



Vistas

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Monthly Newsletter of the Eldorado Community Improvement Association

ECIA, 1 La Hacienda Loop, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87508 ▼ (505) 466-4248 ▼ www.eldoradosf.org

Assessment Reminder to come

Dear Homeowners:

Your annual assessment is due by March 1, the date of record set by the board of directors. This date has been defined by the ECIA bylaws for the board of directors annual election as the first business day of March. If your payment has been received in full, posted and cleared by the due date, you are a member in good standing and thereby eligible to vote. It is your responsibility to ensure that your payment is mailed in sufficient time to arrive on or before March 1. Please mail your payment to **HOAMCO, P.O. Box 94346, Las Vegas, NV 89193-4346**. This is the association bank's lock-box service address for payments only.

A friendly reminder: please do not mail or drop off your association payment for 2018 to the ECIA office. ECIA office personnel are not authorized to accept your payments. Any payments mailed or dropped off at the ECIA office will be returned to the homeowner.

Homeowners who do not pay the annual assessment in a timely fashion are subject to the ECIA collection policy. This policy is summarized below:

- ▼ Accounts overdue will accrue interest beginning April 1 at a 15% annual rate.

- ▼ After June 1, if an account has not been brought current, liens will be placed on properties and will include an additional lien fee—which will also bear interest.
- ▼ After July accounts are forwarded to the ECIA attorney for collection.
- ▼ For each step, late notices are mailed to homeowners.



For a complete description of this policy, please contact the ECIA office.

Any ECIA property owner who has not received a 2018 assessment notification, has questions about the amount owed, and/or who wishes consideration of unusual circumstances, should immediately contact ECIA General Manager Isabel Ugarte at 466-4248 or email her at Iugarte@hoamco.com.

Otherwise, feel free to contact the ECIA Office Assistant, Jamila Lopez, Jlopez@hoamco.com and/or Administrative Assistant to the GM, Jennifer Rodriguez, Jrodriguez@hoamco.com for immediate assistance.

~ECIA General Manager, Isabel Ugarte

Considering Fees to Support ECIA Common Amenities

During the open forum on the proposed 2018 ECIA budget, a number of residents suggested that the board consider the concept of raising fees to support our common amenities. This suggested course of action was most forcefully advanced by open forum participants who utilize no ECIA amenities yet pay annual assessments that support the pool, dog park, stables and all other amenities.

For example, one resident suggested that the current ECIA pool pass fee, currently set at \$2.00 per family member, could be increased to help defray costs associated with maintaining this very popular amenity. Another pointed out that the ECIA incurs costs to register the animals that utilize our dog park yet does not charge fees for the use of this amenity. Finally, another participant focused on the fact that our stable owners have erected and maintain stables upon ECIA common property to house their equines on a permanent basis yet pay nothing to exercise this privilege.

Mindful of these concerns the ECIA Board will be taking a look at a "fees for amenities" option. As part of this analysis, the board will seek professional advice to assure that this fee scheme is allowed by the ECIA's governing documents, complies with the *New Mexico Nonprofit Corporation Act*, and does not jeopardize the ECIA's not-for-profit status under Section 528 of the Internal Revenue Code. Working with the ECIA Finance Committee, the board will then devise a draft fee schedule, and an estimate of the additional annual funding such fees would generate to support common amenities. Finally, the board will schedule an open forum on the proposed fee schedule to allow ECIA residents an opportunity to comment on this concept.

Stay tuned for more information about the "fees for amenities" concept as it develops.

~John Henriksen, Board President

ECIA Board Meeting, Community Center Railroad Bldg. Monday, Feb. 19, 7 PM



Share your
comments
with us!

For policy and
deadline, see
below



Editorial Policy

Vistas welcomes your ideas, stories, photos, and art. Please include full name and contact information. The newsletter will not publish material deemed inflammatory, biased, or inappropriate. Submissions will be selected and edited at the discretion of the editor. Community announcements are welcome as well, along with accompanying photos.

