



**CARLSBAD SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

**3219 S. CANAL**

**CARLSBAD NM, 88220**

**575-628-1532 PHONE**

**575-885-5386 FAX**

**WINTER 2018**

**WWW.CARLSBADSOILANDWATER.ORG**

## **OVERVIEW OF THE SYSTEM FOR AWARD MANAGEMENT**

A quick note to area cooperators who need to either renew or register with the federal government System for Award Management (SAM). You will need to get your farm or ranch registered with SAM for payment from NRCS or FSA contracts. If you need any assistance, Carlsbad SWCD is available to answer questions about the process.



You might have received advertisements from companies who will register or renew your farm or ranch with SAM. What you might not realize is that both the sign up and renewal is free! You can do this yourself, and do not need a second party to do it for you. To be eligible for federal awards (this includes NRCS and FSA payments), you must have an active SAM registration.

SAM is an official website of the U.S. government. There is NO FEE to register or maintain your SAM registration.

### **THE APPLICATION PROCESS**

In preparation for registration in SAM, there are several steps you should take. Among these steps are:

1. Obtain a TIN/EIN for your business from the IRS. (Even if your business is a sole proprietorship, it's important — because of identity-theft considerations — that you do not operate your business using your Social Security number.)
2. Research and identify the PSC/FSC and NAICS codes most appropriate to your business. (Every product and service is classified by these federal numbering systems, and it's essential that you accurately identify the codes that are applicable to your business.)
3. Obtain a DUNS number for your business. (Don't pay anyone for this; a DUNS number can be obtained from Dunn & Bradstreet (D&B) at no cost via the web within a day or two. Go to: <https://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>.)
4. Determine whether your business meets the SBA's small business size standard. (Most federal contracts valued at less than \$150,000 are awarded to small businesses, so you need to know if you qualify.)
5. Write a brief capabilities statement. (You must have a grammatically-correct, short description of what your company does.)
6. Identify "key words" associated with the nature of your business. (These words should

*Continued on pg. 3*

*Water Conservation - In the Home*  
 Carlsbad SWCD has Low-Flow showerheads for the home. These showerheads conserve water as well as improve water pressure in areas where pressure is an issue. If you are concerned with water conservation, and/or have problems with irregular water pressure, come by the District office at 3219 S. Canal and pick up one of these showerheads, they are free; however, we do limit one per household.



**SERVICES AVAILABLE  
 FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC**  
 Staff Information Assistance On -

- Certified compost facility operator*
- Xeric planning and irrigation use*
- Licensed public pesticide applicators*
- Vegetation identification*
- Small scale terrain management*
- Subdivision reviews*

**EQUIPMENT**

- Poinjar - posthole digger*
- Well depth measure - measure water well depths*
- Camel pitter seeder - disc revegetation*
- Gopher Tail Bounty - First Monday of month is turn in day*
- Water Testing - Irrigation wells, surface water, and Carlsbad Irrigation District irrigation water*
- Cost-Share Program for Brush Control - provides funds for a Cost-Share Vegetation Management program. The funds are limited to a 50/50 cost share match, up to \$5,000 per individual per year.*

# Conservation Tips

*Don't use your toilet for a garbage disposal or a trash can.*

*Instead of running cold water, keep a container of cold water in the refrigerator. Make only the amount of coffee, tea, etc. you expect to consume.*

*Add dark food coloring to TANK water. DON'T FLUSH! Check water in TOILET BOWL 15-20 minutes later. Color in the toilet bowl means you have a leak.*



*Install water-saving devices. Use a low-flow shower head, flow restrictor or cut off valve (lets you shut off water at shower head while soaping up and shampooing without changing the faucet setting).*

*Use the load selector to match water level to size of load. (If no selector then only do full loads.)*

*Presoak heavily soiled items. Always use minimum amount of detergent.*

*Use a hose nozzle which can be shut off or adjusted to fine spray.*

*When finished hand watering in the garden, shut off hoses at the house instead of at nozzle to avoid leaks.*



# Future District Projects

Carlsbad SWCD is always looking for new projects and ways to serve our community. Currently, the District is looking at new programs that will serve not only our neighbors who live in town, but also help our rural residents and wildlife too! We would like your input as well about ideas you might have for conservation projects that we might be able to assist with. Call, email or stop by our office located at 3219 S. Canal to discuss any potential projects or any others you would like to see the District adopt.

