



Making Chile Ristras in Nambe, NM- Photo taken by Quita Ortiz

***Noticias de las***

New Mexico Acequia  
Association  
August 31, 2017

# Acequias

## In This Issue...

[Ask a Water Lawyer: Aamodt Rules and Regulations](#)

[Notes From the Field: Protecting Farmland & Water Rights](#)

[Santolina Decision Overlooks Water Scarcity](#)

[Ask a Water Lawyer: Aamodt Rules & Regulations](#)



Edward Romero, mayordomo of the Acequia de las Jollas, opens the sluice gate to release water back into the stream -Photo taken by Gabriela Campos

By Enrique Romero, NMAA Staff Attorney

**What should I expect as a Nambe-Pojoaque-Tesuque (NPT) mayordomo and farmer now that the Aamodt Settlement is in place and the NPT Water Master Rules are just about final?**

Join Our Mailing List!

Like us on Facebook

Donate



## Upcoming Events

[Alimento Towa eh  
Huu'tsong'yo](#)

[ReGeneration  
Festival Española](#)

[Saturday, September  
2 2017  
2:00-6:00pm](#)

[Española Healing  
Foods Oasis  
Valdez Park,  
Española](#)

[Los Luceros Harvest  
Festival](#)

[September 17th 2017  
9:00am-3:00pm](#)

[Alcalde, NM](#)

As a farmer and mayordomo, you can expect some changes next irrigation season and in the years to come. Although the changes are significant, they are not insurmountable. Acequias have persisted and thrived for hundreds of years in New Mexico and endured changes in law and water management. NPT acequias will continue to thrive, and during this new era the small- to medium-scale farm may see a renaissance. Water use will be scrutinized, but with the right tools - including access to acequia and farm infrastructure improvements, farm-to-market initiatives, and creative match making between would-be farmers and landowners - acequias and parcientes in the NPT basin may see a net gain from the new layer of administration. Pardon the early digression. Now, let's discuss the law and how to protect what may be the community's most precious natural resource.

**To read more, please**

**follow:** <http://www.lasacequias.org/news/ask-a-water-lawyer-aadmont-rules-regulations/>

**Notes From the Field:**

**Protecting Farmland & Water Rights: Tools for Land Restoration**



Acequeros declaring their status as elected officials -Photo taken by Enrique

**Mother Earth  
Gathering  
Water is life**

**September 20th-23rd  
2017**

**Location TBD**

**Daily: 10am-1pm**

**Become a Member**

[Become a member  
of the New Mexico  
Acequia Association!](#)

The NMAA is a charitable, educational non-profit organization that relies on membership contributions and foundations for its general operating expenses. We rely on folks who join as members to contribute membership dues and donations to support our work. It has never been more important to have a united front to protect our acequias and strengthen our food and agricultural traditions.

**Technical Assistance**

HOW DO WE PROTECT OUR WATER RIGHTS?  
HOW DO WE GET FUNDING TO IMPROVE OUR ACEQUIA? WHAT

Romero

By Olivia Romo, NMAA Staff

On August 18<sup>th</sup> 2017 over one hundred acequia farmers and ranchers joined the NM Acequia Association in a dynamic workshop that energized participants to continue exercising their water rights and take concrete steps in restoring fallow lands to productive fields.

Up until two generations ago, many of our families made most of their livelihood from their ranchitos, or small scale farms. However, with the advent of a global food system that favors agribusiness (and a host of other factors), our communities adapted by becoming wage earners and leaving the farm behind. Today, our acequia communities face commodification of water and land, gentrification, and the challenges of keeping land-based livelihoods economically viable for low-income families.

This workshop was led by experts and community leaders from Northern New Mexico to demonstrate and share best practices, resources, and testimonies of land restoration to empower landowners to come back to the land and reap the benefits of engaging in agriculture. The workshop was held at the Historic Los Luceros Ranch in Alcalde, NM where abundant apple trees grow, the Acequia Madre de Alcalde runs full and functional, healthy pasture and livestock thrive.

**To read more about this workshop, please follow: <http://www.lasacequias.org/news/protecting-farmland-water-rights-tools-for-land-restoration-2/>**

Santolina Decision Overlooks Water Scarcity

CAN OUR ACEQUIA DO TO PROTECT OUR EASEMENTS? WHAT PROGRAMS ARE AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT FARMERS AND RANCHERS?

The NMAA offers technical assistance on Acequia Governance and USDA programs for landowners. If any of these questions apply to you or your acequia, please submit a [Request for Technical Assistance](#)



The Sandia Mountains and the Rio Grande -Photo taken by Erich Schlegel

By Paula Garcia, Executive Director of NMAA

Santolina cleared another hurdle on August 30, 2017 when the Bernalillo County Commission approved the Level B master plan on a 3-2 vote. The development has been controversial with opponents mounting a years-long campaign against approval of the master plan over questions about water, taxes, and infrastructure. Along with the South Valley Regional Acequia Associations, local neighborhood organizations, and other community organizations, the NMAA has expressed concern about the Santolina development because of the potential impacts to the water resources of the Middle Rio Grande and related impacts to the historic acequias.

