

# MIDDLE RIO GRANDE URBAN WATERS PARTNERSHIP

September 14, 2015

*Vision – Through our partnership, we will revitalize urban waters and the communities that surround them, transforming overlooked assets into treasured centerpieces and drivers of urban revival.*

## URBAN WATERS PARTNERSHIP MEETING

### Next Urban Waters Meetings

**Date:** Wednesday, October 28<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 1:00pm - 4:30pm

**Place:** TBD

Continue the discussion of transitioning to a local-led Urban Waters Partnership

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### RELATED URBAN WATERS MEETINGS

#### E3 Alliance – Curriculum Development Meeting

**Date:** September 24

**Time:** 5:30pm – 7:00pm

**Place:** Bosque School (4000 Learning Rd NW, near the corner of Coors and Montañño)

Teachers, environmental educators, and curious stakeholders will join for a collaboration event aimed at finding out how curricula or programs can be as useful as possible. The E3 Alliance will also present their **new steering committee**. Refreshments provided. For more information, contact Larisa Chavez: (505) 721-9029 or [larisa@conservationlegacy.org](mailto:larisa@conservationlegacy.org)

#### Partners Needed: Happy Birthday Valle de Oro!

**Date:** Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 10:00am – 3:00pm

**Place:** Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge • 7851 2<sup>nd</sup> St SW

Valle de Oro NWR is turning three, and we are looking for partners to help us celebrate! We're expecting nearly 500 people at this event, so it's a fantastic outreach opportunity.

**Contact:** Teresa Skiba – [teresa\\_skiba@fws.gov](mailto:teresa_skiba@fws.gov) • (505) 933-3230

#### Sunport Boulevard Extension Project Public Meeting

**Deadline for submitting comments is September 28**

The Environmental Assessment Report for the Sunport Extension project will be used as a decision-making tool for the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to determine whether to issue a Finding Of No Significant Impact (FONSI) or whether to require an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Documents on the Sunport project can be found [here](#). Written comments can be sent to: Peter Hinckley, URS/AECOM • 6501 Americas Parkway NE, #900 • Albuquerque NM 87110

OR via email to: [peter.hinckley@aecom.com](mailto:peter.hinckley@aecom.com)

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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Michael Jensen / Middle Rio Grande Urban Waters Ambassador  
[michael.jensen@bosqueschool.org](mailto:michael.jensen@bosqueschool.org) • (505) 362-1063

*EPA – MS4 Permittees Workshop*

**Date: October 28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> DATES TENTATIVE**

**Time: TBD**

**Place: TBD**

EPA is sponsoring a facilitated workshop to help the new MS4 (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System) permittees understand the cooperative agreements encouraged by the permit. EPA sees this as a nuts-and-bolts meeting for the permittees and so it won't be open to non-permittees. However, there may be future meetings open to stakeholders and the general public. More information on times, location, format, and what to expect will be posted soon.

**LOCAL NEWS**

**NEWS FROM OTHER URBAN WATERS SITES**

**FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

*Fruit Tree Planting Foundation – Orchard in Your Community*

**Ongoing**

The Fruit Tree Planting Foundation (FTPF) strategically donates orchards where the harvest will best serve communities for generations, including at community gardens, public schools, city and state parks, low-income neighborhoods, and Native American reservations. For more information: <http://www.ftpf.org/apply.htm>

*NEA – Placemaking Grants*

**Deadline is September 21**

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) is accepting applications for the “[Our Town](#)” grant program, which supports creative, arts-centered placemaking projects. “Creative placemaking” is when artists, arts organizations, and community development practitioners deliberately integrate arts and culture into community revitalization work, such as land-use, transportation, economic development, education, housing, infrastructure, and public safety strategies. Our Town offers support for projects in two areas:

- **Arts Engagement, Cultural Planning, and Design Projects** represent the distinct character and quality of their communities and require a partnership between a nonprofit organization and a local government entity, with one of the partners being a cultural organization. Matching grants range from \$25,000 to \$200,000
- **Projects that Build Knowledge About Creative Placemaking** are available to arts and design service organizations, and industry or university organizations that provide technical assistance to those doing place-based work. Matching grants range from \$25,000 to \$100,000.