*Continued from pg. 1*

be crafted from a government buyer's perspective; in other words, think about what the government might "call" what it is you do or sell.)

7. Make a list of business references. (Be prepared to provide company name, contact person, dollar value, and date range of work.)

These are not all of the preparatory steps, but they are the most important ones. Plan ahead! It can take five days or more for your SAM registration to take effect because the SAM database must synchronize with D&B and IRS databases before activating your registration.

#### TIME FOR RENEWAL

Once you are registered with SAM, it is your responsibility to keep your registration current. If you have existing awards with the government, you must renew your SAM registration annually to ensure continued payments.

To update or renew your registration, follow these instructions:

1. Go to [www.sam.gov](http://www.sam.gov) and log in.
2. Select Entity Registrations from the sub-navigation menu on the My SAM page.
3. Select Existing Entity Registrations from the Entity Registrations menu.
4. Select the entity you want to update from the Entity List, or search for the entity, then select it.
5. Select Update Entity from Registration Details for Complete Record.
6. Complete your registration update by following the on-screen instructions.
7. Select Submit at the very end. You will see a confirmation message on the screen when you submit your renewal.

#### HELPFUL TIPS

1. Plan ahead!  
U.S. registrations must go through Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) validation.

All registrations must go through Commercial and Government Entity (CAGE) Code validation. Together, these processes can take up to 12 business days after you submit your registration. While the average is much faster, allow time for these external processes and begin your renewal now.

2. Get FREE help at <https://www.sam.gov> on the Help page where you will find the full SAM User Guides, Quick Start Guides, Helpful Hints, Webinars, and answers to Frequently Asked Questions.

3. Check your registration status at any time. Go to <https://www.sam.gov/> and select Check Status. Enter your DUNS Number or CAGE Code to quickly check your progress.

Remember, this process is entirely FREE to you. It is FREE to register in SAM. It is FREE to get help with your registration. Contact our supporting Federal Service Desk at [www.fsd.gov](http://www.fsd.gov), or by telephone at 866-606-8220 (toll free) or 334-206-7828 (internationally), for FREE help with this registration.

In addition, if you are located in the U.S. and its outlying areas, you can also get FREE support from your local Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC), an official resource for government contracting assistance. The contact information for New Mexico's PTAC:

Statewide PTAC  
<http://www.nmptac.org>  
CNM Workforce Training Center  
5600 Eagle Rock Ave NE, #203  
Albuquerque, NM 87113  
(505) 224-5969



# Noxious Weed Alert

## Malta Starthistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*)



Malta starthistle is a close relative of yellow starthistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*). This plant is an annual or biennial and reproduces from seed. The plant forms a rosette during the first growing season. The leaves of the rosette are deeply lobed and the surfaces are covered with stiff, thick hairs and resinous dots. The mature plants of Malta starthistle have stiff, upright stems that are openly branched from near the base. The plants have vertical ribs along the stems that are extensions of the leaves. These extensions are sometimes referred to as "wings". The wings on Malta starthistle are approximately 0.1 inch wide. The flowers of Malta starthistle occur singly or are groups of 2 or 3 at the ends of the stems. Almost always one flower can be found very near the base of the plant, at the point of the lowest branch. Vigorous plants can develop flowers in the leaf axils. Spines on the phyllaries are about  $\frac{1}{4}$ " long, brown to purple tinged and are branched near the midpoint. The spines are flattened in cross section. Malta starthistle has a single taproot. Sources for new infestations may be contaminated seed, vehicles traveling from infested areas, or, most commonly, weedy hay.

Malta starthistle is a native of Southern Europe, where it grows in dry places and disturbed ground. Malta starthistle can impact range carrying capacity of livestock allotments, and decrease the quality and quantity of wildlife habitat. It has been known to poison livestock, if eaten in large quantities. Toxicity usually occurs in horses after ingestion of 50 to 150 percent of the animal's weight in green plant material over a period of 1 to 3 months. Horses usually consume the young

plant in early spring before stalk and spine growth. Control:

Integrated pest management systems are most effective, combining the suppression of Malta starthistle with the enhancement of perennial grass species. Management of this plant is not difficult. Mowing the plants in late bud to early bloom stage to reduce the seed population is an effective method of control. Broad-leaf herbicides also work well as a control method.

Cultural Control:

Prevent Malta starthistle from becoming established. Do not drive through areas that are infested with Malta starthistle. Check and clean all

footwear, livestock, and vehicles for attached starthistle plant parts when leaving infested areas. Purchase hay that is certified as weed-free, and use certified weed-free straw mulch for erosion control projects.

