021-22: A resolution to approve an application for the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), Department of Commerce, Trivial Broadband Connectivity Program (TBCP)

2021-23: Authorizing to create a Pueblo Education Network.

2021-24: Authorizing Pueblo of Jemez Housing Authority to apply for the Indian Community Development Block Grant American Rescue Plan Act funds on behalf of the Pueblo of Jemez.

TRIBAL ADMINISTRATION

Tribal Council Resolutions Continued.....

2021-25: Petitioning for a First Amended Federal Charter of Incorporation to be issued to Indian Pueblos Marketing, Inc.

2021-26: Authorizing the Expenditure of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds provided by the U.S. Department of Treasury Funds During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency.

2021-27: Authorizing the Pueblo of Jemez to become a member of the Indian/Native Government in good standing of the National Congress of American Indians.

2021-28: Authorizing additional expenditures of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds provided through the U.S. Department of Treasury and the Bureau of Indian Affairs during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency.

2021-29: Approval of FY2022 General Fund Budget.

2021-30: Approving appointment of a new member to the Jemez Health Board and term of service - Jasmine Yepa.

2021-31: Appointing members to the Valles Caldera land recovery committee.

Pueblo of Jemez Job Opportunities

Health and Human Services

Physician Assistant	Full-Time
Vendor and Contract Specialist	Full-Time
Transportation Services Specialist	Full-Time
Staff Pharmacist	Full-Time
Peer Support Worker	Full-Time
Fitness Trainer	Full-Time
Fitness Center Attendant	Full-Time
Agricultural Coordinator	Full-Time
Lab Technician (Nursing)	Full-Time
Manager, Senior Center Program	Full-Time
Assistant Nurse Manager	Full-Time
Personal Care Attendant/Caregiver	Full-Time
Protection Services Specialist	Full-Time
People Analytics Supervisor	Full-Time
Training Coordinator	Full-Time
Quality Improvement Specialist	Full-Time
Registered Nurse	Full-Time
Nurse Practitioner	Full-Time
Physician	Full-Time
EHR Support Technician	Full-Time
Diabetes Case Manager	Full-Time

Supervisory Public Health Nurse Full-Time

Finance

Director Finance	Full-Time
Travel Clerk	Full-Time
GL Accountant	Full-Time

Information Technology

Install & Network Operations Center Technician	Full-Time
Network Operations Technical Project Manager	Full-Time
Network Operations Technician Level II	Full-Time
Network Operations Supervisor	Full-Time
Systems Technician	Full-Time

Education

Custodian (Early Childhood/Head Start Facilities)	Full-Time
Library Assistant	Full-Time
Family Services Coordinator	Full-Time

Law Enforcement

Police Officer	Full-Time
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Applicants are encouraged to visit www.jemezueblo.org to apply. Please make sure to review the required qualifications for the positions you are interested in.

For more information please contact Human Resources at

Phone: 575-834-7359

Direct Fax: 575-834-0604

Email: HumanResources@jemezueblo.org

JEMEZ PUBLIC HEALTH

Jemez Health and Human Services Construction and Parking Updates

Submitted by: Patrick Aspaas



JHHS Exterior and Interior construction status.

Construction Progress:

- The overall construction is 70% complete. The interior and exterior west and north side of JHHS is now complete, and JHHS staff have moved in. The west parking lot and west entrance will also be open for patients to use moving forward.
- New exterior stucco finishes are 100% complete. Please watch as finishers will be working on touching up any work necessary. Exterior sidewalks and landscapes around the north, west, and south of JHHS are now complete. Roofing is done but will remain in progress until all rooftop units are secured.
- The interior works of the health center have changed the flow of the clinic. Construction will be taking over the current clinical area (exam rooms, patient lobby, and offices in the north area of the clinic. The clinic exam rooms will now be at the east part of the building next to behavioral health. All patients will enter through the west entrance.
- Department Areas Completed in South wing of JHHS- Behavioral Health, Optometry, Audiology, Dental (north area) and (south zone), Pharmacy, Medical Records, 2nd Floor's offices (director, financial offices, and admin support), and Medical treatment area and storage. All have moved into new offices.
- Following Potential Scheduled Areas: Patient registration lobby and offices, clinical offices, and clinical exam rooms are currently in construction.

