

# 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](http://www.eldoradosf.org)

## Phishing

**P**hishing e-mail scams have been “professionalized” to become even more of a menace. The level of sophistication is unfathomable. Too many companies are making money collecting and selling your data. Such as Google, Facebook, LinkedIn, etc. whose business model is to sell ads. Thus, intrinsically linked to spying on your web surfing history, cookies from other entities, and various techniques to track you as you surf. It does not take much for these entities to know who you bank with, what your insurance company is, what type of smartphone you have, etc.

Criminals with this data are now being supercharged because they already have a dossier on you. They bait you with something reactionary, such as a monthly subscription to Clash of Titans for \$49, or your account has been compromised. Naturally, you drop your guard; the e-mail, after all, has all the trappings of the company that you usually get messages from. So, you click that “login now” button. As soon as the crooks have your credentials, they not only steal things like card numbers, they change the password, your address, your secret questions, etc. All electronically and within minutes. You cannot log back into the real site of the company you do business with. You must call them – drop what you are doing to make that call right there and then!

So, how do you spot and combat these sophisticated new phishing schemes:



▼ Never click a link from a suspicious e-mail. Realize that these crooks are Americans right in the US making things look authentic.

▼ Go to your web browser and either click on a bookmark you set or type in the name of the company. Do not search for say, “First Security Bank” - that link showing up could be compromised also.

▼ On the e-mail, look at the “To:” field - if it says “Undisclosed recipients” it is a sign this is not legitimate. Also, the “From:” field should have the name of the company. Do not trust if it says From “12019094AF@109483204.com” or look for “accounts@FirstSecurityBanc.com.” Your eyes will not pick up that “c” in Banc.

▼ Use a password wallet, such as mSecure, to create complex 30 character passwords and store the information.

▼ Get a highly secure e-mail such as @icloud.com or @protonmail.com and use only for sensitive companies you do business with, such as financial institutions. This way not everyone has your one e-mail.

▼ Clear your browser data daily and use multiple browsers.

▼ Sign up for one of the free Internet Security classes at the ECIA Community Center offered by Eldorado Classes & Lectures ([www.eldoradocandl.com](http://www.eldoradocandl.com)).

## July 4th Pancake Breakfast In Eldorado

▼ When: **July 4, - 7:30 to 9:30 am** (on time for the ECIA Parade on Av. Monte Alto).

▼ Where: LA PLANCHA at La Tienda.

▼ Cost: \$7 a plate (\$1 discount if you bring your own coffee mug!). Kids under 6 free. Cash only.

▼ Menu: Pancakes, Sausages (meat or veggie), Fruit, Drinks (coffee, tea, orange juice).

▼ A Zero Waste Event hosted by La Plancha de Eldorado & Eldorado/285 Recycles.



**La Plancha de Eldorado**  
Santa Fe, NM

**ECIA Board Meeting, Community Center Railroad Bldg. Wednesday, July 25, 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 **2nd Tuesday** of each month. Submissions can be dropped off or mailed to the editor, Courteney Handy at her office at ECIA or emailed to [chandy@hoamco.com](mailto: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.

## Eldorado Swimmers

The pool has some activities planned for the month of July, starting with the 4th of July annual pool games. After the parade, come enjoy the biggest splash and best belly flop contests, a penny dive, and of course, races! A few lifeguards will also take a turn at the dunk tank. Dunk us if you can! The pool will close at **5 pm** on **July 4th** so the lifeguards can enjoy the holiday with their family and friends.

We're excited to announce the start of a kids' water polo club. The first practice will be on **July 7** from **7-8 pm**. There will be no lap lanes available at this time. The water polo club will then meet **July 11, 18, and 25**, from **7-8 pm**. Thursday nights, starting **July 12**, the pool will be designated for lap swim from **7-8 pm**.

There will be two sets of group lessons in July. The first from **July 9 to 13** and **July 30 to August 3**. Private lessons are also available.

Every Saturday night in July the pool will be open until **9 pm**. Come join us to cool down from the heat.

We ask that you help out our filters and pumps by showering before you get in and allowing for

sunscreen to soak in the desired amount of time listed on the back of your sunscreen bottle.