*New Mexico Health Equity Partnership, Santa Fe Community Foundation – Rural and Tribal Health Impact Assessment Project Application*

**Deadline is September 30**

The New Mexico Health Equity Partnership (NMHEP), Santa Fe Community Foundation is working with Human Impact Partners (HIP) to strengthen the capacity of community members to use Health Impact Assessment (HIA) in **rural and tribal areas of New Mexico**. During 2015/2016, the NMHEP will support a total of 3 Health Impact Assessments in rural and tribal areas of the state. The funding will support training in Health Impact Assessment, ongoing technical assistance from local technical assistance providers, and up to \$35,000 to support approved project expenses (**NB: a match of \$35,000 in funding is strongly encouraged**). Applications are accepted on a rolling basis – You can access the HIA application [here](#). Submit the completed application by email to Jessi Jensen, Capacity Building and Grants Officer: ([jjensen@nmhealthequitypartnership.org](mailto:jjensen@nmhealthequitypartnership.org)). For questions or alternate submission methods, please contact Jessi Jensen at (505) 490-1202

Project Learning Tree – GreenWorks Grant

**Deadline is September 30**

Project Learning Tree is accepting applications for service learning projects with an environmental improvement component. The projects should reflect “student voice”, involve at least one community partner, and have a 50% match. Applicants need to attend a PLT webinar to apply. For more information, please click [here](#)

EPA Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Grants

**Solicitation scheduled to open in October 2015**

The SBIR program funds small businesses developing green technologies that protect the environment. 2015 draft topics include, among others: home-based sensors for organic pollutants, non-toxic and biodegradable plastics, innovative construction materials, and water-related resource and/or energy recovery. For information about recent SBIR Phase I awards, please visit: <http://www.epa.gov/ncer/sbir2015phase1>. For information about the SBIR Program, please visit: <http://www.epa.gov/ncer/sbir/> and <http://www2.epa.gov/sbir/sbir-funding-opportunities>. For information about the SBIR Program across the Federal Government, please visit: <https://www.sbir.gov/>

USDA – Innovation Challenge

**Deadline is October 27**

USDA and Microsoft have launched a competition, called the Innovation Challenge, to help farmers and local food systems adapt to climate change. The Challenge is meant to encourage software developers to create applications that will use more than 100 years of USDA data on weather and climate, markets and consumer trends, and a wide range of other information to explore how our food system can achieve better food resiliency and help preserve existing farms and encourage new entry into agriculture. For more information: [“Innovation Challenge”](#) and [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ON\\_wlflwZBg&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ON_wlflwZBg&feature=youtu.be)

**EVENTS**

**LOCAL**

(“Local” includes webinars and teleconferences)

River Network - Monitoring That Guarantees Measurable Results

**Date: Registration closes September 18<sup>th</sup> – Series runs through March 2016**

**Time:** Available on registration

**Place: Webinar**

River Network has started a new webinar training series. There was a free Introductory Webinar on August 18<sup>th</sup> (announced in the last Newsletter). Learn what’s missing in your monitoring program and how to create measurable results that make a quantifiable difference in the outcomes, storytelling and funding for your river. Data, concentrations, number of stations, or river miles monitored are not measurable results. These metrics do not make a difference, increase funding, protect or restore rivers by themselves. **Actions, decisions and changes made due to information generated are measurable results.** Monitoring programs stuck in generating numbers are not expanding organizational influence, impact, funding and fulfillment of mission. **There is a cost:** the full program (5 webinars/10 hrs. of training, 5 Q&A open office hours, 2 hours of consultation) is \$1,297 General Registration / \$997 River Network Partners. However, there is a **\$500 rebate for completed plans.** For more information and to register: <http://www.rivernetwork.org/monitoring4results>

Bosque Action Team – Bosque Events

The BAT has put together a Fall calendar of events. Events are held on Saturdays

- Bosque By Wheelchair

**Date: September 19**

**Time:** 10:00am – 12:00pm

**Place: Rio Grande Nature Center (2901 Candelaria Rd NW)**

The purpose of this outing is to enjoy the trail but also to see how well it works for people who use wheelchairs or other assistive devices (walkers, canes, etc.) and make recommendations to agencies on how they can improve and properly care for these trails. Please do know that there may be unexpected challenges. If you need special assistance, please contact the organizer before hand, but there will be outings leaders who can help on the inclines if needed. All are welcome on this outing. Please send ideas and suggestions even if you can’t make it. **Parking cost is \$3.** Please bring good shoes and wheels, walkers, crutches, canes, etc. water, hat,

sunscreen, snack. Please RSVP [here](#). For more information, contact: Ingrid Hendrix, [fenndogg0317@gmail.com](mailto:fenndogg0317@gmail.com)