Announcements:

- The West Entrance is open for patients and parking.
- Construction parking will be on the north wall parking lot.
- Covid Testing will be on the east Parking Lot (JHHS will mark spaces).



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JEMEZ PUBLIC HEALTH

Jemez Health and Human Services Construction and Parking Updates Continued....

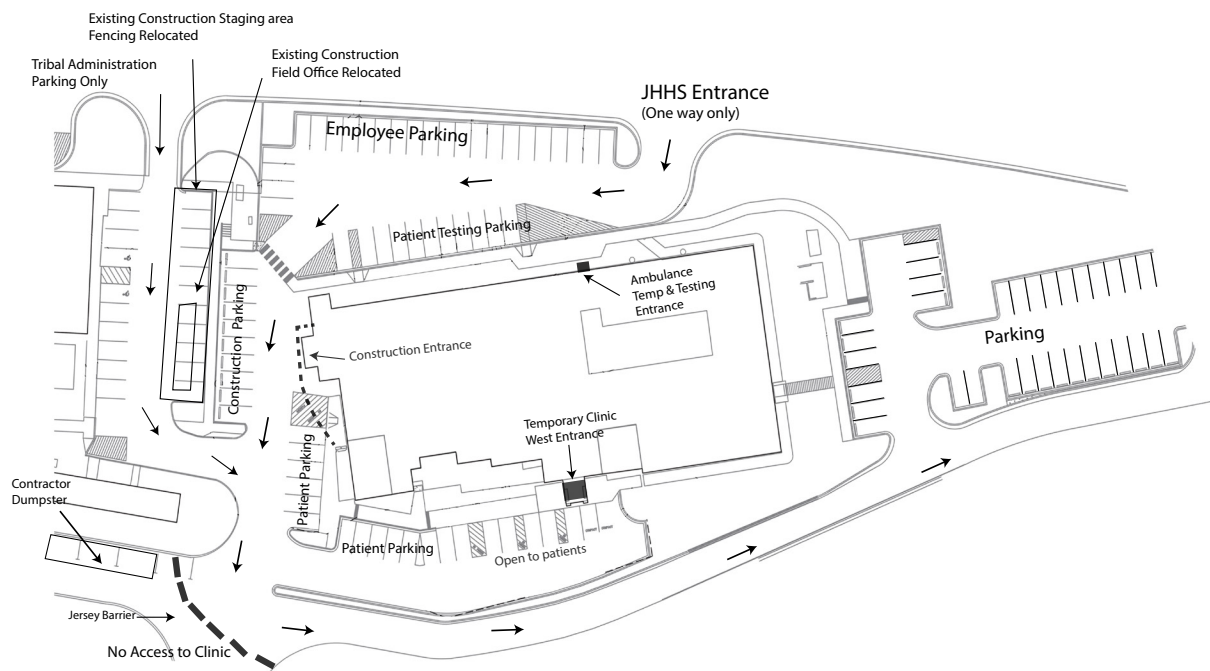
Parking:

- JHHS west parking lot is open for patients to park and will use the old lobby Entrance. (Please see map below)
- Employee parking will be on the east lot (east parking spots) and south lot of JHHS.
- The Ambulance EMS will have one reserved spot in front of the marked door on the East lot in no parking zone.
- The pharmacy is open for pick-ups inside JHHS.
- Please follow the signs and traffic flow in the parking lots.
- Please be cautious when driving through the north lot. Construction personnel will be walking in the area.

