

Newsletter

October 2009

FROM THE CLERK'S OFFICE

Gayle A. Jones, Administrator

Here it is, time for another newsletter and fall is already upon us. We have successfully completed the budget process for the 2009-2010 fiscal year. While it's not a budget with many increases, it is a budget that is manageable. Again, our employees are doing a wonderful job living within the budget that has been set for them.

We are going to be doing an inspection of the water storage tank at well #2 in the near future. We don't have the funding to do a tank rehabilitation at this time, but at least we will know the extent of the wear and have a better concept of the funding needed for that project.

We have received some money through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act through New Mexico Department of Transportation for shoulder repairs on the Bosque Loop. That project will start in the near future.

BOSQUE FARMS EMS

Wow! It has been over a year since Bosque Farms EMS began answering calls. It certainly was a

busy year and it doesn't look like it will slow down any time soon! Have you ever thought about giving back to your community by volunteering your time? This would be a good time to start; we are always looking for more volunteers to help with the rescue. If you are interested, please contact Gayle Jones, Village Clerk/Administrator at 869-2357.



I would like to thank the volunteers that have given of themselves and their time in the past 15 months. You are a huge asset to Bosque Farms EMS and we appreciate everything you do for the service and your community. Our thanks is the only pay our volunteers receive; so please, when you see one of our volunteers, Fire or EMS, thank them for their acts of service.

VILLAGE OF BOSQUE FARMS OCTOBER CLEANUP

Bob Knape, Maintenance Supervisor

The **Bosque Farms Fall Cleanup** will be held on Saturday and Sunday, the following two weekends in October:

Sat. & Sun. Oct. 17 & 18
Sat. & Sun. Oct. 24 & 25
from 8AM till 4PM.



The dumpsters will be located at the **new Maintenance Yard next to the Waste Water Treatment Plant on DeSmet Road.**

Due to a limited number of dumpsters, residents will be allowed ONE load per household.

Residents must bring a water bill or utility bill for proof of residency.

NO computers, televisions, tires, concrete, large appliances (refrigerators, washers, etc.), ammunition or explosives, batteries, toxic chemicals, paint, asbestos or pesticides will be accepted. **Small appliances** such as toasters and microwaves are accepted. For more information, call the Village Office at 869-2358.

BICYCLE HELMET LAW

Parents and riders, please remember that 17 years of age and under must wear **helmets** while riding bicycles. Make these last few months of 2009 a safe time for the Village young people.



Cleaning Your Yard? Want to Burn Weeds, Etc?

Free Burn Permits are available in the Village Office. Always call before you burn and ask if it is a "burn day" which is a day with winds not over 15 MPH. Lets keep our Village clean and free of weeds and blowing leaves but do it safely and by Bosque Farms rules.

PLANNING & ZONING

Donna Baker, P & Z Officer

Fall is the time of year for cleaning weeds and yards as winter nears. Weeds and debris need to be cleared from yards, easements and private irrigation ditches. Overgrown weeds can become a serious fire hazard. Remember, burn permits are available for a two-week period at the Village Office.

All building improvements, metal fences, and any building development must start with a development review by the Planning & Zoning Officer as per Ordinance 10-1-18. No ribbed metal panel shall be erected or substantial improvements constructed without first obtaining Development Review permit from the Planning & Zoning Officer. (Section 10-1-18) If in doubt about any type of building, structure or fence on your property ~ please contact me to avoid being in violation of any Village Ordinances.



Reminders: Building and Structure Setbacks: front setback of 30 feet, sides and back setback of 10 feet. (Section 10-1-5.D.) Nothing should be within these setback requirements. **Accessory Structures:** "1. Units, vehicles and /or containers which are not originally intended for use as accessory structures shall not be permitted as permanent structures in A-R, R1 or R1A zone districts. This type of unit includes but is not limited to: semi trailer, panel truck bodies, railroad cars, buses, mobile homes, and other such units. Any shipping containers and portable shipping units shall have all logos and other identifying information removed or covered. 2. Portable, storage units and shipping containers designed for temporary storage and/or movement of stored items shall be allowed in A-R, R1, R1A zone districts for up to ninety (90) days with an approved permit from the Planning & Zoning Administrator/Officer. 3. Portable, storage units and cargo hauling vehicles shall be allowed as permanent storage structures in the C-1 zone district. Any cargo hauling vehicle used as a permanent storage structure shall have all logos and other identifying information removed or covered unless the information is specific to the business using the structure." (Section 10-1-5.R.)