Lifeguards needed for August and September. A lifeguard class will happen the end of July. The try out day will be **July 20 at 5:30 pm**. You will need to swim a 300 front crawl, breaststroke, or butterfly, tread in water for 2 minutes not using hands, retrieve an object at 12 ft, swim 25 yards, and get out of the pool without using the ladder.

### ▼ Class Dates and Times:

July 20 - Try out day- 5:30 pm

July 21 - 9 am-12 pm and 1pm-4 pm

July 22 - 12 pm-3 pm

July 23 - 5:30 pm-9 pm

July 25 - 5:30 pm-9 pm

July 29 - 9 am-12 pm and 1pm-4 pm

July 30 - 10 am-12 pm and 1pm-4 pm

August 1 - 5:30 pm-9 pm

August 4 - 9-12:30 pm

\*Must attend all sessions for the entire length of the class.

\*\*Sign up at ECIA office by **July 15**.

Stay safe, have fun, and enjoy your summer at the pool!

~The Eldorado Pool Manager and Lifeguards

## Deadline to Apply for Appointment to Board

There is an open position on the ECIA Board of Directors. The deadline to apply is **July 15, 2018**, to fulfill a term that expires on **May 6, 2019**. Candidates will be introduced to the community in early August, and there will be opportunities for input from residents. The appointee will be seated at the August Board Meeting and will be eligible to run for re-election in the 2019 Board Elections.

Applicants must be a Member In Good Standing and a full-time resident of the ECIA. Please

submit a resume, candidate statement detailing why you would like to serve, and a recent photo to Board Director **Jody Price** at [j.price@eldoradosantafe.org](mailto:j.price@eldoradosantafe.org) or drop them off for Jody at the ECIA Office. This is a wonderful opportunity to become involved in the decision-making process for your community.

~David McDonald, President, ECIA Board of Directors. [d.mcdonald@eldoradosf.org](mailto:d.mcdonald@eldoradosf.org)

## Eldorado Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Eldorado Neighbors Helping Neighbors will soon be asking for volunteers to lend a hand to home-bound Eldoradoans. The new group will also seek out local people who need help with care-giving for elderly or ill residents. ENHN meets on the first Tuesday of every month in the Conference Room of the Eldorado Commu-

nity Center at **6 pm**. July's meeting is **July 3**. Anyone interested in volunteering for this community service group is welcome to the meeting.

~Bill Dunning

## Recent Board Actions

The Board of Directors of the Eldorado Community Improvement Association met on **Wednesday, June 27, 2018**. Members present were President **David McDonald**, Vice-President **Claudia Ahlstrom**, Treasurer **Joseph Gutierrez**, Director **Pam Henline**, Director **Emily McCormick** and Secretary **Jody Price**. The following formal actions were reviewed and passed by the board:

- ▼ Motion to approve a Variance to allow for a new coyote fence to encroach 3.5 feet into the 20ft. side setback at 15 Aventura Rd.
- ▼ Motion to approve a Variance to allow to allow for stringers to remain on the outside of the fence at 32 Mimosa Rd.
- ▼ Motion to approve a Variance to allow to allow construction of a garage 2.5 feet into the 50-foot front road setback at 13 Palacio Rd.
- ▼ Motion to accept John Henriksen's resignation from the Board of Directors.
- ▼ Motion to approve the proposal from Illmatic Construction Inc. to remove the deteriorating

flooring in the Depot and create a polished, non-slip concrete surface.

- ▼ Motion to appoint **Nancy Ostiguy** to the Environmental Advisory Ad-Hoc Committee.
- ▼ Motion to approve a contract for collections services with the Moses, Dunn, Farmer, and Tuthill law firm.
- ▼ Motion to appoint James A. Mason to the Road Committee.

Committee Reports were heard from all Board Liaisons. One resident spoke on the topic of RAP. The Board addressed the issue briefly, and a plan for actions moving forward was discussed. The next scheduled meeting of the ECIA Board of Directors will be a working session on Thursday, **July 19, at 4 pm**, in the Community Center Classroom. On Wednesday, **July 26, at 7 pm**, the Board will conduct its regular meeting in the Railroad Room at the Community Center. ECIA board meetings are open to the public. Complete minutes and agendas are available at the ECIA office or on the website: [www.eldoradosf.org](http://www.eldoradosf.org).