Safety:

- Everyone please be aware of the construction and construction zones. Machinery, vehicles, and Construction Workers will be around the clinic. Areas marked and fenced off are not to be entered by non-construction personnel. Admin Security will be on-site to help direct any patients and traffic. Please keep from coming into the JHHS parking areas if you do not have appointments at the clinic. Please do not overflow the parking areas.
- The following upcoming editions of the Walatowan will continue to provide updates on the subsequent phases of construction. The Jemez Pueblo Comprehensive Health Team thanks the community for their patience and understanding during this construction and transition time.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Melissa Stone at (575) 834-3055, Hilario Armijo at (575) 834-3028, (505) 692-5568, or Patrick Aspaas at (505) 635-0652.



JEMEZ PUBLIC HEALTH

Jemez Public Health Promotions

Submitted by: Julliane Cambridge

As we navigate the ever-changing circumstances of COVID-19, we understand that it has taken a toll on our Walatowa Youth. Now, more than ever, our kids must reduce stress, prevent weight gain, and boost their immune systems through exercise!

****DRUMROLL**** The Jemez Public Health is excited to share the first ever Walatowa Trail Club!

Walatowa Trail Club!

The Walatowa Trail Club is an up-and-coming youth running group that will allow ten youth runners, ages 12-16 years old, to participate in a 3-month running program. Practices will be held three times per week on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 3: 30 – 5:00 pm. This program will expose youth to self-care techniques, training practices, and racing logistics that translate into transformative possibilities. Such prospects consider the opportunities of competitive racing and what it means to build a livelihood doing it. So, while the club does focus on the individual and their personal growth, it also holds the potential for runners to jump scale and elevate the running world as Hemish athletes. Put simply; this club seeks to demonstrate the different iterations trail running offers in ways that have always made our Pueblo thrive.

The club is committed to nurturing Hemish's identity while building solid relationships with both the Pueblo and the wider racing community of New Mexico. Under the mentorship of Daniel Madalena and staff, the participants will come to know themselves with an ethic of running that enriches its meaning through Hemish values. Thus, the program aspires to inspire youth with the community power that comes from integrating good health and the Hemish running tradition. In this sense, the club aims to activate our elders' vision by cultivating the character of our youth to live well as Hemish people, not only for today but for the future and generations to come.

If you know a prospective runner, have them write a 250- word essay reflecting on why they love to run. Participants will be selected based on their reflections. Depending on the number of applicants, youth are welcome to reapply every 3-months. We are only accepting vaccinated youth per safety measures.

Please share this information with community members, and if interested, scan the QR code, and fill out the registration form. Although the club will begin in October, registration will be open from September 27th through October 25th, 2021.

Thank you all for your interest; we can't wait to see what the first-ever Walatowa Trail Club will hold! And as always, please stay safe!



JEMEZ PUBLIC HEALTH**Jemez Public Health Program Group Lifestyle Balance Program**

You're Invited

The Jemez Public Health Program invites you to join us as we offer the 5th Session of the 16-week Group Lifestyle Balance program.

Are you ready for change as we begin our 16-week transformation together? Are you ready to learn how to nourish your body? If you are ready, come join us! The Group Lifestyle Balance (GLB) program provides education, encouragement, and the tools necessary to help you reach your healthy lifestyle goals. The goal is to help you lose 7% of your total body weight through healthy eating and 150 minutes of brisk, physical activity each week. Don't be intimidated. The Public Health Staff will be with you every step of the way.



Starting in January 2022, we will welcome 15 participants. More information will come as we meet the new year, but if interested, please contact Sheila Toya and secure your spot today by calling Phone: 575-834-7207 ext. 3087 or Email: Sheila.Toya@jemezpuablo.us

Jemez Public Health Program is proud to announce

HEMISH FAMILIES

For all expecting parents or parents of new borns (6 months or younger) of Jemez Pueblo. Classes will begin soon and will be held at the New Public Health Office (Bear Head Canyon Rd. next to social services) For more information, please call Public Health at (575) 834 - 7207. Virtual classes available as well.