Inoperable vehicles are still a concern in the Village. Remember that most organizations accept vehicles in any condition and will have them picked

up free. Cars for Asthma 265-0732, Leukemia and Lymphoma Society 830-6040, National Kidney Foundation 266-4573 and Albuquerque Crushers 877-4615.

As an update so far this year:

Planning & Zoning Commission: approved 2 Conditional Use Permits: 1 for horse boarding and one for auto repair. The Planning & Zoning also approved 4 new home occupation permits.

Planning & Zoning Department: Issued 32 Development Review Permits so far this year. There have been a total of **884** violation letters from January through August so far this year for various violations of the Village Municipal Code.

Flood: The Flood Insurance Rate Maps are in the process of being updated by FEMA. They may be viewed in the Planning & Zoning Office.

Just a reminder to view the Village's website at www.bosquefarms.us for the latest Planning & Zoning News!

BF LIBRARY CORNER

Sophita Kyhnsen, Librarian

Don't forget, November is **Overdue Forgiveness Month** at the Library. As in the past, no questions asked. Simply drop the overdue books in the Library book return. Thanks for your cooperation.

Our summer Bikes for Reading competition was a huge success. Our gratitude goes to the Belen Masons for their bike contribution and the children who signed up for the event. The Library's main purpose is to stimulate a love for reading and this summer's attendance was most encouraging.



Our book sale is on-going and a unique source of Christmas presents. We are still accepting book donations but please, bring them inside the building rather than leaving them outside the door.

Also, we are **no longer** taking magazine subscriptions as gifts to the Library.

We have a wonderful selection of books, tapes and videos, so come visit us. *Sophita and Staff*

WATER DEPARTMENT

Cliff Hibdon, Utilities Director

REMINDER: Grinder pumps do not like grease!!! Please place grease in the garbage, not down your sinks. Grease and oil damage grinder pump motors and do not mix well at the Waste Water Treatment Plant. You could be held liable for damages caused by grease build up in your grinder pump.

A Liquid Asset

In a world of sky-rocketing prices on everything from food to homes to fuel, your tap water remains one of the best bargains around.



Less than 1% of the average person's total personal income is spent on water and wastewater services.

An 8-oz. glass of water can be refilled approximately 15,000 times for the same prices as a six-pack of soda.

Your water bill pays for a lot more than simply water. You get sophisticated water treatment, frequent testing and monitoring, and a vast underground infrastructure that delivers safe, plentiful water right to your tap.

Studies show that bottled water is no purer than tap water, yet bottled water costs about 1,900% more.

American water utilities monitor for more than 100 contaminants and must meet close to 90 regulations for water safety and quality.

Community water supplies are tested every day-far more frequent testing than for bottled water.

Every year, water utilities provide customers with a detailed report on the quality of their drinking water. To find your utility's report, go to www.bosquefarms.us.

ANIMALS RUNNING AT LARGE

Joe Mestas, Animal Control Officer

It shall be unlawful for any owner, possessor or keeper to allow or permit any animals to run at large as defined in Article 8-1-2 or on any street, alley, sidewalk, vacant lot, public property without permission of the owner thereof. Any such animals permitted to be at large in violation of this section is hereby declared to be a nuisance and menace to the Public Health and Safety.

The Village has received calls on residents walking their dogs without a leash. Your dogs need to be on a leash when out walking them. Any dog that is not on a leash is considered running at large and you can be cited for this violation. So please, when out walking your pets, make sure that they are on a leash - not only for your safety, but for the safety of others.



BOSQUE FARMS FAIR BOARD

Cathy Sifford

A good time was had by all at the 70th Annual Bosque Farms Community Fair July 31st through August 2nd. An enthusiastic group of volunteers put on a car show, family dance, talent show, horseshoe competition, parade, toad race, games and activities for children and adults alike. Vegetables, crafts, hobbies, livestock, and baked goods were on display and a fundraising auction was very successful. The rodeo association and 4-H clubs offered arena events and a horse show. Many vendors offered their wares and the chile contest was hotly contested.

Plans are already underway for next year's fair. We welcome volunteers, whether you want to chair one of the events or just help take entries for a few hours. If you are interested in helping with next year's fair, please contact Cathy Sifford at 410-7981 (please

leave a voicemail if no answer) or talk to any of the board members.



You can also email us at bosquefarmsfair@gmail.com or become our fan on Facebook!

DELINQUENT BILLINGS AND DISCONNECTION CHARGES

Cheryl Hibdon, Assistant Clerk

Making your payments on time is important. 90% of the customers do submit their payments before the due date. However, the other 10% or 100-200 customers do not, which results in substantial extra time and effort spent collecting those payments. The Village of Bosque Farms currently charges 10% on past due accounts and a \$50.00 reconnect fee when a service is disconnected for non-payment. The Village of Bosque Farms sincerely wants to reduce the number of late and/or disconnected customers, while insuring that timely customers do not bear the cost of collecting on past due accounts.

