

Native Bees of New Mexico & More

Bees + Watering in a Drought + Pictures @ CNP + Your Donations at Work



CANDELARIA NATURE PRESERVE

OCT 02, 2026

Upcoming October 8 FCNP Speaker Series on Zoom: Native Bees of New Mexico with Olivia Messinger Carril, PhD

How many native species of bees in NM? "*One thousand*", says Dr. Carril who has coauthored, *The Bees in Your Backyard: A Field Guide to North America's Bees*. She is currently working on surveys of the bees of Rio Grande del Norte National Monument and Bandelier National Monument, as well as two more books on bees. You can see her Colores [interview](#) from 2023.

Are you creating suitable habitat for native bees? This is your opportunity to understand more about our native bees and discover what we can do to create welcoming habitats.

Zoom Meeting Connection: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82537393778>

Topic: Olivia Messinger Carril - Bees of New Mexico

Time: Oct 8, 2026 - 05:00 PM Mountain Time (US and Canada)

Effective Watering Strategies in Times of Heat Stress

By Ruth Salvaggio

Intense heat of the kind we've lately been receiving here in New Mexico causes plants, shrubs, and trees to lose water rapidly through

transpiration and soil evaporation. Here are some strategies for watering that minimize damage and promote resilience:

- Water the ROOTS of your plants, where water is absorbed UP into the plants from moist healthy soil. Remember, plants literally “drink up”!
- Water early in the morning (before or soon after sunrise). This allows roots to absorb moisture before the heat of day arrives. Don’t water in the afternoon heat, when temperatures are the highest and can increase evaporation. If you need to water early evening, fine, but give leaves a chance to dry off before sundown.
- Water deep and infrequently, not shallow and often—good for plants and for water conservation.
- You can tell how deeply to water by sticking a simple water gauge, or even your finger, into the ground at least 2 to 4 inches. If moist, wait—and save water. If dry, water those roots!
- If possible, use drip or soaker hoses which keep evaporation to a minimum.
- Mulch!! Use simple organic material like last year’s leaves, straw, and small branches. Other good mulches rich in composted materials can be purchased. Remember, a 3-inch mulch layer can cut evaporation 30-50% !!
- For potted plants, water thoroughly until water leaks out of the bottom of the pot.

- Provide shade if your plantings are in direct intense New Mexico sun. Any shade cover hoisted on bamboo sticks, even large umbrellas, will work. You can buy shade covers, or be inventive and make your own.
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Upper left: Roadrunner in a cottonwood at the plant nursery. Upper right: Flowers on tumbleweed (*Salsola kali*). Lower Left and Right: September 19 CNP received irrigation water!



The evenings at CNP are fun! Here is a recent capture on our field cameras of a **gaze** of raccoons!

Please Donate to Friends of Candelaria Nature Preserve

Donations are handled through the Open Space Alliance. Thank you!

Friends of CNP welcomes all financial contributions. Please note that donations are tax-deductible, because they are made through the Open Space Alliance, a 501(c)(3) organization. Choose Friends of Candelaria Nature Preserve on the [donation page](#).

Please note! If you happen to be age 73 or older and are required by the federal government to take withdrawals from your investment accounts (in a process known as Required Minimum Distributions, or RMDs), you may be particularly interested in making a tax-deductible contribution to Friends of CNP.



FCNP recently purchased new watering wands for all hoses within the plant nursery. Additionally, supplemental wildlife waterers were purchased and will be installed soon. We'll grab a photo when we've got them in place.