Continued on page 16

JEMEZ SOCIAL SERVICES

Understanding The Impacts of Violence Against Children The Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Study

Submitted by: Beaver North Cloud

The Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Study is one of the most significant investigations of the link between childhood maltreatment and health and well-being later in life. Using data from 17,000 participants, the study which the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) conducted and Kaiser Permanente (1997) demonstrates that trauma and adverse experiences during childhood are major risk factors for the leading causes of illness and death in the United States, as well as for poor quality of life.

What are ACEs? The study defines “Adverse Childhood Experiences” as exposure to:

The ACE Study uses the ACE Score, which counts the total number of ACEs respondents reported. The ACE score is used to measure the total amount of stress in childhood.

Major Findings

Almost two-thirds of the participants reported at least one ACE, and more than one in five reported three or more ACEs. The short-term and long-term outcomes of these childhood exposures include a multitude of health and social problems. As the number of ACEs increases, the risk for health problems later in life increases.

The following health problems are linked to adverse childhood experiences:

- Alcoholism and alcohol abuse
- Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)
- Depression
- Fetal Death
- Health-Related quality of life (Chronic Diseases)
- Illicit Drug Use
- Ischemic Heart Disease (IHD)
- Liver disease
- Risk for intimate partner violence
- Multiple sexual partners
- Sexually transmitted diseases (STDs)
- Smoking
- Suicide attempts
- Unintended pregnancies
- Early initiation of smoking
- Early initiation of sexual activity
- Adolescent pregnancy
- The ACE Pyramid

Adverse experiences in childhood (ACES) disrupt normal child development, negatively impacting children's social, emotional, and cognitive development.

ACE's leaves children vulnerable, causing many of them to adopt risky health and social behaviors such as drinking, overeating, smoking, and sexual promiscuity as a means of coping with the traumas they have experienced.

These risky behaviors translate into poor health, disease, disability, and early death.

Preventing Violence against Children

Our children are our future parents, workers, and leaders, and they need safe, stable, nurturing environments that foster their healthy growth and development.

Adverse experiences in childhood disrupt normal child development, negatively impacting their brain architecture. Such impairment leaves children vulnerable and without a strong foundation for future growth.

Many children and adolescents adopt risky health and social behaviors such as drinking, overeating, smoking, and sexual promiscuity as a means of coping with the traumas they have experienced. Eventually, these risky behaviors translate into poor health, disease, disability, and early death.

For more information, visit the Center for Disease Control's Adverse Childhood Experiences Study.

JEMEZ HOUSING AUTHORITY

Cleaning Tips to Keep COVID-19 Out of Your Home

Since March of 2020, we all have experienced times of uncertainty, chaos, and fear due to the coronavirus pandemic. We continually learn to prevent the COVID-19 virus from entering our homes as we journey through these hectic times. Our defense in protecting ourselves and our family starts in our home. There are numerous areas in our house, as well as surfaces that we commonly touch daily. Some of these common areas and surfaces include:

- Doorknobs / Doorhandles
- Sinks
- Washer & Dryer
- Cabinet knobs
- Drawer handles
- Thermostat
- Light switches

These are just a few examples of common areas and surfaces that should be constantly cleaned and sanitized to help prevent the COVID-19 virus from spreading throughout the home.

What other areas or surfaces can you think of that should be routinely cleaned and sanitized?

Visit our website at www.POJHA.org/newsletter-articles for more information on keeping COVID-19 out of your home.

Keep Hydrated, Mask-Up, and Continue to Be Safe!

