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NEWS RELEASE

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The Environment Department's mission is to protect and restore the environment and to foster a healthy and prosperous New Mexico for present and future generations.

New Mexico Environment Department awards over \$750,000 to communities to remove trash, prevent illegal dumping, and jump start recycling programs

SANTA FE - The New Mexico Environment Department announced the latest recipients of Recycling and Illegal Dumping (RAID) grants for fiscal year (FY) 2024.

Communities, counties, solid waste authorities and pueblos around the state – many in rural areas – will share in the \$751,489 in grant funding. The funds will help clean up illegal dumpsites, establishing illegal dump prevention education, offsetting the cost of scrap tire collection and recycling, providing educational outreach on recycling, reusing scrap tires, using used oil as a heating source, and implementing or expanding recycling programs.



Pictured left to right: A tire cutting machine, a sign at Isleta, and a wheel crusher machine purchased by Isleta Pueblo with RAID Grant funds awarded in FY23.

“This grant allows Bernalillo County to follow through on a nuisance abatement project that was recently approved by the Board of County Commissioners. Successful completion of this project will return the land to a more natural state and will generate additional content for the ongoing awareness campaign the county is engaged in,” says **Bernalillo County Planning and Development Services Director Nick Hamm**. “We hope to encourage better practices around scrap tire disposal and to protect a healthy environment.”

“The Pueblo of Pojoaque has been given the opportunity to implement a recycling program that will benefit the community by providing recycling services at events hosted by our businesses. Having an

active recycling point in our community shows that our community cares about the environment” says **Pueblo of Pojoaque Environment Department Director Adam L. Duran**. “The State of New Mexico RAID Grant Program has made this possible.”

Funding has been awarded to:

- Pueblo of San Felipe
- Bernalillo County
- Roosevelt County
- Town of Taos
- City of Clovis
- South Central Solid Waste Authority
- Taos County
- Village of Jemez Springs
- Village of Roy
- San Juan County
- Village of Eagle Nest
- Pueblo of Pojoaque
- Estancia Valley Solid Waste Authority

The grant funding is made possible through a special revenue fund derived from a fee on motor vehicle registrations. Approximately \$800,000 is available through the fund annually. Between 2006 and 2023, NMED awarded 364 RAID grants to communities totaling more than \$11.9 million.

The application period for the grant program opens in February of each year. Grant recipients are selected by the 12-member RAID Alliance appointed by the Environment Department Cabinet Secretary. The grant program is managed by the Solid Waste Bureau within the New Mexico Environment Department.

A full list of 2024 recipients and project details are listed below. More information on the RAID program is available [here](#).

Grantee	Project	Amount
Pueblo of San Felipe	The Pueblo of San Felipe will clean an illegal dumpsite which is creating an environmental, fire, and human health hazard. The project will also include an education and outreach component to deter illegal dumping as well as the installment of game cameras to monitor and prevent illegal dumping on tribal lands.	\$20,785.00
Bernalillo County	Bernalillo County will abate an illegal dumpsite of 65,000 scrap tires located on Pajarito Mesa on the west end of Bernalillo County. The tires collected during the cleanup process will be processed for recycling and/or disposal. Bernalillo County will also produce an educational outreach component of this project by filming the cleanup process and creating a video documentary to raise awareness of the effects of illegal dumping on the local landscape.	\$371,237.00
Roosevelt County	Roosevelt County will host multiple scrap tire amnesty days that will allow residents an opportunity to recycle discarded scrap tires. The county will also produce advertisements and personal service announcements through multiple media outlets to promote the tire amnesty days project as well as educate locals on the potential reuse of scrap tires.	\$14,400.00
Town of Taos	The Town of Taos will shred an inventory of approximately 82,000 scrap tires at the Taos Regional Landfill. The shredded product will be utilized into the working face of the landfill as daily cover.	\$22,400.00

City of Clovis	The City of Clovis will replace 13,000 square feet of pea gravel at Hillcrest Park playground (HPP) with recycled loose-fill rubberized mulch derived from scrap tires. The transformation of the playground will provide a much-needed upgrade while demonstrating the potential reuse of scrap tires as a viable reuse material in New Mexico.	\$56,000.00
South Central Solid Waste Authority	South Central Solid Waste Authority will team up with Las Cruces Public Schools to implement recycling education in the classroom. South Central Solid Waste will be assisting the Las Cruces Public Schools to develop a recycling program within the administrative offices. The main objective will be to provide long term recycling coupled with an educational campaign that targets all school district facilities, classrooms, and their students.	\$20,000.00
Taos County	Taos County intends to improve local recycling rates of plastics by undertaking an education campaign meant to support the installation of a new bailer and an innovative reuse shed. The project will also center on the creation of art recycling receptacles to raise interest and the need to improve plastics recycling in the local area.	\$73,656.00
Village of Jemez Springs	The Village of Jemez Springs will be partnering with the Jemez Valley Recycling Center to complete the Jemez Valley Recycling Center and Jemez Sustainable Solutions project. This project will help provide new equipment and improvements to the facility that will allow the center to continue recycling corrugated cardboard and effectively manage additional recyclable materials.	\$35,500.00
Village of Roy	The Village of Roy will purchase a recycling trailer and place bins in the local park and along the main street to encourage residents and tourists to use them for recycling. The project will conduct an education campaign to relay the importance of recycling and how to properly recycle at the Village of Roy.	\$22,000.00
San Juan County	The purpose of this project is to purchase educational materials to highlight the benefits of recycling and proper waste disposal while relaying the environmental impacts that occur with illegal dumping. The educational workbooks will be produced and handed out at local schools and community events under this project named the "Make us Shine" initiative which aims to prevent and clean illegal dumpsites in San Juan County.	\$15,000.00
Village of Eagle Nest	The Village of Eagle Nest will purchase a used oil heater as a heating source for the town's recycling center. The project will also include a public education component to encourage community members to drop off used motor oil and educate the community on the importance of reusing this valuable resource.	\$13,510.00
Pueblo of Pojoaque	Pojoaque Pueblo will purchase two recycling trailers which will be used to host numerous recycling collection events locally. This project will also include an education and outreach campaign to encourage Pojoaque Pueblo residents to utilize existing recycling infrastructure at the Jacona Collection Center in Pojoaque, NM.	\$50,990.00
Estancia Valley Solid Waste Authority	Estancia Valley Solid Waste Authority will be purchasing multiple recycling containers. These containers will help promote recycling practices and effective collection at multiple transfer stations. There will also be new signage procured to provide educational awareness of the containers to the public. The overall objective is to capture more recyclables to avoid landfill disposal.	\$36,011.00

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