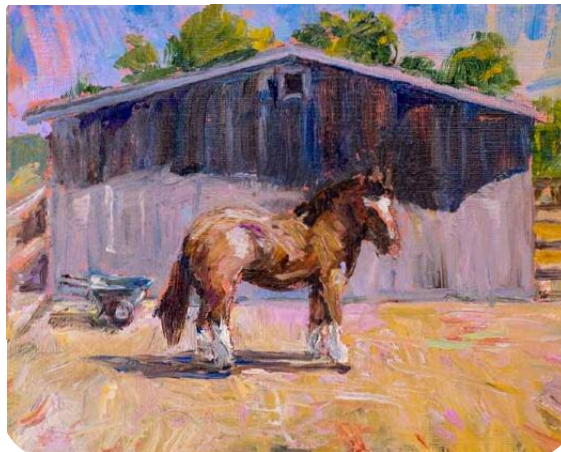
## Stables Updates

Save the date: **September 22**, from **10 am to 1 pm**, for Community Day, the annual Open House at the Eldorado Stables. All Eldorado residents will be invited to tour the Stables, ride horses (courtesy of Listening Horse Therapeutic Riding) and enjoy other fun activities.

Meanwhile, there are many ways you can enjoy our community Stable Amenity even if you do not own a horse: walk dogs, bird watch, paint, photograph, or sketch our charming equines.

On March 13 we welcomed ten members of the **Santa Fe Pleinairians** to the Eldorado Stables. This local group of plein air painters meet weekly to paint plein air and requested our location to inspire them. Both oil and pastel artists sketched and painted our beautiful animals and rustic buildings.

We've recently welcomed two new members onto the Eldorado Stable Committee, **Mike Ault** and **Karla Lauritsen**. Both Mike and Karla moved to Eldorado over the past year in part because of the Stable Amenity.



Seven barns are currently available for sale or share; please contact Eldorado Stable Committee Chair **Amelia Adair** at [ameliaadair@msn.com](mailto:ameliaadair@msn.com) for a complete list.

[Painting Credit Steven Boone]  
~Amelia Adair

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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
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**Vice-President**  
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**Secretary**  
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**Director**  
Open

**COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS**  
**Architecture:**  
Katherine Mortimer  
**Conservation:** John Reynolds  
**Election:** Bette Knight  
**Facilities & Grounds:**  
Nolan Zisman  
**Finance:** Sal Monaco  
**Information:** Open  
**Roads:** Open  
**Stable:** Amelia Adair

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**COMMUNITY RESOURCES**  
**Vista Grande Library**  
466-READ  
**Fire and Rescue**  
466-1204  
[eldoradofirerescue.org](http://eldoradofirerescue.org)  
**County All Purpose**  
820-CNTY (2689)



# The Eldorado Farmer's Market Celebrates 11th Year

**S**usan Tarver, an Eldorado resident since 1998 and Executive Director of the Santa Fe-based food pantry Bienvenidos Outreach, Inc., started the Eldorado Farmers' Market just over a decade ago with three vendors. Today the Market boasts over thirty-five who bring their fresh, locally grown produce, dairy, meats, plants and other products every week to our community from late spring to mid-fall.

The Farmers' Market is conveniently located at La Tienda and is open every Friday from **3:30 pm to 6:30 pm**, weather and wind permitting. The Market opened the first week of June to an enthusiastic crowd that arrived to enjoy the afternoon. The Market will continue until **October 12**.

Each week the ever-popular Farmers' Market Raffle provides customers a chance to win goods. For every \$5.00 spent with a vendor, the customer receives one raffle ticket (so don't forget to get them). At **6:00 pm**, the winning ticket is drawn, and the lucky person is called to pick up their winnings, which typically includes a fantastic array of produce, cheese, baked goods, plants, hand-made crafts and soaps provided by the vendors, plus a \$5.00 coupon to spend at the Market. All tickets collected during the season are entered into the Final Drawing on the Market's last

day. That prize contains everything from Market goods to items such as Amex gift cards and hotel/restaurant/store vouchers.