DEADLINE: Newsletter deadline is the 5th day of each month. Submissions can be dropped off or mailed to the editor, Courtney Handy at her office at ECIA or emailed to chandy@hoamco.com Please include "Attn: Vistas" in your message

Mission Statement

The mission of Vistas, the monthly newsletter of the ECIA, is to inform the Eldorado community about issues before the ECIA Board and the membership at large. By so doing, the publication seeks to foster increased neighborhood pride and community participation in the decision making process.

ECIA Board Nomination Petition Due March 1st

E CIA Board nomination petitions are due **March 1**. Don't delay! Consider serving your community by becoming a candidate for the ECIA Board of Directors. Two board of director positions are open for election, each with three (3) year terms ending **May 3, 2021**. The petition and its accompanying instruction and information sheets are available at the ECIA office or online under the Resident Resources tab > Forms and Applications. The completed and signed petition must be submitted to the **ECIA office no later than 5:00 P.M. March 1**. A biography, a photo, and a list of goals for the com-

munity, not exceeding a total of 400 words must be submitted to ECIA by the above date.

Board members are elected through the voting process. Candidates file a nomination petition with intent to run and, if it is validated, the candidate(s) will be placed on the ballot. *Ballots for Members Eligible to Vote* are included in the annual report packet that all members will receive by mail by the end of March 2018. To be eligible to vote in the 2018 election a member must have paid their 2018 assessment in full with the payment is posted to the receiving bank by March 1.

~Election Committee



2018 Board of Director Elections

The ECIA Board of Directors consists of 7 volunteer members. Every association member is eligible to run for a position on the board as long as they are a lot owner of record, 2018 assessments paid in full and posted to the receiving bank, whose rights and privileges are not suspended, and who reside in Eldorado.

The Board of Directors is responsible for the affairs of the association, including financial and all amenities, along with enforcing the governing documents. The direct work of the board includes attending two monthly board meetings (Working Session, 3rd Thursday; Regular Board Meeting is on Monday following the Working Session), attending meetings of one or more committees to

which the member serves as a liaison and participating in other activities and functions that are supported by the association. The board oversees the work of the Standing Committees, and appoints and directs all ad hoc committees. The **current standing committees** are: Architecture, Conservation, Election, Facilities & Grounds, Finance, Information, Road, and Stable.

Challenge yourself by volunteering to serve on the ECIA Board of Directors, or join a committee. Commit to work to make Eldorado the best HOA community in New Mexico.

~Election Committee



Gloria Silva, A Bittersweet Farewell

The ECIA Board of Directors and staff recognize and extend their gratitude to Ms.

Gloria Silva for her hard work, professionalism, and dedication as an administrative assistant at ECIA. Ms. Silva started working with us in May of 2015 as a facility attendant. Due to her determination and exceptional skill, she was promoted to the **administrative assistant** position. Ms. Silva provided excellent customer service to the residents of this community as well as invaluable assistance to the board, committees, and the staff of this association. We wish her all the best as she embarks on a new and exciting career.

~ECIA Board & Staff





David Yard Fills Board Position

David W. Yard rejoined the ECIA Board of Directors **January 22**. He is filling the vacancy until May 7, when two members of the Board will be chosen by homeowner election.

Yard, the only applicant for the vacancy, explained he feels comfortable because of his experience as a past ECIA Board member. Yard was still undecided about whether he would run for one of the full-term seats this spring, adding that he wants to encourage "new blood" to run for the ECIA governing body.

Yard left the board when he was elected to the **Eldorado Area Water & Sanitation District (EAW&SD)** board in 2016, as there was a conflict in meeting nights. His EAW&SD term ends this year. He sees no conflict in serving briefly on both boards, but said he would recuse himself from voting on any questionable issues.

Interviewed by an ad hoc committee of ECIA Board members early last month, he said he would support a new and improved pool and a performing arts space at the community center as ECIA works to improve amenities. The present

outdoor pool is getting old and needs frequent repairs, he said, noting that many residents rely on the community pool for their regular use.

He told the committee he wants to keep home values strong by making Eldorado attractive, and suggested that empty or abandoned houses should be a board priority. Both ECIA and EAW&SD, in Yard's opinion, are in good shape. He praised retired board president Dag Ryen for "righting the ship" after a period when the board underwent many trials and difficulties.