PUEBLO OF JEMEZ HOUSING AUTHORITY

P.O. Box 670 • 4773 Highway 4

Jemez Pueblo, NM 87024

Phone: (575) 834-0305

E-Mail: POJHA@pojha.org Website: www.pojha.org

INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE

Property Owners Move Forward With The Demolition of Abandoned Homes

Submitted by Maria Tsethlikai, Environmental Health Specialist

Abandoned homes have been a significant concern for the community in Jemez. As years have gone by, the number of abandoned homes has increased in the community. As a result, community members, especially those who neighbor abandoned homes, are at increased health risk due to deterioration and possible pest infestations within the abandoned homes.

In 2016, the Indian Health Services (IHS) conducted an Abandoned Home Assessment Report where they made visits to approximately 38 homes. During the assessment, these abandoned homes were categorized from High, Medium, and Low to identify the level of health risks they pose to the community. Common hazards existed throughout many of the structures. Some identified hazards included physical hazards, structural integrity issues, potential lead-based paint, rodent harborage-debris accumulation, unidentified chemicals, and potential fire risk-debris accumulation.

The Public Health Program Environmental Health team, alongside Pueblo Of Jemez Departments and Jemez Health and Human Services (JHHS), have started working together on the Demolition of Abandoned Structures Project. Many of the homes identified during the 2016 IHS assessment remain in disrepair, posing unresolved threats. The program reviews the report of abandoned homes and is now asking property owners if they are interested in having their structures demolished at no cost.

As a collaborative effort, the Demolition of Abandoned Structures Project intends to demolish as many abandoned homes as possible to increase the health and well-being of the community. Recently, the project completed the demolition of two (2) abandoned homes on the north end of Jemez Pueblo in September 2021. The project is currently seeking property owners interested in having their abandoned house demolished in the near future.

If you are the property owner of an abandoned home and would like more information on the Demolition of Abandoned Structure Project or are interested in having an abandoned house assessed at no cost to you, please contact the Jemez Public Health Program at (575) 834-7207.

PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT & TRANSPORTATION

Planning Development and Transportation Department Project Updates

Submitted by: Sheri Bozic



The Planning Development and Transportation Department (PDTD) is working on numerous infrastructure improvement projects. Below are the project status updates. If you have questions or would like to schedule a meeting for more information, please contact Sheri Bozic, Director, at (505) 382-3299.

NM-4 Multi-use Pedestrian Trail – Officially Named “Hemish Path to Wellness”

Jemez Pueblo received a \$4.7 million grant award to design and construct a multi-use pedestrian trail along the NM-4. This project entails planning, designing, and building a paved pedestrian trail between the Pueblo Place Housing Subdivision and Bear Head Canyon Road. It will provide safe pedestrian passage along the NM-4. The engineers have completed the 60% design and are working on the 100% design. The start date for the construction is expected to begin in 2022.

NM-4 Bypass

Tribal leadership and staff from the PDTD, Realty Department, Public Works Department, and Natural Resources Department are currently working with the NMDOT and their engineering firm to complete the planning and design for the project. After the design reaches completion, Jemez Pueblo will seek funding to construct the NM-4 bypass.

NM-4 Traffic Calming Project

This project will design and construct a gateway treatment sign along the NM-4 at each entrance of Jemez Pueblo. PDTD will install signs on the east and west sides of NM-4 near mileposts two and eight. The purpose of gateway treatment signs is to notify drivers that they are entering a community and promote safe driving and respectful behavior.

Emergency Modular Buildings

This project will design and construct seven emergency modular buildings west of the Jemez Community Wellness Center to conduct COVID-19 testing, facilitate distance learning, and improve telework capabilities for employees during the public health emergency. PDTD will complete the project in summer 2021.

Walatowa Early Childhood Learning Center

The PDTD works closely with the Education and Public Works Departments to construct the new early childhood learning center. This project entails demolishing the existing head start building and constructing a new early childhood learning center. PDTD expects this project to begin in late 2021.

Childcare Center Expansion

The PDTD is working closely with the Education and Public Works Departments to design and construct an addition to the south side of the Childcare Center. This project entails the expansion of classroom, office, and storage space.