Ms. Tarver proudly stated, "The Eldorado Farmers' Market is fortunate and honored to have so many great vendors from Dixon, Taos, Alcalde, Espanola, Las Vegas, Moriarty, Macintosh and other areas in New Mexico. They love Eldorado and its residents! Most drive up to two hours to get here, then go home only to rise as early as 3 am to make their Saturday markets in Santa Fe, Albuquerque and elsewhere."

In appreciation of the vendors and their families, each year Bienvenidos Outreach Inc. hosts a dinner for them at La Plancha Restaurant, also at La Tienda.

Stall fees, as well as proceeds from the Market's hot dog stand and contributions by generous customers go toward healthy breakfast foods and snacks for children in the Smart Breakfasts = Smart Kids Program. The Farmers' Market also serves as a drop-off point for donations of clothing, housewares, books, and non-perishable foods contributed by residents toward Bienvenidos Outreach's mission to help those in need. For more Eldorado Farmers' Market information, or if you'd like to become a Market Volunter, contact **Susan Tarver** at **505.920.5660** or **505.986.0583**.

~Jon D'Amore

## Eldorado Children's Theatre and Teen Players is Back!

With a two day Broadway master class with Eldorado Children's Theatre director **Lisa Lincoln** and Broadway musical veteran and vocal coach **David Geist!** When: **July 18 & 19**. Time: **11:30-4**. There will be a show on Thursday evening **July 19** with all the students performing at Pranzo with David Geist. For more information, email: [lisa@rancheros.com](mailto:lisa@rancheros.com).



### July Haiku

Hot dogs, fireworks, cake:  
celebrate nation's birth-  
day.  
What gift can you give?

## Library News and Events

Did you know your local library is unique? Vista Grande Public Library is an independent nonprofit, and not a branch of the Santa Public Library system, or a county entity. A library committee of Eldorado residents, as well as neighbors from other communities, formed in 1996 and was able to persuade the New Mexico State Legislature to approve funds, under the control of Santa Fe County, to establish a 1600-square-foot library. Ground was broken in April 2000, and the new facility opened its doors a year later. A nonprofit group, with a Board of Directors from the community, was created to operate the library.

The original collection came from donated materials, and that continues to be where a good portion of the library's items originate. Santa Fe County has an agreement to provide maintenance and specific services for the building, while the Library Board oversees operations, fundraising, and staffing. More than sixty percent of the budget comes from community donations, and the library still relies heavily on volunteers to do everything from sitting on the board to running the circulation desk, to manning fundraising events and so, so much more. So, Vista Grande truly is your community library!

**Important Dates: Note:** Events take place in the Meeting Room to the right of the main entrance unless noted otherwise.

**Art Exhibition:** July 3-28 Exhibition - Elaine Duncan: "Dancing, Diving Deep," Abstract Mixed Media.

**Library Closed July 4** for Independence Day. Join us as we walk in the parade!

**Book Donation Days:** July 7 & August 4, 9 to 11:30 am only. Bring gently used, clean and in good condition (if you'd have to throw it out, so will we!), adult and children's books, DVDs and audiobooks on CD (in bags or boxes that you don't need back, please).

**Summer Reading Club:** Wednesday afternoons, 2 to 3 pm. Free; Registration required.

**Family Movie Nights:** Fridays, July 13 and August 10, 7 pm. Call 505-466-7323 for titles and rating. Everyone is welcome, and admission is free.

**Family Tuesday Matinees:** Tuesday afternoons, 2 pm. Call 505-466-7323 for titles and rating. Everyone is welcome, and admission is free.

**Alzheimer's Café:** Monday, July 9, 2 to 4 pm.

**Amy Gross:** Saturday, July 14, 1 pm. Local birds and bird-watching information.

**Annual Board Meeting:** Tuesday, July 18, 5:30 pm. The community is invited.

**Dog Days of Summer:** Saturday, July 21, 1-3 pm. Meet certified therapy dogs, find out what they do and how they're certified. We will read stories about dogs and have other activities. Please do not bring your dogs.