Yard, who grew up in Michigan, first visited Eldorado in 1979. After academic work at the University of Michigan and Arizona State University, he settled in New Mexico, and moved here permanently with his wife, Marjory, in 1999. He teaches guitar at a studio in Santa Fe. Candidate applications and nomination petition forms are available at the ECIA office and website; the forms must be turned in by March 1.

~Bill Dunning

Recent Board Actions

The Board of Directors of the Eldorado Community Improvement Association met on Monday, January 22, 2018. Members present were President **John Henriksen**, Vice-President **Antone Forneris**, Treasurer **Joseph Gutierrez**, Secretary **Jody Price**, Director **Pam Henline** and Director **David McDonald**. The following formal actions were approved unanimously by the Board:

- ▼ Motion to approve amended ECIA Document Retention and Destruction Schedule to comply with proposed change in Bylaws.
- ▼ Motion to approve that the Draft ECIA Bylaws be sent for Legal Review.
- ▼ Motion to extend the Ad-Hoc Pool Committee until 12/31/18.
- ▼ Motion to extend the Ad-Hoc Dog Park Committee until 12/31/18.
- ▼ Motion to extend the Ad-Hoc Landscaping Committee until 12/31/18.
- ▼ Motion to approve the December 2017 Finan-

cial Report provided by HOAMCO.

- ▼ Motion to approve the purchase of an ECIA Maintenance Vehicle for \$26,662.97.
- ▼ Election of David Yard to the ECIA Board of Directors to fill the unexpired term of his predecessor, Mike McDowell. (Director McDonald abstained).

The next scheduled meeting of the ECIA Board of Directors will be a working session on **February 15, at 4 PM**, in the Community Center classroom. On **February 19, at 7 PM**, the board will conduct its regular meeting in the railroad room at the community center.

Regular board meetings are held on the fourth Monday of each month at the community center and are open to the public. An open forum and community announcements are normally included. Complete minutes and agendas are available at the ECIA office or on the website:

www.eldoradosf.org.



ECIA OFFICE

#1 La Hacienda Loop
Santa Fe, NM 87508
466-4248, Fax: 466-4249
www.eldoradosf.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President
John Henriksen
J.Henriksen@eldoradosf.org

Vice-President
Antone Forneris
A.Forneris@eldoradosf.org

Secretary
Barrett "Jody" Price
J.Price@eldoradosf.org

Treasurer
Joseph Gutierrez
J.Gutierrez@eldoradosf.org

Director
Pam Henline
P.Henline@eldoradosf.org

Director
David McDonald
D.McDonald@eldoradosf.org

Director
David Yard
D.Yard@eldoradosf.org

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Architecture:
Katherine Mortimer

Conservation: Jim Daniel

Election: Bette Knight

Facilities & Grounds:
Nolan Zisman

Finance: Sal Monaco

Information: Gershon Siegel

Roads: Felicia Probert

Stable: Amelia Adair

ECIA STAFF

General Manager
Isabel Ugarte
466-4248
IUgarte@hoamco.com

Architecture & Covenant Compliance Coordinator
Mark Young
466-4248
mark@eldoradosf.org

VISTAS NEWSLETTER Editor & Designer/Webmaster
Courteney Handy
466-4248
chandy@hoamco.com

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Vista Grande Library
466-READ

Fire and Rescue
466-1204
eldoradofirerescue.org

County All Purpose
820-CNTY (2689)



Gophers

Must gophers and prairie dogs dig under your yard, and can you do anything about them? Yes, and no. Two species of the lovable little prairie dogs, and their not-so-pleasant cousins, gophers, live in Eldorado — and maybe your yard. Commercial pest control is not the best defense, and often can waste money without helping much, say most experienced homeowners.

One experienced Eldorado neighbor with a quite appropriate family name, **David Yard**, notes that prairie dogs are fairly harmless, in fact helpful.

"They aerate the soil, and they eat pests," he told VISTAS. "Federal law protects the dwarf species, so leave them alone." Online photographs tell which might be your underground tenants.