Road Maintenance

The J-DOT crew works diligently to improve roadway and parking lot conditions throughout Jemez Pueblo.

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PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT & TRANSPORTATION

Planning Development and Transportation Department Project Updates Continued....

The program has completed or is currently working on the following projects:

- Installing road signs and mile markers on the west side of the Pueblo
- Installing fencing along the NM-4
- Routine road maintenance
- Replacing damaged signs
- Installing new gates at Chamisa Rd. & Day School Rd. (at the intersections of the NM-4)
- Work Orders

J-DOT, PWD, & NRD heavy equipment operators participated in a heavy equipment operator training in July 2021.

For questions regarding road maintenance, please contact Vincent Toya, Heavy Equipment Supervisor, at (505) 500-5336.

FREE Vehicle Removal!

Do you have an abandoned or unwanted vehicle on your property that you want permanently removed? Atlas Towing will take all vehicles damaged, wrecked, totaled, salvaged, or scrapped, running or not, FREE of charge. Call Atlas for more information or to schedule a pickup at (505) 445-9104. Atlas Towing staff will be cautious, wear PPE, and practice social distancing when entering the village.

Construction Tip – Call Before You Dig

Please call 811 or 1-800-321-2537 at least two working days in advance before you start any digging project. Whether you plan to do it yourself or hire a contractor, smart digging means calling 811 before each job. The 811 representatives will record the location and other information about your project and notify the appropriate utility companies to mark all buried lines so you can dig safely around them!

For more information, visit <http://call811.com/map-page/new-mexico>.



NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

Backyard Composting

Submitted by: Tammy Belone



The Jemez Farmers Association had the pleasure of a virtual presentation, “Backyard Composting,” by Sarah Pierpont, Executive Director of the New Mexico Recycling Coalition (NMRC). In 2020, the NMRC received a USDA Rural Utilities Solid Waste Management grant to teach New Mexicans how to divert organic material from the landfill and make their own compost from food scraps and yard debris. The Natural Resources Department was thrilled to work with the NMRC in reaching out to the Jemez Pueblo about their composting project.

With springtime in full bloom and warmer weather, many New Mexicans are thinking about gardening. Spring is a great time to prepare the land and apply compost to nurture crops, flowers, and vegetables throughout the growing season. Compost provides much-needed nutrients to our desert soils, helps retain moisture, creates a healthy soil food web, and increases plants’ resiliency to survive drought and fight off disease. It also allows our environment in numerous other ways that might seem less obvious.

According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency, nearly 30% of the material Americans throw away is food scraps and yard trimmings. When this goes into a landfill and decomposes in an oxygen-poor, anaerobic, environment it creates methane, a dangerous greenhouse gas at least 20 times more potent than CO₂. Why put these items in the landfill to produce methane when we divert them from landfills and create a valuable soil amendment that can sequester carbon dioxide from the atmosphere into the soil?

The recipe to make compost is pretty simple. It’s a mixture of carbon-rich material, often referred to as “brown” material, such as fallen leaves, dried yard waste, sticks, wood chips, etc. plus nitrogen-rich material, often referred to as “green” material such as

food waste or green yard debris plus air, water and time. The amount of time it takes to make compost varies depending on the materials, airflow, and water. If we consider how nature decomposes items naturally on the forest floor to make a nice humus layer, backyard composting essentially does the same, just in a more controlled environment. Our desert environment requires us to take steps to reduce evaporation in the compost-making process.

Are you interested in learning more? Then sign up for one of the free backyard compost virtual pieces of training this spring offered by the New Mexico Recycling Coalition.

The training goes over the details on how to start and sustain your backyard compost system, and residents from eligible rural communities (such as Jemez Pueblo) can receive a free compost starter kit if they attend one of the training. Starter kit supplies are limited, so sign up for virtual training online at <https://www.recyclenewmexico.com/rural-waste-reduction/>. Trainings will occur throughout the spring.