- *Bosque By Wheelchair*

**Date: October 17**

**Time:** 10:00am – 12:00pm

**Place: Rio Bravo Riverside Picnic Area**

This area includes a ¼ mile trail made of crushed gravel, there is ADA parking, an ADA fishing pier for the irrigation ditch, and a picnic area. Those who want to can also explore some hard-packed dirt trails. The purpose of this outing is to enjoy the trail but also to see how well it works for people who use wheelchairs or other assistive devices (walkers, canes, etc.) and make recommendations to agencies on how they can improve and properly care for these trails. Please do know that there may be unexpected challenges. If you need special assistance, please contact the organizer before hand, but there will be outings leaders who can help on the inclines if needed. Please send ideas and suggestions even if you can't make it. **To access the Rio Bravo Riverside Picnic Area** take Rio Bravo Blvd. west from Broadway. Before the bridge turn right onto Poco Loco Rd. and follow it west into the parking area. Please bring good shoes and wheels, walkers, crutches, canes, etc., water, hat, sunscreen, snack and lunch if you want to stay to picnic afterwards. For more information, please contact: [camilla.feibelman@sierraclub.org](mailto:camilla.feibelman@sierraclub.org)

- *Visit a hidden wetlands on the Rio Grande*

**Date: October 24**

**Time:** 9:00am – 11:00am

**Place: Meet at the parking area on the northwest corner of Central Bridge**

Explore the Bosque on the west side of the river, immediately north of Central Avenue and extending slightly beyond an old MRGCD diversion canal that has been turned into a wetland for silvery minnows and waterfowl. The 2-2.5 miles is fairly level walking. **Limited to 20 walkers.** Please bring insect repellent, good walking shoes, hat, sunscreen, binoculars, water and snack (if you wish). For more information and to RSVP, please contact Colston Chandler at (505) 343-9498 or [ccent@swcp.com](mailto:ccent@swcp.com)

- *Poetry in the Bosque*

**Date: October 31**

**Time:** 8:30am – 11:00am

**Place: Rio Grande Nature Center (2901 Candelaria Rd NW)**

Stroll through the beautiful autumn Bosque with stops for short poetry readings to help deepen our connection to this forest and river. We will also learn about conservation efforts and wildlife sightings in this area, as well as visit some hidden land art. Moderate 3 mile loop through both young and mature forest, no elevation gain.

**Limit 15 people.** Please bring hat, sunscreen, water, and binoculars (optional). No dogs please. For more information and to RSVP, please contact M.J. Zimmerman at [mjzim@hotmail.com](mailto:mjzim@hotmail.com)

- *Bosquitos Event: Bosque Treasure Hunt with Noel Chilton*

**Date: November 8**

**Time:** 12:00pm – 2:00pm

**Place: Open Space Visitor Center (6500 Coors Blvd NW)**

Learn how to use compasses and sun dials while learning about the bosque. Please bring a water bottle and snacks. For more information, please contact Sarita Streng at (505) 288-8713 or [saritastreng@yahoo.com](mailto:saritastreng@yahoo.com)

- *Fall Hike in the Bosque*

**Date: November 14**

**Time:** 9:00am – 11:00am

**Place: Meet at the parking lot just east of the SE corner of Montañó and Coors**

Hike the west side stretch of the Bosque from Montañó to the Oxbow (approx. 1 ½ miles). The stand of cottonwoods behind the Bosque School should be beautiful this time of year. Then follow a side trail to the river and talk briefly about the benefits of the new embayment installed by the Corps of Engineers and then move on to the new pond at the edge of the Oxbow for a discussion of the Corps' project and the importance of the Oxbow and it's place in the Rio Grande Valley State Park. Please dress for cool fall weather and bring what is necessary for a two-hour hike. For more information and to RSVP, please contact Peter Kelling at