"However, they do carry plague fleas, and if they are digging up your garden, it's easy enough to make them move out," Yard says." Dump used kitty litter or anything that smells feline, into their holes, and they'll leave." **Steve Ewers** at Eldorado Tru Value Hardware in La Tienda sells similar deterrent solutions, as well as "sonic stakes," which annoy prairie dogs and gophers into



leaving. Yard explains that local doctors and clinics can treat bubonic plague with antibiotics; if you think you may have had a flea-bite, check with your doctor before it develops into a more serious pneumonic plague.

Gophers are another story, though. "You never get rid of gophers," Yard cautions. "You just have to be vigilant." The same methods work but must be repeated. Eldorado Tru Value Hardware also sells gopher traps. Poisons are not recommended, since they may kill bullsnakes, (the best pest control any yard can have), or hurt pets and even children. New Mexico etymologist **Richard Fagerlund**, on his askthebugman.com site, agrees green methods are best and offers advice on insect and mammal yard pests.

~Bill Dunning

Eldorado Recycles

Join Eldorado 285 Recycles on **Tuesday, February 13**, at the Vista Grande Public Library, 6 PM, for a "Love Your Planet" event. **Sarah Pierpont**, executive director of New Mexico Recycling Coalition, and **Claudia Borchert**, Santa Fe County discuss the state of recycling in New Mexico and Santa Fe County. How is New Mexico doing in relation to the rest of the nation? Join the discussion. There will be refreshments in the zero waste style! Mark your calendars!

February Haiku

Friends come into life
to help us understand them,
and thus know ourselves.

Library News and Events

You'll see the 'I Love VGPL' tree up again this February. In the last couple of years, Vista Grande Public Library has asked for Valentine presents and you've generously given. This year, all the library wants are Valentines. We hope you will stop in and make a Valentine for our tree telling everyone what you love about the Library. The staff will share select comments in the library newsletter, on the monitor or the VGPL Facebook page.

This is the time of year for inclement weather. VGPL follows the Santa Fe Public Schools on closings due to weather and road conditions. When in doubt, please call the library at 505-466-7323 or check the website at:

www.vglibrary.org to verify that the library is open, or if a program will be meeting that day. If no one can answer the phone, the recorded message is kept up-to-date with open hours, program information, and emergency closures.

A generous donor has offered to match contributions made to the VGPL Sustaining Fund up to \$5,000 between Feb 7 through 21. If you are able to gift the library beyond your annual donation – support the Sustaining Fund Match. Visit the library website to donate, or bring a check marked "Sustaining Fund," to the library.

Events: (Note: Most events take place in the Meeting Room and are free of charge, unless noted

otherwise.)

Book Donation Day: First Saturday of the month: February 3 and March 3, from 9 to 11:30 AM only

Family Movie Night: February 9 and March 9, 7 PM. Call for titles and rating.

Physics for Everyone with Robert Henderson: Thursday, February 15, 12:30 PM. Quantum Theory: can something be in two places at once? Did you know humans are waves? Find out all this and more in this month's episode.

Author Talk: Friday, February 16, 7 PM. Local author Jay Bonner will speak on his book, *Islamic Geometric Patterns: Their Historical Development and Traditional Methods of Construction*. Presentation will focus upon his work as an architectural design consultant specializing in traditional Islamic geometric and floral ornament. For more information: www.bonner-design.com.

Story Time meets Friday mornings at 11 AM. Stories and crafts for toddler and preschool ages.

All Ages Chess: Friday afternoons, 3 PM. All ages and skill levels are welcomed.

Eldorado Genealogy Group meets last Wednesday of each month, 6:30 to 8 PM.

~Tracey Mitchell

February 2018 Events

Left out? Help us compile a comprehensive events listing.

Email chandy@hoamco.com with your meeting/event information, or bring it to the ECIA office by the 3rd of the month for publication in the following month's Vistas. Please include "Attn: Vistas" and be sure to indicate:



1. **TYPE OF EVENT**
2. **Location**
3. **Date & Time**
4. **A Resource Person** (one who can answer questions about both the event and the sponsoring organization) and his/her telephone number. Photographs (digital or snapshots) are encouraged!