Mechanical Control:

Hand pulling or grubbing Malta starthistle is most effective for small infestations. Pull plants after they have bolted and before their flowers have opened. Repeat every 2-4 weeks during the growing season,

removing as much of the root as possible. Cultivation, where feasible, will control Malta starthistle within two years. Tilling must be done 5 or 6 times a year, two weeks apart, starting in April. Remember that seeds may stay dormant in the soil for at least ten years. Mowing is not recommended, as plants can produce side branches with more flowers.

Burning:

A study in California found that the yellow starthistle seed-bank can be reduced by burning the area at least 3 years in a row, prior to seed dispersal. This treatment can be combined with use of herbicides, for improved control.



# TIME TO APPLY FOR NMSU'S NEW MEXICO YOUTH RANCH MANAGEMENT CAMP

WRITER: Jane Moorman, 505-249-0527, [jmoorman@nmsu.edu](mailto:jmoorman@nmsu.edu)  
CONTACT: Jack Blandford, 575-546-8806, [jbland@nmsu.edu](mailto:jbland@nmsu.edu)



For 16 years teenagers have learned the science behind ranching at the New Mexico Youth Ranch Management Camp conducted by New Mexico State University's College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences. Now is the time for youth ages 15-19 to apply for a life-changing experience at the June 10-15 camp where they will be introduced to the many aspects of running a ranch, from financial statements and marketing strategies to producing quality beef and managing natural resources and wildlife. Online registration deadline is April 15. Visit [nmyrm.nmsu.edu](http://nmyrm.nmsu.edu) for more information and to register. A total of 30 participants will be invited to this year's camp with three of the openings reserved for out-of-state youth. The camp is held at the CS Cattle Company's 130,000-acre ranch at the foot of the Sangre de Cristo mountain range near Cimarron. "This location allows our campers to see a real-life working ranch," said camp director Jack Blandford, NMSU Cooperative Extension Service program director in Luna County. "The CS, a cattle and hunting operation, has been family owned and operated since 1873." Collaboration between NMSU Extension specialists, county Extension agents and members of the ranching industry provides an opportunity for youth to learn about the many aspects of ranching. "We are proud to offer this one-of-a-kind program for the future cattle producers of our state," said Jon Boren, NMSU College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences associate dean and director of the Extension service. "What we are finding, from the more than 150 youth who have participated in past ranch camps, is that they have gained a greater appreciation of the science and opportunities in agriculture," Boren said. "It is also a win-win for our aging agricultural industry with more young people having an interest in going into this type of

work." During the first four days, the youth compile information necessary to manage a ranch. The college-level hands-on curriculum includes all things beef, marketing and economics, natural resources and range land management. At the end of each day, one camper receives the Top Hand award for their outstanding participation in that day's activities. Each evening they are using that day's information to design their team's own ranch management plan, which they present on Friday to a panel of judges from the beef industry and NMSU in competition for the coveted team jacket. "You don't have to just be in ranching to attend this camp. It offers a wide variety of career avenues," Blandford said. "I encourage any youth within the age group to apply." The camp is sponsored by NMSU's College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, New Mexico Beef Council, New Mexico Cattle Growers Association and New Mexico Farm and Livestock Bureau, and several beef industry companies.



*"There is new life in the soil for every man,  
There is healing in the trees for tired minds  
and for our overburdened spirits, there is  
strength in the hills, if only we will lift up  
our eyes. Remember that nature is your  
great restorer."  
- Calvin Coolidge*

A close-up photograph showing a person's hand gently holding a small, green grasshopper. The background is a field of tall, green grass, slightly out of focus.

# ***New Mexico USDA Announces New Application Deadline for Conservation Easement Funding to Protect Privately-Owned Wetlands, Agricultural Lands and Grasslands***

ALBUQUERQUE, NM, February 27, 2018 – USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) accepts applications year round for the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) to protect wetlands, agricultural lands and grasslands.

The deadline to be considered for fiscal year 2018 funding is **April 27, 2018**. The application forms and information on how to apply can be found at the NRCS New Mexico ACEP website.

## **Wetland Reserve Easements (WRE)**

Wetland conservation easements are either permanent or for 30 years. Eligible lands include farmed or converted wetlands that can successfully be restored, croplands or grasslands subject to flooding, and riparian areas that link protected wetland areas. As part of the easement, NRCS and the landowner work together to develop a plan for the restoration and maintenance of the wetland.