**Story Time:** meets Friday mornings at 11 am. Stories and crafts for toddler and preschool ages.

**All Ages Chess:** meets 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.

**Summer Fling Ice Cream Social and Silent Auction Fundraiser:** Put this popular family-friendly event on your calendar! Sunday, August 12, 1 to 4:30 pm.

~Tracey Mitchell, Vista Grande Public Library

## Seasonal Changes in Yoga Practices

As the New Mexico weather warms, the trees and plants turn various shades of green while the blue of the sky deepens. The invitation is to get outdoors and move. That may mean something different for each of us, such as walking, hiking, taking bike treks, or tending the garden. Every season of the year offers the opportunity to align with the natural rhythms of the body and cycles of nature. In the practice of yoga, there can be a shift toward a more "cooling" practice to assist in beating the heat. The idea is to bring more ease and serenity into the practice as the temperature rises. The yoga practitioner places greater emphasis during this time of the year on calming the nervous system and relaxing the breath into a gentle, flexible flow of postures. If you might be interested in beginning or re-introducing a yoga practice into your daily life during the months of spring and summer, there are five classes weekly held at the Eldorado Community Center. Check out the schedule of classes listed in the Monthly Calendar and contact one of the instructors listed there for more information.

~Mary Horst, LCSW, RYT-200

## Lace 'em up!

The Eldorado Adult basketball season is here. Lace 'em, players, and c'mon out to the Community Center basketball court for fun and friendly pick-up hoops, Thursdays, 6:15 pm–dusk.



## Updated Bird List

The Eldorado Bird list has been updated on the [Eldoradosf.org](http://Eldoradosf.org) website. Please check out the new birds.

# July 2018 Events

**Left out? Help us compile a comprehensive events listing.**

Email [chandy@hoamco.com](mailto:chandy@hoamco.com) with your meeting/event information, or bring it to the ECIA office by the 5th 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!

### COMMITTEE MEETINGS\*\*

Architecture Committee	Tues., July 10,	7-9 pm	Mark Young	466-4248	F
Architecture Committee	Tues., July 24,	7-9 pm	Mark Young	466-4248	F
Board Meeting	Wed., July 25,	7-9 pm	ECIA	466-4248	RR
Board Working Session	Thurs., July 19,	4-6 pm	ECIA	466-4248	CR
Community Open Discussion	Thurs., July 12,	6-7:30 pm	ECIA	466-4248	CR
Conservation Committee	Tues., July 3,	7-9 pm	John Reynolds	466-4248	F
Election Committee	Wed., July 11,	2-4 pm	Bette Knight	466-4248	CFR
Environ. Ad Hoc	Tues., July 3 & 31,	3-5 pm		466-4248	CFR
Facilities & Grounds	Wed., July 11,	3-5 pm	Nolan Zisman	466-0540	CR
Finance Committee	Mon., July 16,	9:30-12 pm	Sal Monaco	690-5125	CFR
Information Committee	Tues., July 17,	7-9 pm	ECIA	466-4248	CFR
Road Committee	Mon., TBA	3-5 pm		466-4248	RR
Stable Committee	Tues., July 10,	7-9 pm	Amelia Adair	720-563-1018	CR

### MONTHLY / SEMI-MONTHLY MEETINGS / BIMONTHLY

Community Garden	3rd Tuesday of month	6-7 pm			CFR
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
Roadrunner RV	3rd Tues. of month		Brad Cottingham	466-4655	
Search & Rescue	2nd Thurs.,	7-9 pm	santafesar.org		VGPL

### WEEKLY MEETINGS

AA	Mon.,	6:30-8:10 pm			CFR
AA	Tues.,	5:45-6:45 pm			LR
AA	Wed.,	6:45-8:10 pm			CFR
AA	Thurs.,	6-7 pm (Women Only)			CFR
AA	Fri.,	6-7 pm			RR
AA	Sun.,	5:15-6:15 pm			La Tienda
Adult Basketball	Thurs.,	6:15-dusk			Basketball Court
Al Anon	Sat.,	11-12 pm			CFR
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
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	As scheduled	Mon., 10-12 noon	Mavis Murphy	466-8189	RR
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 up-to-date dates/times

\*\*\* Abbreviations: CC=Community Center, CR=Classroom, CFR=Conference Room, F=Foyer, LR=Living Room,