[cloudsandwater@juno.com](mailto:cloudsandwater@juno.com)

- *Bosque By Wheelchair*

**Date: November 21**

**Time:** 10:00am – 12:00pm

**Place: Bachechi Open Space (9521 Rio Grande Blvd NW)**

This area, just outside the river's levees, has a forested and wetland area, in addition to a rose garden and

educational center. Explore Bachechi and then walk the Paseo del Bosque trail to explore routes down to the River. The purpose of this outing is to enjoy the trail but also to see how well it works for people who use wheelchairs or other assistive devices (walkers, canes, etc.) and make recommendations to agencies on how they can improve and properly care for these trails. Please do know that there may be unexpected challenges. If you need special assistance, please contact the organizer before hand, but there will be outings leaders who can help on the inclines if needed. All are welcome on this outing. Please send ideas and suggestions even if you can't make it. Please bring good shoes and wheels, walkers, crutches, canes, etc. water, hat, sunscreen, snack. For more information and to RSVP, please contact Colston Chandler (505) 343-9498 or [ccent@swcp.com](mailto:ccent@swcp.com).

#### *ABQ-BernCo Comprehensive Plan & ABQ Integrated Development Ordinance*

**Date: Various September thru December** (check the [project website](#) for dates, times, and locations)

- **September 21-22 – Comprehensive Plan Update Open Houses** to share the Comp Plan Vision, which is the first proposed update that includes an overview and direction for the full Plan
- **October 19-20 – Integrated Development Ordinance Module 1** meetings to walk through and discuss proposed zoning districts and uses
- **November 30-December 1 – Comprehensive Plan “Chapters” Focus Groups** (eight separate groups) on: Neighborhoods, Urban Design, Land Use, Transportation, Economic Development, Housing, Open Space/Parks/Community Facilities, and Heritage Conservation
- **December 3-4 – Comprehensive Plan Update Open Houses** to share the full Comp Plan draft for public review and discussion
- **December 4 – Comprehensive Plan “Chapters” Focus Groups** (three separate groups) on: Resiliency/Sustainability, Service Provision, and Implementation/Small Area Planning

#### *EPA Region 6 – Green Infrastructure and Low-Impact Development Poster Prize*

**Deadline for Poster Abstracts is September 25**

The purpose of the poster competition is to learn about, showcase, and recognize GI/LID efforts in Region 6 (which includes New Mexico). The award will be given by the Environmental & Water Resource Institute (EWRI), one of the technical institutes at the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE). The posters will be for the EPA Region 6 Stormwater Conference, October 18-23 in Hot Springs, Arkansas. Criteria include:

- All poster abstracts must be submitted in partnership with the MS4s in which the project is located
- MS4s, governments, non-profit organizations, students/academia, and private practitioners are eligible and encouraged to participate
- GI/LID projects within Region 6 that have been implemented or are in the process of implementation are eligible
- Poster presenter(s) and/or designated project representative(s) are ***expected to pay a conference registration fee to attend and participate in this poster competition and the 2015 EPA Region 6 Stormwater Conference***. Single day and reduced student conference registration fees are available at: <http://www.cityhs.net/584/2015-Region-6-EPA-Stormwater-Conference>
- All GI/LID projects that have been implemented, or are in the process of being implemented, are encouraged to participate regardless if all evaluation criteria are met

For more information about the poster competition, please see: [http://epa.gov/region6/water/npdes/greeninfrastructure/pdf/2015\\_EPA\\_gi\\_lid\\_poster\\_competition.pdf](http://epa.gov/region6/water/npdes/greeninfrastructure/pdf/2015_EPA_gi_lid_poster_competition.pdf). For more information about the conference, please see: <http://www.epa.gov/region6/water/npdes/sw/ms4/2015conference/>

#### *EPA – Public Comment on Federal Interagency Strategic Plan for Environmental Justice*

**Deadline is September 25**

The EPA, as convener of the Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG), is asking for **public comment on the draft FY 2016-2018 Action Agenda Framework**. The Framework is the EJ IWG's three-year strategic plan to advance environmental justice. **Stakeholders and the general public can review the Framework and submit comments through September 25, 2015**, by visiting <http://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/interagency>. The EJ IWG provides a forum for federal agencies to collectively advance environmental justice principles to increase local community capacity to promote and implement innovative and comprehensive solutions to environmental justice concerns. Engaging community and stakeholder input is critical to agency decision-making and to supporting community-based solutions that address the needs of overburdened communities and provide opportunities to enhance their ability to be healthier, more sustainable, and economically viable places. The goals of the Framework are to:

- Enhance communication and coordination to improve the health, quality-of-life, and economic opportunities in overburdened communities
- Enhance multi-agency support of holistic community-based solutions to solve environmental justice issues
- Advance interagency strategies to identify and address environmental justice concerns in agency programs, policies and activities

During the public comment period for the Framework, EPA will conduct two national webinars. The remaining **webinar is: September 16, 1:00pm - 2:00pm (Mountain)**. Audiences are encouraged to participate and may request additional informational sessions if needed. For more information about the Framework, or webinar registration, visit <http://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/interagency>. Participation in the webinars is not required to submit comments. **Comments should be sent to [ejstrategy@epa.gov](mailto:ejstrategy@epa.gov).**

*Webinar: Long Distance Trails – think regionally, implement locally*

**Date: October 1**

**Time:** 12:00pm to 1:30 pm Mountain

**Place: Webinar**

This webinar is the second in a series featuring trails, tourism and outdoor recreation. Dawn Fredrickson, Katy Trail Coordinator for Missouri State Parks, will introduce webinar participants to Katy Trail State Park, a 240-mile rail-trail conversion of the former Missouri-Kansas-Texas (MKT) Railroad. Participants will hear how Missouri State Parks and communities along the trail have joined together to collectively market the trail as a tourism destination, as well as learn about internal and external marketing efforts. Diane Kripas from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation & Natural Resources will highlight Pennsylvania’s efforts to develop a statewide land and water trail network to facility recreation, transportation and health lifestyles. Elissa Garofalo from the Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor will introduce the 165-mile D&L Trail. This trail serves as a focal point to help preserve and revitalize historic places and landmark towns, conserve green space for public use, interpret the region’s industrial heritage, and create partnerships for long-term sustainability. **Learning objectives** include:

- Lessons learned during trail development
- Economic impact of long distance trails
- How to market a trail as a tourism destination
- Incorporating local history and culture into the trail experience
- The power of linking communities, parks and trails along the corridor
- How to raise awareness and support

The webinar is free for Society of Outdoor Recreation Professionals (SORP) members and **\$45 for non-members**. To register for the meeting (by October 1 at 11:00am Mountain), go to: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1612163691374983170>. The video recording and slides will be posted at [www.recpro.org](http://www.recpro.org) following the webinar; no fee or registration is required to view the posted materials.

*Albuquerque Museum – Contemporary Issues Series*

**Date: October 4<sup>th</sup>**

**Time:** 1:00pm – 2:00pm

**Place: Albuquerque Museum**

Architect David Green will discuss designing spaces for innovation. The Contemporary Issues Series is a monthly program developed in conjunction with the Museum's new history exhibition, *Only in Albuquerque*. The series brings together thought-provoking speakers from a variety of disciplines to respond the exhibition's main themes: Resourceful, Courageous, Innovative, and Spirited. The series is made possible by a grant from the New Mexico Humanities Council. The talk is included with regular museum admission.

*New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission (WQCC) – The Triennial Review*

**Date: October 13-16**

**Time:** beginning at 9:00am each day

**Place: Room 307, New Mexico State Capitol Building (490 Old Santa Fe Trail, Santa Fe)**

The WQCC will hold a public hearing to consider proposed amendments to various sections of 20.6.4 NMAC, **Standards for Interstate and Intrastate Surface Waters**. The proposed amendments, docketed as WQCC 14-05 (R), include amendments proposed by the New Mexico Environment Department’s Surface Water Quality Bureau, as well as amendments proposed by Amigos Bravos, Peabody Energy Corporation, Freeport-McMoRan Chino Mines Company, and San Juan Water Commission. Proposed amendments include revisions to various definitions, use attainability analysis requirements, uses and criteria for unclassified waters and some classified segments,