Tree Pruning Workshop

The ECIA **Road Committee** is once again sponsoring a tree pruning workshop for residents of Eldorado and the 285 Corridor. The workshop will be held at the Vista Grande Public Library Meeting Room on **Tuesday February 27**, from 5 - 7 PM. Admission is free and no advance sign-up is required. The workshop will be given by **Tom Dominguez**, the Santa Fe County Agricultural Extension Agent, and will cover pruning techniques, timing, and tools. If time, weather, and daylight permit, a practical demonstration will be given on one of the roadside trees near the Library. Please direct any questions to **John Gervers** at johngervers@gmail.com or by phone at 202-236-3940.

~*Felicia Probert, Road Chair*

Expectations

We live in a state of constant change, a minute morphs into the next as life unfolds. At the root of this change is expectation. Expectation carries us forward in life and often, what we 'expect' to happen invariably does. This is especially true of aging. By responding to various 'aches and pains' with acceptance, we are in a sense, giving into a presumed fatality. By accepting these expectations, we immobilize our self-healing capacities. There are countless studies of how yoga can reverse the aging process. By developing strength, balance, awareness, and the ability to live in the moment we rewire our brains into believing that we do not have to accept what we perceive to be the inevitable signs and effects of aging. Life and aging are a process of growth and progress. Let 2018 be the year you change your expectations so that pride in age can be restored, wrinkles and all.

~*Julia Cairns*

COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

Architecture Committee	Tues., Feb. 13,	7-9 pm	Mark Young	466-4248	F
Architecture Committee	Tues., Feb. 27,	7-9 pm	Mark Young	466-4248	F
Board Work Session	Thurs., Feb. 15,	4-6 pm	ECIA	466-4248	CR
Conservation Committee	Tues., Feb. 6,	7-9 pm	Jim Daniel	(609) 941-4527	F
ECIA Board Meeting	Mon., Feb. 19,	7-9 pm	ECIA	466-4248	RR
Election Committee	Wed., Feb. 14,	2-4 pm	Bette Knight	466-4248	CFR
Facilities & Grounds	Wed., Feb. 7,	3-5 pm	David Lovro	466-0540	CFR
Finance Committee	Mon., Feb. 12,	9:30-11:30 am	Sal Monaco	690-5125	CFR
Information Committee	Tues., Feb. 20,	7-9 pm	ECIA	466-4248	CFR
Road Committee	TBA TBA	6-8 pm	Felicia Probert	466-1563	RR
Stable Committee	TBA	Amelia Adair	eldoradostables@gmail.com		

MONTHLY / SEMI-MONTHLY MEETINGS / BIMONTHLY

Community Garden	3rd Tuesday of month	6-7 pm			CFR
Cub Scout Den 414	1st & 2nd Wed	6-7 pm	Will Scoberg	karlwscoberg@aol.com	CR
EAW&SD*	1st & 3rd Thurs.,	7-9 pm	Anna Mondragon	466-1085	EAWSD
Eldorado Arts & Crafts	Last Thurs.,	7 pm	Mary Fredenburgh	466-1035	CR
Eldorado Book Club	3rd Wed.,	3 pm	Pam Henline	phenline@comcast.net	LR
Eldorado/285 Recycles	2nd Tues. of month,	4-6 pm	Sue Daniel	(856) 220-7087	CFR
Healing Arts Practitioners	2nd Tues.,	4-5:30 pm	Terry Terry	(303) 475-0922	LR
Roadrunner RV	3rd Tues. of month		Brad Cottingham	466-4655	
Search & Rescue	2nd Thurs.,	7-9 pm	santafesar.org		VGPL