In an effort to make the [bill payment](#) process as easy as possible we are offering many options for paying a bill: mail, night drop box at the office, payment in person during normal business hours, and phoning in with a credit card number during business hours, on-line bill pay and automatic bill payment.

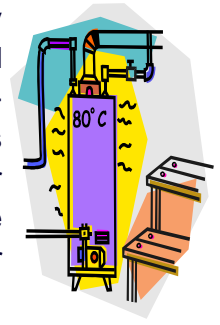
AS OF OCTOBER 1, 2008 water and sewer payments can be made on-line or over the phone. Visit www.bosquefarms.us and go to the link www.xpressbillpay.com. You will be sent to a secure online payment system where you will set up your own account so you can access your water and/or sewer bill. You will receive your bills electronically (and by mail) and choose to pay by credit card, debit card or electronic funds transfer. Auto pay is also available for those who would rather not worry about their payment being late. You can choose the day you want the funds pulled from your account.



The Village Office also accepts credit card payments in person and by phone. Unless you are using the autopay feature in Xpress Bill Pay, there is a \$1.25 fee for each credit/debit card transaction and a \$.30 fee for each echeck transaction.

In a typical American home the water heater uses more energy than any other appliance in the home except for the heating system. Depending on local energy prices, it costs a typical family of four between \$200 and \$500 per year for water heating. For many families, this represents a significant portion of their utility bills.

For most households, the energy used to heat water can be reduced by 25-50 percent through conservation. This amounts to a savings of approximately \$50-\$250 per year at current rates. Here are some tips for increasing hot water energy efficiency:



Increasing Water Heating Efficiency

Set Back the Water Heater Thermostat

Some states now require that all new water heaters be set at 120°F at the time of sale. This increases the safety and energy efficiency of the heater.

If your water heater was purchased prior to 1984, it's likely that the thermostat is set higher than this, probably between 140°F and 150°F. You should set it back if this is the case. Most people shower at a temperature of 105°F, so a setting of 120°F will still require mixing with cold water for a comfortable temperature.

Hot water temperatures greater than 120°F are not necessary and should be reduced for several reasons:

- It can cause scalding. Children and seniors are most often scalded. Scalding occurs in: 2 seconds at 150°F, 15 seconds at 140°F, 30 seconds at 130°F, 10 minutes at 120°F
- It causes the water heater to lose heat at a much greater rate than would occur if the temperature was kept lower; and
- It increases the rate of corrosion on internal fittings and other surfaces.

By lowering the thermostat from 150°F to 120°F, energy demand is reduced by 15 percent.

Insulate Your Water Heater



Older water heaters lose heat quickly because they contain only an inch or two of fiberglass insulation (R-5). To reduce heat loss, they should be wrapped with additional fiberglass insulation.

Insulating kits can be purchased at home supply and hardware stores, and some electric utilities will install them at no charge for customers. Most have an insulating value of R-11 and will save \$20-\$28 per year at current rates.

Rigid foam board insulation placed under the water heater can further reduce heat loss. About two inches of extruded polystyrene board is recommended since it resists compression and does not absorb water.

Gas water heaters should be wrapped with insulation specifically made for gas water heaters. These kits are designed so that they won't block the air intake and insulation will not come in contact with the flue. This is essential for proper functioning of the heater and to avoid a fire hazard.

Bosque Farms Police Department

Joe Stidham, Chief

Our Community meetings have been going very well. We are in the process of planning our next meeting. We have not set a date yet. As soon as we set a date we will have it published in the Valencia County Bulletin and there will be notices posted in various businesses around town.

The Bosque Farms Community Fair was a good time for all that attended. It's always nice to see so many of the residents participate. Thanks to everyone that had a part in putting it all together.

We have had calls from residents that are concerned over the kids walking in the road to and from the bus stops. Please remind your children if they walk to and from the bus stop, to stay to the side of the



road. Drivers please take extra precautions when you see children present on the road. Please remember the school zone on North Bosque Loop.

We are pleased to announce that as of July 1st, we have a full time detective. This has enabled the police department to clear several residential burglary cases and numerous narcotics cases.

We have had a total of 74 DWI arrests since the beginning of the year. We have also assisted other agencies on several DWI arrests.

Remember if you are leaving town and would like to be put on our Community Watch, feel free to stop by the office and pick up a form. Our volunteers do a fantastic job of trying to make our community a safer place to live. Thank you to each and every volunteer.

