



NEW MEXICO
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**Environment Department Awards \$317,000 in Grants to Communities Statewide for
Illegal Dump Site Cleanups and Recycling Projects**

(Santa Fe, NM) The New Mexico Environment Department recently awarded \$317,000 in grants for 21 recycling and illegal dumping abatement projects for local governments.

The department awarded the 2010 Recycling and Illegal Dumping Grants to Santa Fe County, South Central Solid Waste Authority, Eight Northern Indian Pueblos Council, Village of Eagle Nest, Truth or Consequences, Northwest New Mexico Regional Solid Waste Authority, Village of Angle Fire, Village of Corrales, Sandoval County, Village of Corona, Curry County, Hidalgo County, Bernalillo County, City of Las Cruces, Estancia Valley Solid Waste Authority, Anton Chico Land Grant, and the Town of Springer.

“Some of this year’s projects are particularly innovative – like those of Hidalgo County and the Village of Corona that will use old motor oil to heat government shop buildings,” said New Mexico Environment Department Deputy Secretary Sarah Cottrell. “Other communities will work on cleaning up illegal tire dumps that are unsightly and serve as breeding grounds for mosquitoes that could spread diseases.”

The grants support projects that protect the health and welfare of the environment and residents of New Mexico by preventing and abating illegal dumps; promoting environmentally sound methods for reuse and recycling; and encouraging economic development.

Entities eligible for grant funds include municipalities, counties, tribes, land grant communities, cooperative associations and solid waste authorities. The department received 32 applications for the grant funding that amounted to over \$1.2 million in requests. The next grant cycle will begin January 1, 2011, and remain open until the first week of April 2011. Winners for the 2011 grant cycle will be announced in May 2011. Those interested in pursuing upcoming grant funding should visit the bureau’s Web site at <http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/SWB/> for details.

For more information about recycling and illegal dumping grants or the upcoming grant cycle, contact Tim Gray at (505) 827-0129 or tim.gray@state.nm.us.

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