Sarah Pierpont notes that “This past year has created a variety of challenges for many of our rural communities to continue to sustain their recycling and waste reduction programs. We are excited to offer sustainable materials management solutions that empower these communities and encourage them to further their backyards and neighborhoods. Backyard composting reduces the amount of material going to the landfill and helps rural parts of our state focus on the first two “Rs” in the reduce, reuse, recycle hierarchy: reduce and reuse.”

This material’s opinions, findings, conclusions, or recommendations are solely the authors’ responsibility. They do not necessarily represent the official views of the USDA Rural Utilities Service.

NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

Natural Resources Department and Community Las Conchas Fire Restoration Efforts

Submitted by: Tammy Belone



Estevan Sando, Arlan Sando and NRD crew help with the Las Conchas fire restoration efforts.

Overview: The Las Conchas fire of summer 2011 left productive Canada de Cochiti forest land in a damaged, dead, decaying condition, with large unstocked forest patches, soil instability, hazard trees, and widespread exposure to invasion by noxious vegetation. The primary objective of the reforestation efforts is to establish tree seedlings within the Las Conchas Fire burn scar, which is to repair or improve forest lands' abilities to restore to pre-fire conditions. Reforestation of the burn scar will assist in transforming damaged, unstable forest land back into land projected by its pre-fire dynamic. Since the wildfire in 2011, the Natural Resources Department (NRD) Forestry has implemented continuous forest inventory (CFI) plots out on the Canada De Cochiti land grant as part of the post-fire monitoring. Reforestation has been in the plan; however, NRD and community efforts encountered challenges due to climate change, the scope of work, cone and seed collection, and sourcing seedlings through state producers.

Trees, Water, and People:

Trees Water and People (TWP) is a non-profit organization from Fort Collins, Colorado. This organization assists tribes in protecting forests impacted by deforestation in Latin America and wildfire impacts on Native American tribes in the United States. Recently this organization worked with tribes in the southwest US on reforestation efforts. Jemez Pueblo, Santo Domingo Pueblo, and Cochiti Pueblo are working with TWP in reforestation projects due to the Las Conchas fire in 2011.

2020 Fall planting:

NRD Forestry Started the discussion with TWP in September 2019 regarding the pueblo's needs in reforestation in the Las Conchas burn scar. TWP quickly responded on how they could help with our needs. Their recent work with Cochiti and Santo Domingo Pueblos in 2019 streamlined the process of how many tree seedlings and what species to plant on tribal lands. NRD director at the time, Paul Clarke, Tribal Forester John Galvan, and Forestry Supervisor Aaron Cajero Jr. discussed these details. They agreed on ordering 8,500 tree seedlings (2,500 Douglas and 6,000 Ponderosa Pine) from TWP.

August 2020, TWP delivered the 8,500 seedlings to the pueblo and kept them in the Public Health greenhouse. Public Health agriculture employees assisted in maintaining the seedlings watered, while NRD forestry, agricultural crews, and Forest Stewards Guild Youth crew planted the trees over the next two months. Pre-selected/planned planting zones were identified on the Canada De Cochiti land grant Las Conchas burn scar. These reforestation efforts intend to involve the community and youth with Walatowa Charter High School, Jemez Day School, and San Diego Riverside. However, the Covid -19 pandemic greatly impacted this collaboration. On October 1, 2020, our crews accomplished the planting of 8,500 trees. The amount of hard work, our teams, put in to complete this project was very rewarding.

NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

Natural Resources Department and Community Las Conchas Fire Restoration Efforts Continued....

2021 Fall Planting:

This year, we continued seedlings with TWP and ordered 4,000 seedlings (2,000 Douglas Fir and 2,000 Ponderosa Pine) for this year's tree planting. This year's planting season was promising with the help of the moisture we have handmade since the hydration enhances the tree planting. The planting began after the seedling's arrival on August 16h and the following day until the 31st. The field crews grew until everyone who participated planted.