Eligible landowners can apply by visiting their local USDA Service Center and submitting their Conservation Program Application (NRCS-CPA-1200). Producers who have established a Client Gateway account may submit their application online. Landowners will need to meet adjusted gross income (AGI) limitations and file AGI certification with the USDA's Farm Service Agency.

## **Agricultural Land Easements (ALE)**

Through ACEP agricultural land easements, NRCS provides funds to conservation partners to purchase conservation easements on private working lands. This program helps keep working lands working, especially in areas experiencing development pressure.

Partners include state or local agencies, non-profits and tribes. Landowners continue to own their property but voluntarily enter into a legal agreement with a cooperating entity to purchase an easement. The cooperating entity applies for matching funds from



Grasslands protected from conversion to non-grasslands uses provide habitat for many wildlife species.

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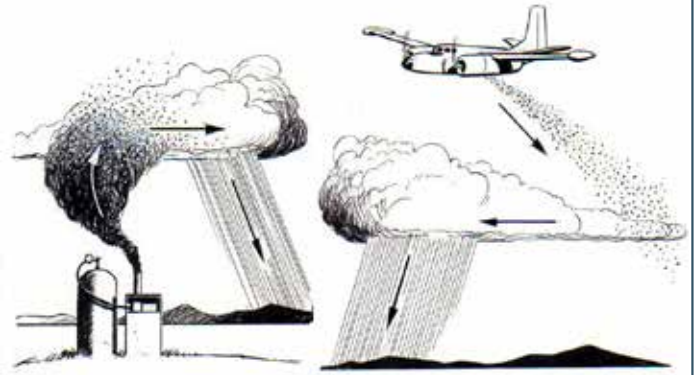
NRCS for the purchase of an easement from the landowner, permanently protecting its agricultural use and conservation values. Landowners do not apply directly to NRCS for funding under this program. Landowners interested in working lands easements (ACEP-ALE) will need to receive an offer from an eligible entity and the entity submits an application package to NRCS.

ALE Easements are permanent. Eligible lands include privately owned cropland, rangeland, grassland, pastureland and forestlands.

*USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender. To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.*

## WHY 'CLOUD SEEDING' IS INCREASINGLY ATTRACTIVE TO THE THIRSTY WEST

Posted: 26 Feb 2018 02:09 PM PST  
AgWeek.com By Sophie Quinton



Machines that prod clouds to make snow may sound like something out of an old science fiction movie. But worsening water scarcity, combined with new proof that "cloud seeding" actually works, is spurring more states, counties, water districts and power companies across the thirsty West to use the strategy. Last month, a study funded by the National Science Foundation proved for the first time that the technology works in nature. That study, combined with other recent research, has helped make cloud seeding an attractive option for officials and companies desperate to increase the amount of water in rivers and reservoirs...Major urban water districts in Arizona, California and Nevada have funded cloud seeding in the Rocky Mountains for over 10 years and are now close to signing an agreement with officials in Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming to split the cost of nine more years of seeding.

**Q. Is soil made through magic?**

**ASK S. K. WORM**

**A. Soil doesn't just appear out of nowhere. A magician doesn't wave a magic wand and... poof!... soil shows up. And, it's not made in a soil factory. Soil comes from broken up pieces of rock and dead leaves, tree limbs, and dead bugs - those kinds of things.**





*Carlsbad Soil & Water Conservation District  
3219 S Canal  
Carlsbad NM 88220*

NON PROFIT  
ORG.  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
88220  
MSC  
PERMIT 100

***Remember: The SWCD meets the 2nd Monday of each month at 6:00pm at 3219 S Canal, on the Pecos Hwy. Please join us!***



*Office numbers are:  
575-628-1532; phone  
575-885-5386; fax  
swcd@carlsbadsoilandwater.org; email*

*Our district board meetings are on the 2nd Monday of each month at 6:00pm. Meetings are held at 3219 S Canal in the district building.*

*The current Board of Supervisors are:*

*Nathan Jurva, Chair*  
*Kristin Pope, Vice Chair*  
*Jim Carr, Secretary/Treasurer*  
*Lupe Carrasco, Member*  
*Charles Goodwin, Member*  
*Henry Vasquez, Member*  
*Fred Beard, Member*

*District Employees:*  
*Judy Bock, District Manager*  
*Judith McCollum, Information & Education*