RR=Railroad Room

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: [www.eldoradosf.org](http://www.eldoradosf.org)



# The Negative Consequences of Mowing

Concerns about wildfire or aesthetics tempt some Eldorado residents to mow their yards. While mowing in some places may be necessary, or considered an improvement in a yard's appearance, in our high-desert environment mowing is unnecessary and has many negative consequences. Mowing causes severe degradation of your land, especially during hot and dry periods, as it causes further desiccation of the soil and may cause irreparable harm to plant life. Our native soils are highly erodible, and mowing removes the vegetation which helps control erosion during the monsoons. Eliminating ground cover offers a foothold for invasive weeds, which flourish in disturbed areas and will outcompete native plants. Mowing destroys the delicate cryptobiotic soil crust (which helps prevent erosion, and increases water infiltration and soil fertility), and causes soil compaction, which will inhibit the regrowth of native vegetation. Bare soil and sparse vegetation conditions are attractive to burrowing rodents which, although native, are not usually a welcome presence. A mowed yard can be an eyesore and can decrease the value of your property and its "curb appeal" if you are trying to sell it. For those who are mowing from concerns about fire danger, note that running a mower over dry vegetation might cause a fire if the blades strike a rock. One of many things that make Eldorado special is that we share

the habitat with so many species of wildlife. To ensure that the birds, mammals, reptiles, and insect pollinators we enjoy seeing continue to have a home here, it is important to retain the native vegetation in its natural state. The basic elements essential to wildlife which a healthy habitat provides are food, water, cover, and places to raise their young. Mowing eliminates these essentials, creating a biological desert. Let's make sure that all the wild creatures which grace our properties continue to have a place to raise their families too. If you feel the area immediately around your house should be managed, you can concentrate your selective mowing or weed-whacking there. Try to leave native flowers and grass seed heads uncut. Wildlife depends on the cover and the seed. A "native" yard still benefits from stewardship, to remove weeds, help it recover from past overgrazing, and create resilience in the face of climate change, but it works best with a light touch.

~Carol Beidleman

Example of a mowed lot:

Photo by Carol Beidleman



# The Eldorado Snake Relocation Volunteers

The Eldorado Snake Relocation Volunteers (ESRV) is the safest and fastest resource for snake relocation. ESRV efforts help support the New Mexico Wildlife Center—your donation (in any amount) will benefit wildlife. ESRV routinely relocates non-venomous bullsnakes and western coachwhips (red racers). ESRV has safely relocated venomous prairie rattlesnakes and western diamondback rattlesnakes.

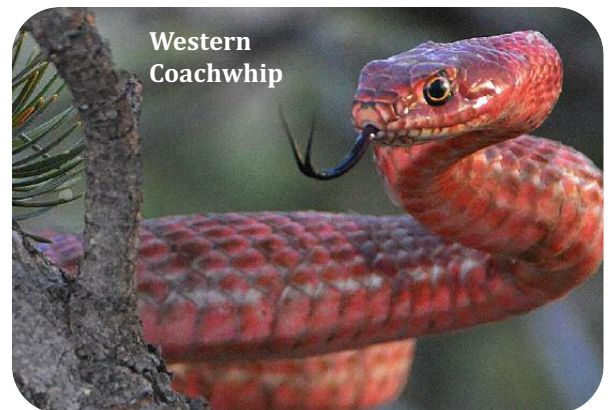
- ▼ Rattlesnakes are approximately 20% of relocation calls—most residents prefer to keep non-venomous snakes.
- ▼ Other non-venomous relocations: western hognose, Arizona glossy, terrestrial garter and Texas night snakes. Non-venomous snakes are critical to rodent control in Eldorado. They are ambitious and passionate in their pursuits.
- ▼ With our mild winter, this will be a very busy year for snakes. Snakes seek out food, water, and shelter.
- ▼ Snakes can be easily coaxed off roads and from around homes with brooms—or a long pole or stick. Snakes are defenseless on roads. Thank you for driving carefully.
- ▼ ESRV maintains a waiting list for bullsnake adoptions. Prospective locations must be snake-friendly which includes locations away from traffic and dangerous companion animals. Compatibility with neighboring residents is critical. Contact **Lyn deMartin: 505 603-0250**.