If your alarm company still has the police department phone number (869-2358) listed as the contact number **please contact them and have them change the phone number to the Central Dispatch (865-9130) phone number.** This will ensure a quicker response time.

It is almost time to start the Toys for Tots donations. You may drop off your donations at the police department or in the main office. Lodi's Beads will also be a drop off location for donations. We will be taking toy and monetary donations starting the 15th of November and running through the 15th of December. Thank you in advance for helping this very worthy cause. Please remember that all toys donated must be new.



Police Dept. office hours are 8:00AM to 4:30PM. Please remember if you need police assistance, our dispatch phone # is: 865-9130. Please dial 911 for any emergency.

Recycle Day



Recycle your newspapers, cardboard and plastic items with the 4-H Club every 4th Saturday of the month from 9:00 AM to Noon at the new Maintenance Yard on DeSmet Rd.

Thank you 4-H Club and parents for your hard work!!!

Fire Department News

Spencer Wood, Fire Chief

Hard to believe that fall is already upon us after what seemed to be a short summer. The fire department had a busy spring with the school kids, boy scouts, girl scouts and home schoolers. We had the opportunity to teach fire safety to about 225 children. Albert Herren and Michael Barger put our new dragon puppet Dusty to good use getting our fire safety message out. We also did station tours as well as talking about equipment and community service.



This year has been unusually quiet for the fire department in that we have not had as many calls for service. I guess this means that our fire prevention is working. Even with the sale of the aerial fire works within the county we didn't have any problems and the illegal burning has been non existent.

Our training continued with thirteen of us visiting the Fire Academy in March to perform what we call "Live burns". The Fire Academy has concrete buildings that they set live fires in and we then form a plan and practice tactics, incident command, communications, thermal imaging and team work. There are training dummies placed in the structures that we have to find and evacuate as well as putting out the fires. This training is very valuable because it is not possible to duplicate here.

I would like to thank Jim Davis "again" for the donation of a wrecked Saturn automobile that we practiced our extrication techniques on. Mr. Davis who owns Automotive Parts and Service never hesitates when I ask for a car to ruin. When we get done with the car it is in a bunch of pieces and then they come back and take it to the recycler. It takes some effort on his part and it is greatly appreciated.

Captain Greg Jones from the police department who has been a member of the Fire Department since 1996 has stepped down in order to attend to family and have a life. Mr. Jones joined the department in 1996 with no previous fire department experience. Since joining the dept he has garnered 23 different certificates and certifications. Mr. Jones served as fire chief for two years. His knowledge, experience

and friendship will be sorely missed. Good luck to you Mr. Jones and thank you for the service to your community.

Very soon it will be time again to fire up those stoves and heaters. Make sure everything is clean and in good working order. The time change is always a good time to change the batteries in those smoke detectors.

Happy Holidays!
Spencer Wood, BFFD

Bosque Farms Elementary

Ron Hendrix, Bosque Farms Elementary Principal

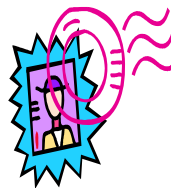
As most of you know, our Elementary school has been moved to the temporary site in Los Lunas during the building construction period.

Prin. Hendrix says he is incredibly proud of the students. Once again the BFE was the highest scoring school in the district! Congratulations to all the students and teachers for such a high honor.

Parent Teacher Conferences are scheduled for October 20-22 and no school on October 23.

Peralta/Bosque Farms Post Office News

The price for mailing a 1-ounce letter will continue to be \$0.44 until further notice by the U S Post Office.



Customers may use their Forever Stamps, regardless of when purchased, to mail 1-ounce letters after the price change, without the need for additional postage. Forever Stamps are widely available through Post Offices, commercial retail outlets such as grocery stores and online.

Military postage is \$11.95 in a Flat Rate box. Flat Rate Priority boxes are mail able anywhere in US.

For additional prices, zip codes or other information, call 1-800-ASK-USPS (800-275-8777) or visit us at www.usps.com.

2009 BF VILLAGE HOLIDAYS

The BF Village Offices will be closed for the following Holidays during the remainder of 2009:

Veteran's Day - - - - Wednesday, November 11
Thanksgiving Day - - Thursday, November 26
Day after Thanksgiving Day - Friday, Nov. 27
Christmas Day - - - - Friday, December 25

Community Center Updates

Shereen Snare, Community Center Director

October-fest!