WEEKLY MEETINGS

AA	Tues.,	5:45-6:45 pm			CFR/LR
AA	Wed.,	6:45-8:10 pm			CFR
AA	Thurs.,	6-7 pm (Women Only)			CFR
AA	Fri.,	6-7 pm			CFR/LR
AA	Sat.,	11-12 pm			CFR
AA	Sun.,	5:15-6:15 pm			La Tienda
Boy Scout Troop 414	Wed.,	7-9 pm	Karl Cordova	karl_cordova747@msn.com	RR, CR, LR
Bridge	1st & 3rd Fri.,	1-4:30 pm	Shirley Davis	982-6179	LR
Creative Movement for Kids	Tues.,	3:30-4:30pm	Teresa Schwarz	428-0832	CR
Eldorado Hikers	Tues.,	8:30 am	Terry Gibbs	466-6914	CC
Fire & Rescue Training	Tues.,	7-9 pm	Fire Station Office	466-1204	Station
Fire & Rescue Duty Sections	Sat.,	8-12 noon	Fire Station Office	466-1204	Station
Interval Training	Wed.,	9 am	Susan Kayar	204-8290	Max Coll CC
Interval Training	Fri.,	8:30 am	Susan Kayar	204-8290	Max Coll CC
Knitting Club	Tues.,	10-12 noon	Joyce Hanmer	466-3018	LR
Life Drawing	Mon.,	10-12 noon	Mavis Murphy	466-8189	RR
Mah Jongg	Fri.,	1-5 pm	Nancy Robbins	466-1780	CR
Overeaters Anon	Mon.,	7-8 pm	Barb	954-1533	LR
Senior Lunch***	Mon.-Fri.,	11:30-12:30 pm		466-1039	Sr Center
Spinning Group (Fiber)	1st & 3rd Thurs.,	9:30-11:30 am	Ellen Higgins	970-201-4776	LR
Square Dancing	Fri.,	6:30-9 pm	Connie Walters	466-4226	Max Coll CC
Yin Yoga	Mon.,	5:30-6:45 pm	Julia Cairns	466-1935	CR
Yoga/Vinyasa Flow	Tues.,	9-10:15 am	Julia Cairns	466-1935	CR
Yoga/Gentle Stretch	Wed.,	9-10:15 am	Mary Horst	490-2790	CR
Yoga/ Gentle Stretch	Thurs.,	9-10:15 am	Mary Horst	490-2790	CR
Yoga/Vinyasa Flow	Fri.,	9-10:15 am	Julia Cairns	466-1935	CR
Yoga for Healing	Mon. & Fri.,	9:30-10:45 am	Maureen O'Brien	216-0807	Sr Center
Zumba	Tues. & Thurs.,	9-10 am	Tana Monaco	690-4332	Max Coll CC

* Eldorado Area Water and Sanitation District

** Check the ECIA website for the most accurate dates/times

*** Abbreviations: CC=Community Center CFR=Conference Room, F=Foyer, LR=Living Room, RR=Railroad Room

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.eldoradosf.org



Library Trail

The ECIA Conservation Committee is sponsoring a Greenbelt Trail Restoration Project in 2018 on the trail that connects the Senior Center to the Monte Alto Road (see map).

This trail will be restored to match the section that was restored in 2017 between Avenida Torreon and Melado Drive. Work will be done to correct erosion problems and to widen the trail to allow folks to walk side-by-side. Brush will also be cleared to reduce fire danger.

We welcome your input and participation in this volunteer led effort. If you would like more details or to provide feedback, please contact the ECIA. ECIA Office: **8AM-5PM weekdays: (505)466-4248.**

For residents along the trail: If you do know where your lot markers are, it would be of great help to us if you would flag them (using ribbon or painters tape) — the restored trail must not infringe on any private lots and we'd appreciate your help to ensure that.

~ECIA Conservation Committee



Guideline Requirements for Earth Berms

With the winds of spring soon upon us, and with this winter being so dry, now is a good time to consider reducing soil erosion and blowing dirt in Eldorado by properly landscaping any piles of dirt on your lot into attractive earth berms.