**To read the rest of this article, please follow:**

<http://www.lasacequias.org/news/santolina-decision-overlooks-water-scarcity/>

Alimento Towa eh Huu'tsong'yo: ReGeneration  
Festival

# 'Alimento' Towa eh Huu'tsong'yo

A WEEKEND  
CELEBRATION OF  
COMMUNITY  
NOURISHMENT

FOLLOW THE TRAIL: FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 1, SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 2, MONDAY SEPTEMBER 4

## ReGeneration Festival Español

*an intergenerational movement to  
uplift future community leaders*

**Saturday, September 2**  
**2 - 6 pm**

**@Española Healing Foods Oasis**  
**Valdéz Park, Española**

- **2 - 2:45 pm:** Sponsorship dedication
- **3 - 5 pm:** Tree planting workshop and ceremony
- **5 - 6 pm:** Grandmother Blessing for our youth
- **Youth activities** throughout the afternoon, including:
  - \* Create a 'Zine
  - \* Self-care brown bags from A'Gin Healthy Sexuality & Body Sovereignty Project
  - \* Recycled art project with the Northern Youth Project
  - \* Wool washing, carding, and spinning demo by Four Bridges Traveling Permaculture Institute

**The Española Healing Foods Oasis is a project  
of Tewa Women United. We are grateful to our  
Community Collaborators:**

- Four Bridges Traveling Permaculture Institute and the Agri-Kids
- Sostenga@Northern
- Northern Youth Project
- American Friends Service Committee (AFSC)
- New Mexico Acequia Association (NMAA)
- Traditional Native American Farmers Association (TNAFA)
- Honor Our Pueblo Existence (HOPE)
- Flowering Tree Permaculture Institute
- Christie Green / radicle



TEWA  
WOMEN  
UNITED



Gathering for Mother Earth

# Welcome PUBLIC EVENT

## MOTHER EARTH Gathering

### Sept. 20-23, 2017



WATER  
IS  
LIFE.

Water Is Life: for All Cultures and All Ages

Daily: 10 AM to 1 PM Daily Gathering Site locations TBA



PEACE.

Daily happeni  
with location  
Along river ban  
Northern NM  
To be announc  
www.tewawomenur

Holistic Approach to Ecological Wellness  
[www.tewawomenunited.org](http://www.tewawomenunited.org)

*Come help Mother Earth*

For love of ALL waters of Mother Earth. Water is life and  
Life is for ALL relations in beloved communities

Sponsors: Tewa Women United, Mother Earth Ecological Wellness Collaborative: H.O.P.E Honor Our Pueblos Existence, TNAFA Traditional Native American Farmers Association, Red Willow Center and Farms, NM Acequias Association, Four Bridges Traveling Permaculture Institute

Information call (505) 747-3259 or email [info@tewawomenunited.org](mailto:info@tewawomenunited.org)

Support NMAA- My Change



Limpia of Acequia Madre de Chamisal y Ojito -Photo taken by Juliet Garcia, NMAA Staff

Imagine if your *change* could create change! Now, there is a simple way to help the NM Acequia Association and your community from your phone and making simple purchases at the store.

With MyChange, you can use the app everywhere you go and its super simple to join. Just sign up, download the app, choose NMAA as the organization you want to support and set a total monthly donation limit. That's it! The app does the rest, rounding-up your transactions to the nearest dollar.

We strongly encourage *YOU* to participate in MyChange so you can make a small but daily contribution to the acequia movement in defense of nuestra agua!

Please follow this link if you would like to sign up!

[MyChange4NMAcequias](#)

**Muchisimas Gracias!!**

**Que Vivan las Acequias!**

Amazon Smile for NMAA





Ethan Vigil, youngest parciante on Acequia de San Jose de la Cienega -Photo taken by Marty Vigil

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com), you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization. You can choose from nearly one million organizations to support.

Please consider donating to the NM Acequia Association and support the vision of acequias flowing with clean water, people working together to grow food, and communities celebrating cultural and spiritual traditions!

[Click here to sign up!](#)

<http://smile.amazon.com/>

Que Vivan Las Acequias!

New Mexico Acequia Association, 805 Early St. , Building B, Suite 203, Santa Fe, NM 87505

[SafeUnsubscribe™\\_johplummer@yahoo.com](mailto:SafeUnsubscribe™_johplummer@yahoo.com)

[Forward this email](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by [communications@lasacequias.org](mailto:communications@lasacequias.org) in collaboration with

**Constant Contact** 

Try it free today