



Stewardship in Action!

A Volunteer Program Newsletter — Espanola & Pecos/Las Vegas Ranger Districts

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A B-I-G Welcome to Julie

We would like to welcome Julie Dolan, our newest Assistant Volunteer Coordinator, to the Espanola & Pecos/Las Vegas Ranger Districts. Julie is currently an Environmental Sciences major at Northern New Mexico College. Upon completion of her degree, she would like to put it to good use with a job working for a federal land agency.

Since her arrival in March, she has been helping with workdays, learning the ropes of becoming a crew leader, creating this latest newsletter, and whipping our Espanola tool shed into shape. The District Volunteer Program will greatly benefit by having Julie on the team. Thank you for your continued hard work, Julie!



Julie & daughter, Isabella

A Note From Jennifer

The path to completion of the Dead Dog Trail is getting closer. I'm happy to say the end REALLY is in sight and our trail should be finished by the end of this year. National Trails Day (June 1) was a hit as well. There were "old timers" and newbies alike out on the trails during National Trails Day making a difference for the landscape and the users. Free REI t-shirts, breakfast, and lunch provided by NM Volunteers for the Outdoors, as well as awesome prizes made the day even better. Great job to everyone for your efforts on the trails!

Despite the Forest closures and dry conditions, trail & project planning will continue to move forward. A number of dedicated volunteers have worked tirelessly alongside FS employees to plan re-routes and other exciting new trail projects that I hope will come to fruition soon and down the road. Improvements and better design of trails is a never-ending, yet rewarding, part of working on trails, and I'm so thankful to share it with so many awesome volunteers!

**Nobody Can Do Everything, But
Everyone Can Do Something.**

Gil Scott Heron



Happenings



Update on Dead Dog Trail Re-route

Great progress has been accomplished on the Dead Dog Trail! A huge thank you to all the volunteers who participated in the spring trail projects on the Dead Dog Trail. Volunteers of various user groups worked together to dig new trail, create switchbacks, build rock walls, install steps, and move LARGE rocks in the process. At this rate, we should be finished with the Dead Dog Trail reroute this fall, and we hope you can join us—dates and times for fall trail projects will be posted in the fall newsletter. In the meantime, check out the great photos of volunteers working hard to make the new re-route a reality. They sure earned their dinner!



Buckman Trash Bashin'

The Randall Davey Audubon Center and New Mexico Wildlife Federation have been hosting clean-up days in the Buckman area near the Rio Grande since fall 2012. In addition the Friends of the Santa Fe National Forest hosted a clean-up in the Buckman area in April of this year. Together, these groups and their volunteers deserve the Trash Bashin' Award for their effective efforts to clean up the trash that unfortunately accumulates in the Buckman area near the river. Thanks to everyone for all your hard work.



National Trails Day, June 1st.

National Trails day was a great success. Projects included work on the Borrego/Bear Wal-low Trail, Chamisa Trail, & at Hyde Memorial State Park. Already looking forward to next year!



Never doubt that a small group of committed people can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.
Margaret Mead



Volunteer Spotlight: Alan Karp

After logging over 10,000 hours of volunteer service and receiving the President's Lifetime Volunteer Service Award, Alan Karp has retired. Alan's long-time love of the outdoors inspired him to become a Sierra Club hike leader, work with St. John's Search and Rescue, and finally to adopt an "orphan annie" called Atalaya trail. His fondness for the Atalaya Trail was obvious as he dedicated 3 to 4 days a week to care and maintenance. We thank you, Alan, for your many hours of volunteer service, and we'll see you on the trail!



Resources & Opportunities:

Adopt-A-Trail



Trails to Adopt

Near Santa Fe:

Borrego/Bear Wallow Loop Trail #'s 150,182, and 254.

