



*Friends of Candelaria Nature Preserve
A Committee of the Open Space Alliance*

Newsletter for April 2024



Crayfish in ditch at the Preserve. Stranded in shallow water, this little cutie was encountered on our Guided Walk on March 29, 2024. S/he was moved to a happier home in deeper water by our alert and dedicated OSD Field Biologist, Jo Strange.

I hope you are all having a great spring.

In This Newsletter

- Coming Events
- Earth Day Booth
- Open Space Alliance - cool new website
- Open Space Alliance - new Quarterly Newsletter
- Friends of CNP YouTube Channel
- Interpretive Plan
- Updates from the Field, by Jaren Peplinski, Water Resources Coordinator, Ciudad Soil & Water Conservation District
- Next Meeting of Leadership (Board & Officers)

Coming Events

Pueblo Agrarian Civilizations along the Rio Grande, Thursday, April 25 - presentation on Zoom by Jon Gahate, Pueblo Cultural Educator & Lecturer, Laguna & Zuni Pueblos.

Please register (required); flyer attached.

Nature at Night - Saturday, April 20, 7:30-9:30 PM. Registration required.
Flyer attached. Contact < jstrange@cabq.gov > for details.

Nature Challenge night hike event - April 28. Registration required.
Contact < jstrange@cabq.gov > for details.

Earth Day Booth

Friends of CNP are sharing a booth with the Open Space Alliance (to which we belong).
ASunday, pril 21, 2024, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Balloon Fiesta Park

Open Space Alliance - Quarterly Newsletter

PSA Board member Lance Chilton has kicked in a new series of quarterly newsletters for the Open Space Alliance. The first newsletter of this series is attached.

Open Space Alliance - New Website - DONATE

<https://openspacealliance.org/>

It's a beaut.

See a comprehensive map of open spaces, under "Discover Open Spaces" at top of homepage.

You can make a tax-deductible donation to Friends of CNP at this website.

See "Support" at top of homepage. There is a "Donation Designation" option on the donation form.

Our YouTube Channel

Remember that Katie Stone posts our montly Zoom presentations on our YouTube channel.

<https://www.youtube.com/@FriendsofCandelariaNaturePres>

Very cool stuff.

Interpretive Plan

We have held several Focus Groups and are finalizing this phase of the Interpretation Plan for submission to Colleen McRoberts no later than June 30 likely sooner. We are focusing a lot on the Guided Walks (tours).

Updates from the Field - from Jaren Peplinski, Water Resources Coordinator, Ciudad Soil & Water Conservation District

April 12, 2024

Sustainability Students at CNP

Friday's volunteer event went well - volunteers and sustainability students from UNM planted over 100 plants and watered other habitat shrubs planted in the understory areas along the edges of Field IA. Special thanks to our rock-solid regular volunteers who helped instruct the students on planting the tall pot habitat shrubs!

Irrigation

Rio Grande Return had a chance to water Field 4A on Monday which is now radiant bright green with new wildlife crops. You can view this field from the east wildlife viewing platform.

Cottonwood Gulch

Today, Cottonwood Gulch was on site at CNP to participate in some service-learning activities.

Week of April 1, 2024

Seeding

Last week, Rio Grande Return planted oats and daikon radish in Field 4A, which should help address the big compaction pan in the soil in that section of the CNP.

Partnering with Other Sites

Siberian elm removals at Candelaria Nature Preserve are being hauled out to provide food for giraffes at the ABQ BioPark Zoo - what a great way to make use of these removals! **Video Attached**

Wetland Action Plan Site Visit

This week, local subject matter experts were on site at CNP for a visit as part of collaborative work with the City of Albuquerque Open Space Division on their Wetland Action Plan.

Volunteer events are ongoing - please contact Jaren Peplinski < jaren@ciudadswcd.org > or Jeannie Allen < friendsofcandelarianaturepres@gmail.com > for info on how to get involved

Thank you,
Jaren

Next Meeting of Leadership (Board & Officers)

June 10, 2024, 5:00-6:30 PM

Location: Jeannie's house, Rio Grande Compound, North Valley

All are welcome. Important you let me know by June 7 if you're coming.

Regards to all,
Jeannie

Jeannie Allen
Chair, Friends of Candelaria Nature Preserve
A Committee of the Open Space Alliance
< friendsofcandelarianaturepres@gmail.com >
Cell: 240-460-0946