(ESRV) will be at the ECIA for the 4th of July events.

~The Eldorado Snake Relocation Volunteers



Bullsnake



Western Coachwhip

Photos by Joseph Newman



# Wildlife Habitat and Chipmunks

## FLORA AND FAUNA

**W**hy is it so important to preserve wildlife habitat? Aside from the beauty of our natural environment, maintaining native plants allows the ecosystem to sustain itself and support the wildlife we all enjoy. Many environmental disasters and loss of species can be prevented by understanding our ecology and working in harmony with it.

We can coexist with and support our beautiful environment by maintaining wildlife habitat-friendly residences with attractive natural landscaping. Areas immediately around homes can be maintained with exclusion in mind (avoiding dense shrubbery and temptations like bird food that attract rodents) while the balance of the property can be dedicated to wildlife habitat. Understanding the community's indigenous wildlife and other species is key: The more we know, the more adaptable we can be while enjoying the special privilege of living among a wonderful mix of native plants and wildlife. Our residency here is, after all, transitory; the original indigenous species will remain!

The National Wildlife Federation offers homeowners a certified wildlife habitat designation. Some Eldorado homes proudly display the NWF certification, which requires important elements: Food, water, cover, places to raise young, and sustainable practices. For more details, please visit <https://www.nwf.org/certify>.

The easiest way to meet these requirements is to make as few changes as possible to the natural environment – replicating conditions before humans arrived. We can further offset our impact by adding certain key elements such as sustainable water, water-wise gardening and nurturing native plants – excellent sources of food and shelter. We can also avoid doing harm by honoring existing species' populations, avoiding ALL pesticides, herbicides, and other environmental toxins, and by not trans-



forming terrain. Mowing, for example, when done down to the ground, virtually eliminates any wildlife habitat – and creates conditions similar to the historic dust bowl tragedy.

We've seen quite a few squirrels here – small Spotted Ground Squirrels with their flat tails and small ears (often mistaken for prairie dogs) and the larger Rock Squirrels with bushy tails and large, upright ears. But we've never seen a chipmunk in Eldorado, have you?

There are several species of chipmunks in NM; the ones most likely to be found in our area are the Least Chipmunk (*Tamias minimus*, which is the smallest) and the Gray Collared Chipmunk (*Tamias cinereicollis*). They range in size from 6-9 inches total and have grey to reddish-brown fur on their sides with several dark stripes on top separated by white. Their faces have dark and white strips, and their tails are bushy.

Chipmunks – known in Native American mythology for failing to think before they speak! – live in burrows and are active during the day. Quick runners, they are generally solitary except during courtship and when rearing their young (typically 4-7 young, born in the spring). They eat seeds, berries, nuts, fruits, and insects. They do not go into a true hibernation during winter but enter torpor for long periods of time, waking to feed on food stored in the burrow. Common predators include hawks, owls, and weasels.

Please watch for wildlife when driving – in Eldorado, on 285, and I-25, especially at dawn and dusk. There have been car crashes on I-25 near the Eldorado exit, involving a variety of wildlife! Archived articles can be found at: <https://eldoradoneighbors.wordpress.com/flora-fauna-group/>.

Photo by [Joseph Newman](#).

# Natural Cleaning Hacks to Replace Harmful Chemicals

**M**any cleaning products are harmful to your health and the planet – So, why not make your own, all-natural, non-toxic cleaners? They are also better for the environment, consume less packaging, and are easier to store at home.

