

REGISTER FOR THE CONGRESO DE LAS
ACEQUIAS AND
JOIN THE NM ACEQUIA ASSOCIATION!!!

NMAA Membership and Registration is FREE. However, NMAA accepts donations to assist with meeting expenses such as meals. Our suggested donation is \$10-20 for people over 18 years of age, but no one will be turned away.

Basic Parciante Membership
Join e-mail list and receive Noticias
\$0 per year, i.e. FREE

Compañero/Compañera del Movimiento
\$20 per year to support NMAA programs

**DONATIONS to the NMAA are TAX-
DEDUCTIBLE!!!**

Name _____

Organization _____

Acequia _____

Address _____

Town _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Dues Enclosed _____

Donation Enclosed _____

Total Enclosed _____

Please mail to NMAA, 607 Cerrillos Road,
Suite F, Santa Fe, NM 87505.

ANNOUNCING:

The New Mexico Acequia Association has a new website!!!

www.lasacequias.org

Go to our website for the latest news regarding acequias, NMAA programs, and events. You will find the following on the site:

- Acequia Governance Handbook
- NMAA Calendar of Events
- NMAA news

You can enter your own comments on the website in response to any of the posts on the NMAA blog.

New Mexico Acequia Association

607 Cerrillos Road, Suite F
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Phone: 505-995-9644
Fax: 505-983-8015
Website: www.lasacequias.org

8th Annual Congreso de las Acequias



Saturday, December 1

**El Museo Cultural de Santa Fe
1615 Paseo de Peralta
Santa Fe, New Mexico**

9:30am - 3:30pm

Mail registration forms or register by phone by **Nov 28th**:
New Mexico Acequia Association
607 Cerrillos Road, Suite F, Santa Fe, NM 87505
(505) 995-9644

Our mission is to sustain our way of life by protecting water as a community resource and by strengthening farming and ranching traditions of our families and communities.

We work to defend acequia water rights for growing food and providing our communities with healthy and secure water supplies in perpetuity.

Our process is rooted in community and culture and recognizes the profound value of our community body of knowledge and self-governance.

- Goal 1: Protect and defend acequia water rights from commodification and loss for non-use.
- Goal 2: Prevent contamination of our precious water.
- Goal 3: Rebuild local food systems.
- Goal 4: Build a new generation of acequia parcientes.
- Goal 5: Reaffirm and strengthen cultural and spiritual traditions intertwined with acequias.

Our programs:

- **Water Governance:** In this program we seek to strengthen acequia governance through policy advocacy and education. We provide workshops and consultations on acequia bylaws, easements, infrastructure planning, and water rights issues.
- **Nuestra Cosecha:** The purpose of this project is to rebuild food sovereignty, our ability to grow and eat our own food in a manner that is culturally and spiritually meaningful, by strengthening farming and ranching traditions.
- **Sembrando Semillas:** This project works to develop youth leadership in acequia communities by fostering a sense of “querencia” in hopes that future generations will continue a land-based way of life.

El Agua es la Vida Declaration 2006 (summary)

We recognize that water is essential to all living beings and, therefore, that water is life. Water is integrally connected to land, community, and cultural practices and should not be exploited or degraded through contamination or commodification. We resolve to retain local ownership and control of water rights and the historical and ancestral connections to our water.

AGENDA for Congreso 2007 **Saturday, December 1st**

9:00am Registration

9:30am **Welcome and Introductions**
Roll Call of Regional Delegations –
Call to Order of Congreso

10:00am NMAA Annual Report –
2006 Minutes, Project Reports

10:30am **Panel 1: Water Rights**
1. Recent Court Cases on
Acequia Water Transfers
2. Water Masters and Metering
Question and Answer Session

11:30am **Panel 2: Agriculture and Youth**
1. Report on the Northern New Mexico
Food System Assessment
2. Sembrando Semillas Presentation
Question and Answer Session

12:30pm **Lunch**

1:30pm Presentation of Resolutions by
Regional Delegates
Voting on Resolutions by
Congreso de las Acequias
Election of Concilio by
Congreso de las Acequias

3:30pm Adjourn

The Congreso de las Acequias is the annual meeting of the New Mexico Acequia Association. The Congreso is the governing body is comprised of regional delegations from throughout New Mexico including the following:

Embudo Valley, Rio Santa Cruz, Questa/Cerro, Rio Jemez, Rio de Chama, Las Nueve Acequias, Mora Valley, Taos Valley, Rio Santa Barbara, Chamisal, Carnuel, Rio San Jose, Rio Pecos, Hondo Valley, Mimbres Valley, Middle Rio Grande, Acequias Nortenas, Gallina/Capulin, Rio de las Gallinas, and many others.

The regional delegates convene for the Congreso to discuss issues of priority concern to acequias, to pass resolutions guiding the strategic direction of the NMAA, and to elect the eleven member Concilio of the NMAA.

IMPORTANT DATES:

To help us prepare for the meeting, **please register by November 28th** by mailing the registration form to the NMAA office or registering by phone at 995-9644.

Regional acequia associations, acequias, or supporting organizations may set up a display booth. Please contact the NMAA office by November 28th to reserve a table.

In preparation for the Congreso, regional delegates may submit draft resolutions for consideration. Resolutions are due to the NMAA by November 12th.

This year, NMAA will host an Acequia Photo Contest. Send submissions to the NMAA office by November 12th. Photos can be sent by mail to our NMAA office or by email to communications@lasacequias.org.

ATTENTION!!!

Copies of the Acequia Governance Handbook and the acequia water laws will be available at the meeting.