Atalaya Trail #'s 174/170

Near Los Alamos:

Pajarito Canyon Trail # 280

Mitchell Trail #68

Near Pecos:

Winsor Trail #254

Winsor Ridge Trail # 271

Near Las Vegas:

El Porvenir Trail # 247

Lone Pine Mesa Trail # 214

Near Mora:

Middle Fork Trail #266

Want to see more trails that are up for adoption? Check out the SFNF's volunteer website:

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/santafe/workingtogether/volunteering>

What would I do?: The trail adopter adopts one or more trails on the Espanola and/or Pecos-Las Vegas Ranger Districts. Duties include lopping and brushing back bushes and tree limbs that have grown over the trail, picking up trash, cleaning out behind water bars and rolling grade dips, cutting logs off the trail (must be Forest Service crosscut or chainsaw trained prior to conducting this activity), and reporting concerns or hazards at the trail-head and along the trail.

Who may enjoy this opportunity?: The ideal person or group to adopt a trail would be those that love being out on the trails and would be willing to maintain/monitor their adopted trail(s) at least twice a year.

What qualifications do I need?: No qualifications are necessary. An organized training or one-on-one meeting with the District Volunteer Coordinator will be conducted prior to official trail adoption. In addition, the individual or group must comply with Forest Service safety standards and wear long pants, long sleeves, above-ankle boots, safety glasses, a hard hat, and leather gloves.

How much of a time commitment is this opportunity?: Trail adoption should happen at least twice a year. During your day on the trail, it may take you 3-4 hours or the entire day (or more) to access the trail, clear the trail of brush, pick up trash, and clean out behind water bars and rolling grade dips.

Is there an interview/training?: No formal interview is required but the District Volunteer Coordinator will speak with you about why you'd like to get involved and the requirements, plus will provide training prior to starting your trail adoption. A volunteer agreement with an attached Job Hazard Analysis will be filled out and signed by the individual and/or group and then followed up for review and signature from the District Ranger.

Whom do I contact for the opportunity?: Please contact Jennifer Sublett, District Volunteer Coordinator, at 505-753-7331 or jasublett@fs.fed.us

For more Information Click Here: [Volunteer Opportunities](#)

Events and Fun Facts !!

Volunteer Fiesta—Saturday, October 5th

Dinner, Awards, and good clean fun!

Stay tuned for more information on this great event! Also, we're looking for talented volunteers to entertain the troops (volunteers) at the Fiesta (music-wise)...Please contact Jennifer Sublett.

Safety Tip : Lightning

MYTH: Small metal objects attract lightning .

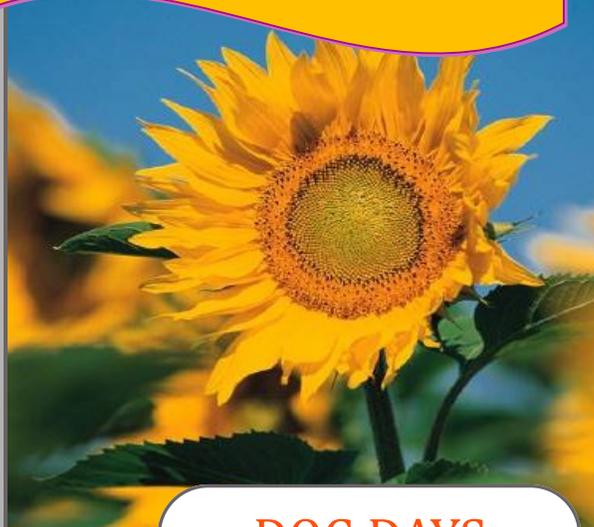
MYTH: Wearing jewelry, wearing shoes with metal cleats, or carrying metal objects will attract lightning .

TRUTH: For all intents and purposes, nothing 'attracts' lightning. Lightning occurs on too large of a scale to be influenced by small objects on the ground, including metal objects. The location of the thunderstorm overhead alone determines where lightning will hit the ground.

The ancients knew the "Dog Star" was up in the sky with the sun during the hottest time of the year. They reasoned that since Sirius was so bright and up with the sun, it must be adding to the heat to produce the hottest time of the year.



NATURE'S CORNER



DOG DAYS

The dog days of summer occur about July 3rd to Aug. 11th.

August 11 & 12 - Perseids Meteor Shower. The Perseids is one of the best meteor showers to observe, producing up to 60 meteors per hour. It is produced by the comet, Swift-Tuttle, which was discovered in 1862. Best viewing will be from a dark location after midnight.