



NEW MEXICO FIRST
People. Ideas. Progress.

A Message From: The New Mexico Department of Agriculture



NMDA Accepting Healthy Soil Program Grant Applications

Farmers and ranchers, Eligible Entities invited to apply

LAS CRUCES – The New Mexico Department of Agriculture is accepting grant applications for its Healthy Soil Program, which was created in the 2019 Healthy Soil Act.

The act's purpose is to promote and support farming and ranching systems and other forms of land management that increase soil organic matter, aggregate stability, microbiology and water retention to improve the state's soil health, yield and profitability.

New Mexico farmers and ranchers interested in applying must do so by 5 p.m. Monday, Aug. 31 through an Eligible Entity, such as a Soil and Water Conservation District; a tribe, nation, or pueblo; or a land grant or acequia. Eligible Entities will conduct preliminary reviews of the applications they receive, then forward the applications they approve to NMDA by 5 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 8. Eligible Entities are also invited to apply to NMDA on their own behalf; such applications are also due by 5 p.m. on Oct. 8. Late applications will not be accepted.

Grant funding may be used for agricultural projects in New Mexico that focus on one or more of five basic soil health principles: keeping the soil covered; minimizing soil disturbance on cropland; maximizing biodiversity; maintaining a living root; and integrating animals into land management.

“I encourage farmers, ranchers and all Eligible Entities to apply for this program, which is geared toward improving New Mexico’s soil health,” said New Mexico Secretary of Agriculture Jeff Witte. “We received 84 applications as part of the pilot program last year. Based on feedback from applicants and Eligible Entities during the program’s first year, our team has made several improvements to the entire process.”

NMDA strongly recommends that farmers and ranchers who intend to apply make themselves known as soon as possible to the Eligible Entity through which they intend to apply.

For more information or to download a streamlined, fillable application, visit www.nmda.nmsu.edu or call 575-646-2642.

[Haga clic aquí para la versión en español.](#)

Find us at:

www.nmda.nmsu.edu

Facebook, Twitter and Instagram: @NMDeptAg

YouTube: NMDeptAg

LinkedIn: New Mexico Department of Agriculture

Copyright © 2020 New Mexico First, All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:

P.O. Box 56549, Albuquerque, New Mexico, United States, 87187

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [unsubscribe from this list](#).