- ▼ Grout Cleaner #1: Mix equal parts borax and baking soda with water to form a paste and scrub grout.
- ▼ Grout Cleaner #2: Mix ½ cup baking soda with ¼ cup hydrogen peroxide in a squeeze-top bottle, add 1 teaspoon of liquid dish soap, shake and apply.
- ▼ Sink Scrub: Mix equal parts water and baking soda to form a paste and scrub sinks.
- ▼ Remove oil stains from carpet with baking soda: Scrape off excess oil, sprinkle baking soda, let 15 minutes and vacuum.
- ▼ Natural Air Freshener: Mix 15-20 drops essential oil with 1 teaspoon baking soda and 2 cups water. Pour in a spray bottle.
- ▼ All-Purpose Cleaner: Mix ½ cup vinegar, ½ cup water, fill with citrus peels, infuse for two weeks. Pour in a spray bottle.
- ▼ Garbage Disposal Cleaner: Mix 1part baking soda, 2 parts vinegar, rinse with warm water, run citrus peels.
- ▼ Clean Glass: 1 part hydrogen peroxide with 2 parts water. Spray and wipe clean.
- ▼ Sponge Sanitizer: Soak sponge for 10 minutes in 1part warm water and 1 part hydrogen peroxide.
- ▼ Shower Curtain Cleaner: Machine wash shower curtains with a bath towel, detergent and one capful of hydrogen peroxide.
- ▼ Clean Your Coffee Pot: Swirl equal parts water and sea salt around in a coffee pot to clean stubborn stains.
- ▼ Cutting Boards: Pour salt and use a halved lemon to scrub wooden cutting boards and surfaces.
- ▼ Clean Tub Ring: Pour salt and use a halved grapefruit to scrub the bathtub ring.

~Treehugger/Eldorado 285 Recycles

# VISTAS

Eldorado Community Improvement Association  
#1 La Hacienda Loop  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87508  
[www.eldoradosf.org](http://www.eldoradosf.org)

PRSRM MKT  
US Postage  
**PAID**  
Permit 1152  
Albuquerque, NM



Scan this code to get to our online video about Eldorado by Jack Arnold

Road Repair (SF County): 992-3010  
[www.santafecountynm.gov/public\\_works/road\\_concern](http://www.santafecountynm.gov/public_works/road_concern)

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

## ECIA Celebrates 4th of July!

10:15 AM–Parade begins

11 AM–General event announcements

11:30 AM–Food begins: Pulled pork sandwiches and hot dogs, and, for the vegetarians, veggie sandwiches and veggie hot dogs (to be served by BR Brand Catering). Water, sodas, popcorn, snow cones, and Otter Pops will also be available.

12 noon–Pool events begin: Swimming & games for kids.

12 noon–Singing of “Star Spangled Banner,” and big band music by Swing Shift.

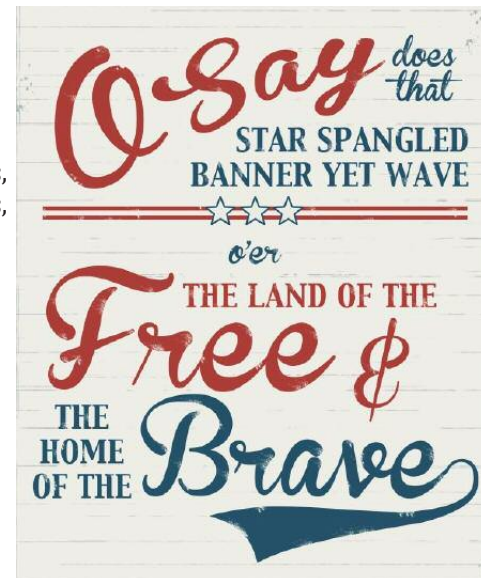
4:00 PM –Events come to an end.

### Ongoing Events

- ▼ Lovedeadoo the Clown, face painting
- ▼ Paul Adams, juggler & balloon artist
- ▼ Kickball and Wiffleball
- ▼ Basketball / Tennis / Volleyball / Ping Pong

### Sports equipment provided by the ECIA:

- ▼ Horseshoes
- ▼ Kickball
- ▼ Corn hole
- ▼ Youth soccer set
- ▼ Basketball
- ▼ Volleyball
- ▼ Shuffleboard
- ▼ Table tennis
- ▼ Tennis balls (bring your own racket).



**HELP ECIA GO GREEN! SAVE ON PAPER AND MAILING COSTS** by opting out of receiving a mailed copy of *Vistas*. To sign up, email [chandy@hoamco.com](mailto:chandy@hoamco.com). You will be sent an email once a month with a link to the next issue of *Vistas* on the ECIA website, in PDF format, ready to view and/or print at home. Past issues are also available online.