Seniors! Come join us for some Autumn fun at our October-fest, October 14th at 11:30am at the Bosque Farms Community and Senior Center. We will be having live music during lunch and a dance after lunch. Ms. Buffie Saavedra with the State Department on Aging will be here to visit with us about topics of interest for seniors, and answer any questions you may have. Lunch will be provided at a cost of 1.50 to seniors 60 and over. You need to sign up at least 24 hours in advance for your meal. Music will be provided by the New Mexico Fiddlers and Musicians. They will be playing all the old favorites.

Our Seniors are very busy this year! We go on an average of 3 field trips each month. Some of our favorite trips have included a day trip to Madrid for shopping and sight seeing, the Museum of New Mexico History in Santa Fe, the Los Lunas Museum and Old Town in Albuquerque. Be sure and check the Activity Calendar posted at the Village main offices, as well as the Bosque Farms Website at www.bosquefarms.us for monthly calendar updates.

We have a busy schedule this fall. The Community Center will be open Halloween evening as a Safe-Spot for children and their families. The Seniors will be sponsoring a Cake-Walk, and Costume Contest. Join the fun! If you would like to donate a cake, please call Shereen at 869-5133 to make arrangements. Look for community posters as the date gets closer!

November 21st and 22nd the Community Center will be hosting a Holiday Arts & Crafts Fair. We have many local artists participating. Some old favorites will be available as well as new showings. Join us for this special event, and support your friends by purchasing special handmade items for the upcoming holiday and Christmas season.

Community Choir? Community Orchestra?

These are a couple of suggested programs to be sponsored by the Bosque Farms Community Center. We have many talented individuals in our community and county that would love to see this happen! Please call Shereen at 869-5133 for more information.

Flu Season! We are planning to have flu shots available to seniors the first week in October. Please call for information and schedules at 869-5133.

Senior Meals are served at 11:30am Monday through Friday for seniors 60 and over for a donation of \$1.50. Check out the menu here at the Center, or online at www.bosquefarms.us. We have many folks in our community who have recently joined our group. Join us!

Keep Bosque Farms Beautiful

Harriett Taylor, Coordinator

Yes indeed, the time is here for our fall cleanup.

Trek for Trash, our fall cleanup, sponsored by New Mexico Clean and Beautiful will be held Saturday October 17th.

We will meet at 8:30am at the Maintenance Building at the Waste Water Treatment Plant on DeSmet Road for the briefing, morning refreshments and bags. Please bring your own gloves.

Space is limited in my column this month but I do want to thank all who joined us in April for the Great American Cleanup including the volunteers, our maintenance & police departments, the library staff, our councilors and Mayor Ake. I could not have done it without all of your support.

For more information Call Harriett @ 450-8690.

Citizens Advisory Committee

Harriett Taylor, Bosque Farms Representative

The Mid Region Council of Governments is leading a transportation study for the NM6 Corridor through the Village of Los Lunas for the purpose of evaluating existing and future transportation problems and needs within the corridor of NM6 from I-25 to HWY 314. and to evaluate new routes to access developing areas. This committee will not be voting on any issue. The current study is not necessarily for a river crossing at this time.

As the representative from Bosque Farms I am reaching out to anyone and everyone who has an opportunity to drive on NM6 to work, shop or take children to and from school. Although the study does not address any issues directly affecting roadways within the Village of Bosque Farms, the traffic on NM6 does affect each of us from time to time and we actually become a part of the problem as we travel this corridor.

Please visit the following web site and let me know what your thoughts are. www.mrcog-nm.gov/content/view/272/279/

Thank you, Harriett 450-8690

Village Office Hours

869-2358

Monday – Friday 8 am to 5 pm

Library Hours

869-2227

Monday & Tuesday 11 am to 5 pm

Wednesday & Thursday 10 am to 5 pm

Friday Closed

Saturday 10 am to 2 pm

Sunday Closed

Court Office Hours

869-9231

Monday & Friday 7:30-11:30am & 12:30-4:30 pm

Tuesday - Thursday 7:30 am to 4:30 pm

Court is held Tuesday & Thursday at 9:00 am.

To make court dates, call **869-9231**.

Mayor: Wayne Ake

Council Members: Dolly Wallace
Bob Knowlton
Virgil Proctor
Bill Kennedy

Council Meetings are held every 3rd Thursday of each month.

Planning & Zoning Meetings are held on the 1st Monday of each month.

All Village Council Meetings are open to the public and have an "OPEN MIKE" for comments from citizens. The community is encouraged to attend these meetings and provide comments on matters of concern.

Village of Bosque Farms

P.O. Box 660

Peralta, NM 87042

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87068

**BOSQUE FARMS RESIDENT
BOSQUE FARMS, NM 87068**