

## **The Bel-Air neighborhood was awarded the ABQ NeighborWoods Grant!**

- ABQ NeighborWoods is a collaboration between the City of Albuquerque, the US Forest Service, NM State Forestry, local tree growers, local landscape architects, neighborhood leaders, and Tree New Mexico to provide funding, training, consulting professionals, and materials for neighborhood members to plant **100 street trees** and to perform a tree **giveaway of 100 small trees!**
- Tree New Mexico has been operating since 1990 and has helped to plant over 1 million trees here in our state. The ABQ NeighborWoods program has planted over 3500 trees in 44 neighborhoods since 2017. They will be helping to coordinate the events in the neighborhood with the neighborhood leaders. Please look for the green Tree New Mexico T-shirts canvassing in the Bel-Air neighborhood soon to find homes that would like to adopt one or more trees.

## **We want to create an impact with clusters of Street Trees!**

- Street trees can be planted anywhere within 20ft of the street. Tree New Mexico will ensure all utility lines get spotted, they will facilitate digging the holes, and they will provide the mulch for all the street trees.
- All 100 street trees will be planted in one day by volunteers, many of which should come from the neighborhood - local fire departments, churches, schools etc. This is a great way to build the community – we hope to see you there. And bring your families and friends!
- Homeowners who want to receive a street tree will be required to sign a City agreement promising that they will water and care for their trees. They are also responsible for marking any personal sprinkler system lines. The agreement also allows for access to dig holes, and for volunteers to flag sites and plant. Holes will not be dug, and lines cannot be spotted unless the agreement is signed allowing access to the homeowner's property.
- Professional landscape architects will do the final tree species population for each adoption site. They will ensure that the right tree goes into the right space!
- Tree varieties and sizes will vary due to grower availability. Also, Tree New Mexico follows the City and Water Authority guidelines regarding tree species recommended for our area. Non-invasive roots, flowering (for bees), fall color, shade, water wise, etc.
- As part of the ABQ NeighborWoods program, an arborist will come out to assess the health of the new trees. Homeowners will be provided with educational training information as needed and will be notified of any issues along with remedies/recommendations as well.
- Free pruning classes will be provided as part of the program.
- Although Tree New Mexico does not remove trees, there are several tree removal companies in Albuquerque to choose from. If a homeowner has a tree that needs to be removed, this must be done by the homeowner prior to planting any new one.

## Giveaway Trees

- The 100 small giveaway trees can be planted anywhere on the homeowner's property by the homeowner (Tree New Mexico does not dig these holes or plant these trees). During the tree giveaway event there will be a tree planting training session.
- This is a first come first served event for members of the neighborhood ONLY.

## Benefits of Trees

- Trees provide not only cooling shade, food for wildlife, and environmental benefits, but also help to reduce energy bills, reduce crime, slow traffic, increase property values, and improve health.
- Trees help to save water by slowing down evaporation and increasing atmospheric moisture.
- Xeriscaping is not zero-scaping and the Albuquerque Water Authority is encouraging tree planting in our city **by offering credits (Treebates) on your water bill of up to \$100 a year**. Did you know that 748 gallons of water only costs \$2? For about \$10 you can water a tree all year long!
- Almost 85% of Albuquerque's trees are located on private property and on business sites, therefore, the connection to homeowners is vital for enhancing and growing our urban forest.

## From the CNN Article Saturday July 20, 2019

If you're looking for a reason to care about tree loss, the nation's latest heat wave might be it. Trees can lower summer daytime temperatures by as much as [10 degrees Fahrenheit, according to a recent study.](#)

- Tree cover in US cities is shrinking. A study published last year by the US Forest Service found that [we lost 36 million trees annually](#) from urban and rural communities over a five-year period. That's a 1% drop from 2009 to 2014.
- If we continue on this path, "cities will become warmer, more polluted and generally more unhealthy for inhabitants," said David Nowak, a senior US Forest Service scientist and co-author of the study.

----- neighbors, please contact Tree New Mexico at [volunteer@treenm.org](mailto:volunteer@treenm.org) as soon as possible with your interest about adopting a tree or to volunteer to help canvass or plant!



**If you would like to bring the ABQ NeighborWoods program to your neighborhood, please contact Tree New Mexico at 505 265-4554, so your neighborhood can be considered for future plantings!**