Residents should be aware however, that one of the more significant changes in the updated ECIA 2017 Guidelines for Protective Covenants was the fact that there are now detailed requirements for how earth berms are required to be constructed. These new requirements are detailed under Section 12 of the guidelines, which are located on the Eldorado website at the following link: <http://www.eldoradosf.org>

Under these new guidelines, all new earth berms are required to come before the ECIA Architecture Committee for review, and the ECIA will no longer allow for the random and unfinished berms that are unapproved. An example of an unfinished berm that can contribute to soil erosion and blowing dirt can be seen below:

At this time we are asking that residents with unfinished berms on their lots (that appear more like a pile of dirt left over from construction) to come to the ECIA either with a plan to remove these dirt piles or with an earth berm plan that will be compliant with the new guidelines. This effort will not only result in an improved roadside appeal for your home, but will also help prevent soil erosion and the blowing of dust off the piles. An example of a properly landscaped and constructed berm is shown below.

If you have any questions about the new requirements please call **Mark at the ECIA at 466-4248** or feel free to come to one of the regular Architecture Committee meetings to review your ideas with the Architecture Committee. Thank you for your assistance in this effort.

~Mark Young, ECIA Architecture and Covenant Compliance Coordinator



Unfinished Berm



Finished Berm



Resources for Injured Wildlife

FLORA AND FAUNA

We in Eldorado are lucky to share the area with a rich variety of abundant wildlife — the original First Americans! While most residents do their very best to co-exist with wildlife, sometimes we accidentally injure our wild neighbors. Common wildlife injuries include vehicle collisions, conflicts with domestic animals, birds flying into windows — and the unfortunate secondary poisonings that result from households that put out rodenticides.

Our instinct may be to contact a veterinarian, Game & Fish, or Animal Control. However:

- ▼ **Local veterinarians** are typically not licensed to treat wildlife and are not legally permitted to tend injured wild animals. Due to rabies concerns, veterinarians (as well as licensed wildlife rescue and rehabilitation professionals) are forbidden by New Mexico Game & Fish (NMG&F) to administer help to coyotes, raccoons, foxes, and skunks. (Interestingly bats, highest on the CDC's list of species for rabies transmission, can be treated by wildlife centers at their discretion.)
- ▼ **New Mexico Game & Fish (NMG&F)** has legal authority over game animals that are killed for sport, food, and profit. NMG&F has no legal authority over non-game species (e.g. coyotes, rabbits, skunks, prairie dogs, porcupine, ground squirrels, and Himalayan tahr). If adequate resources are available, the agency will relocate certain game animals. However, conflicts with wildlife often result in euthanasia.
- ▼ **Animal Control**, a division of the county sheriff's office, is primarily concerned with domestic animals, but will respond to calls about injured wildlife. However, they do not have medical capabilities or treatment facilities. As an example, a call to Animal Control to ask about procedures for treating injured wildlife was routed to Control dispatch, to the Control office, to the Control secretary, then to the city's Animal Services, who suggested calling the *Eldorado Animal Clinic*. With all these issues, then, who can we contact if help is

needed?

- ▼ **Our best resource**, the New Mexico Wildlife Center (505-753-9505), is located north of Santa Fe between Pojoaque and Espanola. The center only receives; they currently do not have the capacity to collect injured wildlife. As a non-profit dependent upon volunteers, grants, and donations, they are limited in their capacity to treat, rehabilitate, release, or keep wildlife at the facility. Severely injured wildlife, without hope for a viable recovery, are kindly euthanized.
- ▼ **Other good resources include:** the Santa Fe Raptor Center (505 699-0455), Cottonwood Veterinary Clinic (Espanola 505 753-3790), or Wildlife Rescue of New Mexico (Albuquerque 505 344-2500 — no raccoon, skunk, fox, coyote, or other large mammals).
- ▼ **When contacting an agency**, keep in mind that coyotes, raccoons, and skunks have no legal protection and cannot be helped, only euthanized. Birds, especially raptors — who are specifically protected under the federal Migratory Bird Act (possession of any part of a live or dead raptor is a federal offense) — have better access for treatment, rehabilitation, and release. To avoid diseases, be careful if you need to pick up dead wildlife; use tongs or gloves, or contact a professional.



Our intrusion into wildlife habitats will be an ongoing issue for our natural neighbors. What can we do to help? Continue to develop a better understanding of coexisting with wildlife. Drive carefully. Avoid rodenticides. Petition and vote for laws that provide legal protection for all species, and that support accessible professional services. And generously support the non-profit organizations that we rely upon for help.