NRD Forestry would like to extend an invitation to community members to participate in this effort this year. Volunteers must have heavy-duty boots to support hiking in uneven terrain along with proper Personal Protective Equipment, i.e., long sleeves, food, water.... All tools will be provided, as well as lunch and drinks. If you prefer to bring your lunch and water that will be fine. Email or call Aaron Cajero Jr., Forestry Supervisor at NRD, or Tammy Belone to confirm more details about this project. NRD will release further details of this community effort in the coming weeks. Email or call Aaron Cajero Jr., Forestry Supervisor at NRD, to confirm who will be able to make out.

New Fire Brush Truck

Submitted by: Tammy Belone

The Natural Resources Department's Forestry Program is excited to announce the recent addition of a brush truck engine to their fleet. This much-needed engine will be utilized primarily for wildland fire response and support wildland fire suppression and fire management activities within the local area. The brush truck was constructed to respond to wildland fires adequately and withstand the severe conditions encountered during emergency firefighting services. The engine's general design meets all required specifications of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).

The assembly of the engine began in November 2020 and was completed in June 2021. The manufacturer was Firetrucks Unlimited, which is based out of Henderson, Nevada. Forestry Program staff John Galvan and Harris Toya made the trip to Henderson for the engine's final inspection. The engine's design with all the "bells and whistles" passed inspection. The engine, now referred to as NRD-201, made the road trip back home to the Pueblo of Jemez.

The Pueblo's forestry crew comprises qualified staff trained to effectively and safely respond to wildland fires and oversee management activities such as prescribed burns and fire patrols. For more than a decade, the need and importance of acquiring a brush truck became evident as the fires increased in number and severity. There is no doubt that NRD 201 will travel, near and far, when responding to emergency wildland fire incidences.

The Pueblo's Forestry Program would like to extend its gratitude to the Governors and State Senator Benny Shendo, Jr. for their efforts to secure funding from the State of New Mexico. In addition, "thank you" to everyone that contributed to the process of purchasing the brush truck. The Forestry Program's success and growth have allowed them to expand their capability in protecting the natural resources of the Pueblo.

NRD Crew with the New Fire Brush Truck.



NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

Actions to Reduce Potential Lead Exposure

Submitted by: Tammy Belone

I had the pleasure of attending the “Lead Awareness in Indian Country: Keeping our Children Healthy!” training sponsored by the US EPA. The EPA designed a set of educational tools with over 200 tribal partners to:

- Raise awareness in tribal communities (and other interested communities) about childhood lead exposure;
- Expand understanding of lead’s potential impacts on children’s health and cultural practices; and
- Encourage actions that can be taken to reduce and prevent childhood lead exposure.

The Actions to Reduce Potential Lead Exposure Infographic is a visual aid designed to show the community how they can lower and prevent their family’s potential exposure to lead. Please contact me at Tammy.Belone@jemezpuueblo.org or at (575) 834-3207 for more information.



PUBLIC WORKS

Transfer Station Hours

The Transfer Station is open seven days a week.

Operating Hours

Transfer Station

6:30 a.m to 5 p.m

**For any other questions or concerns, please contact
Jemez Public Works Department at (575) 834-7942**

NATIVE AMERICAN VOTING RIGHTS PROGRAM

VOTING

If you have any questions about voting, please call our offices:

Peter Madalena, Senior Tribal Liaison at (505) 934-8826 or Sandoval County Clerk's Office at (505) 867-7577.
Thank you.



**NATIVE AMERICAN VOTING
RIGHTS PROGRAM**

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Pueblo of Jemez Walatowan

October/November 2021

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WALATOWA VISITORS CENTER

Walatowa Visitors Center

Updates



The Walatowa Visitors Center has a new phone number.
The new number is 505-494-1965.