

**SUSANA MARTINEZ, GOVERNOR**David Martin, *Cabinet Secretary*Raj Solomon, P.E., *Deputy Secretary***NEWS RELEASE****July 12, 2011**

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**Non-profit Group to hold workshops  
on “Water and Farming in Arid Lands”**

**Santa Fe, NM** - With New Mexico in the midst of one its worst droughts in decades, the New Mexico Environment Department is pleased to announce a weekend of public discussion and workshops on how to farm on arid lands.

The New Mexico non-profit group Carbon Economy Series will hold the weekend events at Santa Fe Community College from July 22<sup>nd</sup> through July 24<sup>th</sup>. On Friday night, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, Nate Downey, author of *Harvest the Rain & Santa Fe Permaculture*, will host a lecture entitled “WATER: Our Most Precious Resource” from 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. in the SFCC Lecture Room. The cost of admission is \$10. On Saturday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>, a workshop on “Pattern Applications for Water Harvesting in Arid Lands” will be held at the SFCC Sustainable Technologies Center from 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. The cost for the day-long workshop is \$175. Then, on Sunday, July 24<sup>th</sup>, a workshop entitled “Keyline Design for Whole Farm Fertility” will be held at the SFCC Sustainable Technologies Center from 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. The cost for the day-long workshop is also \$175. There is a special rate of \$300 for anyone who wants to attend all 3 events.

The New Mexico non-profit Carbon Economy Series features a total of 5 public talks and weekend intensives from June to October. More information and sign-up information can be found at [www.carboneconomyseries.com](http://www.carboneconomyseries.com). The goal of the series is to teach sustainable principles to reduce our carbon footprint to citizens, ranchers, gardeners, city, county and state employees. Topics will include how to grow local, organic food and how to protect wild habitat and diversity.