Archived articles can be found at <https://eldoradoneighbors.wordpress.com/flora-fauna-group/>.

The gray fox (above) was injured on the highway next to Eldorado. It suffered severe damage to its pelvis and legs and was euthanized by the Wildlife Center. Photo: Joseph Newman.

Red Worm Composting with Straw Bales

ELDORADO 285 RECYCLES/DiAna Gutierrez

Composting with red worms requires the least labor, the least water, and often, the least amount of time to complete. And the end product is fabulous! Start now, and you'll have a rich compost to add to your garden and flowerbeds.

- ▼ **What you'll need:** 1. Straw bales. Six are sufficient for a two to four-person household, plus one straw bale for loose straw. 2. Dirt — one shovelful at time of installation, occasionally after that. It aids worms' digestion. 3. Bucket of worms (found at most garden nurseries). 4. Kitchen waste — anything but meat, dairy, oils, weed seeds. Use paper towels, tea leaves, coffee grounds, and eggshells.
- ▼ **Location:** Level a spot with easy access to the kitchen for dropping off scraps and close to a water source for occasional

watering.

- ▼ **Creating the Enclosure:** Arrange straw bales to form a square or rectangle. Overlap ends of bundles to form a complete insulating envelope. Within the walls, create an approximately 14-inch layer of loose straw. Straw comes in "books." Be sure to pull apart and fluff the books. Wet thoroughly. Add a shovelful of dirt. Then add more loose straw to reach the top of the bales. Wet again. Pull straw from one area and introduce a bucket of kitchen waste. Add the worms. Cover again with the straw. Always keep 6-12 inches of straw on top. This insulates the pile from heat and cold, and deters pests and odors. You do not have to turn the pile. The worms do that for you. **CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 >>**

VISTAS

Eldorado Community Improvement Association
 #1 La Hacienda Loop
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www.eldoradosf.org

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Road Repair (SF County): 992-3010
www.santafecountynm.gov/public_works/road_concern

Sheriff: 428-3720
 Crime Stoppers: 955-5050
 Neighborhood Watch:
<https://eldoradoneighbors.wordpress.com>

Now is Your Chance to be a Part of History

The Information Committee is compiling the “forgotten” history of Eldorado. Some commercial and private businesses will be mentioned in future articles, but since businesses come and go, the list to the right is not meant to be complete — it is just an indication of development in and around Eldorado. If you can provide accurate dates for some of the following early events which affected living in Eldorado, please let me know. More history of commercial development will continue in a later article.

For more history, check out the book, *Windmills and Dreams*. Copies are available at ECIA.

~Pam Henline, Board Director (phenline@comcast.net).

1. Fina gas station opened-? Fina gas station closed — early 2000s
2. Café Fina opened — July 2011
3. Cimarron Complex — East side Hwy 285 — opened before 1998
4. Eldorado Animal Clinic, East side Hwy 285 — opened 1992 — Expanded 2004
5. Cameron Veterinary, Agora — opened April 2012
6. Gas station Hwy 285 & Vista Grande — opened 1996, 1997, 1998?
7. Traffic light installed Hwy 285 & Vista Grande — Mid-1999?
8. Traffic light installed Hwy 285 & Amistad — 2000
9. Stop sign installed, Vista Grande & Monte Alto-?
10. Stop sign installed, Ave Eldorado & Torreón-?
11. Country Store — east side Hwy 285 — opened-?
 - A. Sold pizza and had gas pumps-?
 - B. Became small grocery store in 1993, became hardware /garden/gravel store — 1995, closed August 2014
12. Commercial area Vista Grande & Compadres — opened 1997 and included self-storage
13. Eldorado Automotive, started 2000

Red Worm Composting Continued from pg. 7

The worms like a moist, but not overly wet, environment.

Adding some water to your kitchen bucket should be enough. In extreme heat, you may need to add more water. Two parts brown matter (straw counts) to one-part food waste is recommended, but you do not have to be exact. Worms are active between about 40 and 80 degrees, but they will find shelter if it is too hot or too cold.

Adapted from **Sam McCarthy's** *Do It With Worms*, April 2012.



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