provisions for site-specific criteria and other provisions. The petitions and proposed amendments may be viewed on the Department's website, at [www.env.nm.gov/swqb/TriennialReview/2013](http://www.env.nm.gov/swqb/TriennialReview/2013), or during regular business hours by contacting Pam Castaneda, Commission Administrator, 1190 S. St. Francis Drive, Room S-2102, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502, (505) 827-2425. The hearing will be conducted in accordance with the New Mexico Water Quality Act, NMSA 1978, § 74-6-6, the *Guidelines for Water Quality Control Commission Regulation Hearings*. A copy of the *Guidelines, Procedural Order, and Scheduling Orders* are available on the Department's website (<https://www.env.nm.gov/wqcc/regulations.html>) or may be obtained from the Commission Administrator at the address and phone number above. Notice of Hearing of WQCC 14-05 (R) was originally published on October 31, 2014, and then again on April 6, 2015 as a result of the hearing being moved to June 9, 2015; however, the date of the hearing has now been changed to October 13, 2015, therefore this notice is being issued. All current parties submitted their respective Notices of Intent to Present Technical Testimony by December 12, 2014. All interested persons will be given a reasonable opportunity at the hearing to submit relevant evidence, data, views and arguments, orally or in writing, to introduce relevant exhibits and to examine witnesses testifying at the public hearing. Persons desiring to present technical testimony at the hearing must file with the WQCC a written notice of intent. The notice of intent to present technical testimony shall:

- identify the person for whom technical testimony will be presented;
- identify each technical witness the person intends to present and state the qualifications of that witness, including a description of their education and work background;
- attach the full direct testimony of each technical witness, which shall include an express basis for all expert opinions offered;
- include the text of any recommended modifications to the proposed regulatory change; and
- identify and attach all exhibits anticipated to be offered by the person at the hearing.

The deadline for filing notices of intent is September 14, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. in the Commission Administrator's office. All documents filed in this matter, including notices of intent, must be filed with a single-sided original and fourteen copies. ***Any person may offer non-technical public comment at the hearing or submit a non-technical written statement in lieu of oral testimony at or before the hearing. In order to present technical testimony rebutting the testimony of another party at the hearing, a person must file a notice of intent to present rebuttal testimony no later than 5:00 p.m. on October 5, 2015.*** The notice shall comply with the requirements set out above. In addition, if a party takes a position on proposed changes of other parties, the notice shall include the basis for that support or opposition. ***In the event that more time is needed after 5:00 p.m., the hearing will move across the street to the P.E.R.A. Building, Apodaca Hall, at 1120 Paseo de Peralta, Santa Fe***

*Federal Transit Administration (FTA) – Public Comment on Expedited Public Transportation Improvement Initiative (XPEDITE)*

***Date: September 8 – October 16***

***Time: N/A***

***Place: Online***

FTA is undertaking an effort to speed up planning, approval and delivery of its capital investments and better support innovative financing methods that support capital investments in transit. The multi-faceted [Expedited Public Transportation Improvement Initiative \(XPEDITE\)](#) will enhance and increase the transit industry's access to:

- Improved public transportation technologies
- Proven methods to speed up planning, development, approval and delivery of FTA supported capital investments
- Enhanced financing methods and opportunities for public-private partnerships through "value capture" that support improved capital project delivery.

The transit industry and others interested in public transportation are invited to provide comments on ways to improve program delivery. FTA will consider the comments received through the ***Online Dialogue*** as it updates its administrative requirements. If necessary, FTA will propose changes in those requirements through its normal Notice and Comment processes to help expedite program delivery. FTA has provided a [list of questions and subject areas](#) that they want comments on as well as comments on what is missing from their list that should be considered as FTA begins work on this initiative. Once the online dialogue has closed, you will be able to receive a report highlighting the full range of comments and suggestions, and to see which ideas were most popular with those that commented. To share your ideas:

- Enter a brief description or title for your idea
- Select the category that best relates to your idea
- Provide more detail about your idea in the description area, if you like
- Click Post

EPA – Safe and Sustainable Water Resources Research Program

**Date: Monthly**

**Time:** 10:00am - 11:00am Mountain Time

**Place: Webinar**

EPA's Office of Research and Development is hosting monthly webinars to share information on its Safe and Sustainable Water Resources Research Program. Through innovative science and engineering, cost-effective, sustainable solutions to 21st century complex water issues are being developed. These solutions will help ensure that clean and adequate supplies of water are available to support human health and resilient aquatic ecosystems, now and into the future. The remaining webinars are:

- **September 30** – Monitoring and Early Detection of Invasive Species in Lakes
- **October 28** – Acidification of Rivers, Lakes, and Oceans
- **November 18** – Advances in Resource Recovery Technologies and Energy Efficiency, and Metrics and Tools for Life-Cycle Comparisons
- **December 16** – Ecosystem Services Approaches to Restoring a Sustainable Chesapeake Bay and its Tributary Watersheds

For more information and to register: <http://www2.epa.gov/water-research/2015-water-research-webinar-series>

EPA – Small Drinking Water and Wastewater Systems Webinar Series

**Date: Monthly**

**Time:** 12:00pm – 1:00pm (Q&A from 1:00pm – 1:30pm) Mountain Time

**Place: Webinar**

EPA's Office of Research and Development and Office of Water are hosting this monthly webinar series to communicate EPA's current small systems research along with Agency priorities. The series is providing a forum for EPA to communicate directly with state personnel and other drinking water and wastewater small systems professionals, which allows EPA to provide training and foster collaboration and dissemination of information.

**Attendees have the option of receiving a certificate for one continuing education contact hour for each webinar.** (Note: Continuing education contact hour certificates cannot be offered for watching previously recorded webinars. Acceptance of certificate is contingent on state and/or organization requirements. EPA cannot guarantee acceptance.) Recordings and presentation slides are available for past webinars, and are being hosted by the [Association of State Drinking Water Administrators' \(ASDWA\)](#). The remaining webinars are:

- **September 29** – UV Disinfections Systems: Treatment of Groundwater for Small/Medium Sized Water Utilities
- **October 27** – Decentralized High-Rate Wastewater Treatment of Peak Wet Weather Flows
- **November 24** – Treatability Databases, Cost Models, and other Tools for Water Systems
- **December 15** – Reduction of Lead in Drinking Water

For information about upcoming webinars and to register: <http://www2.epa.gov/water-research/2015-small-systems-webinar-series>

Valle de Oro NWR / YMCA / NM Kids Matter – National Day of Volunteering

**Date: October 24**

**Time:** 1:00pm – 4:00pm

**Place: Valle de Oro NWR**

Save the Date! Foster children and families, as well as the community at large are invited to spend the afternoon at the Valle de Oro Refuge. **More information will be available soon.**

**NON-LOCAL**

River Rally 2016 – Call for Workshops is Open

**Date: Proposal Deadline is October 15**

Do you have a proven approach or innovation that could help achieve healthy rivers and other waters that sustain all life? River Rally provides an excellent opportunity to share your experience with a broad audience. Please review the guidelines and instructions on River Rally's website before submitting a workshop proposal for next year's event. **River Rally will be held May 20-23 in Mobile, AL.** For more information and to submit proposals via an online form, go [here](#).



## RESOURCES

### South Valley's Pop-Up Visitor Center

**Place:** 840 Bridge Blvd. NW (just east of Isleta on the south side of Bridge)

The Pop-Up Visitor Center is a free public celebration of groups that wish to better serve their community. It is an opportunity for MRGE3 (Middle Rio Grande Environment Education Employment) Alliance and other organizations to reach out to the community and a chance for the community to talk directly to express their wants and needs. For more information, contact Larisa Chavez at (505) 721-9029 • [larisa@conservationlegacy.org](mailto:larisa@conservationlegacy.org)

### Urban Waters – Brownfields

There is a small collection of documents on the linkages between urban waters and brownfields, including information from the Brownfields Town Hall and the Local Government Roundtable in September. The documents are available through a Dropbox link: [https://www.dropbox.com/sh/uzobegy3kdtv1kf/AAAWuA\\_mXAlq3D8PGGIPkouQa?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/uzobegy3kdtv1kf/AAAWuA_mXAlq3D8PGGIPkouQa?dl=0)

### EPA – Clean Power Plan

“Net Zero Heroes – Saving Energy and Money at Wastewater Treatment Plants” – Learn how treatment plants help communities be more sustainable, protect against climate change, and save money. See the video at: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_no2kKYt6w](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_no2kKYt6w). More EPA videos are available at: <https://www.youtube.com/user/USEPAgov/videos>