



## Socorro Soil and Water Conservation District

*Socorro's Soil & Water Conservation Leaders Since 1944*

***FY 2017 Summer Newsletter—August 2016***

### **Socorro SWCD Greenhouse**

**In 2015, the Socorro SWCD received a donation of a 26 foot hoop house. We assembled it on a vacant spot on our office property, and quickly realized that the plastic end walls were not going to stand up to the New Mexico spring winds. We applied for and received a grant to help us upgrade the structure, and have now installed framed end walls with steel paneling, French doors, weed barrier and gravel, an automatic venting system, rain gutters, rain harvesting barrels with a capacity of 1,000 gallons, an interior shelf system, solar power for pumping water from storage, and an adjacent outdoor sprinkler system for keeping potted shrubs and trees watered during the hot summer months.**

**Future plans for the greenhouse include an evaporative cooler, automated misting and watering systems, and eventually replacing the plastic roof with rigid greenhouse panels.**

**The Socorro SWCD intends to use the greenhouse to propagate plant materials, both for use on our riparian restoration projects and for discounted sale to the public. We have previously purchased much of our restoration material from the Los Lunas Plant Materials Center, which has recently ended it's nursery program, leaving us without an outlet for reasonable priced native trees, shrubs and grasses. This greenhouse will ensure plenty of native plant stock for our projects. Once we have stock available for purchase, we will be posting the information with pictures of the various plant materials on our website. [www.socorroswcd.com](http://www.socorroswcd.com)**



Summer plant holding area outside of greenhouse.



Front entrance of greenhouse.

## ***CALENDAR***

***September 1-3***

***Socorro County Fair***

***September 5***

***Office closed in observance of Labor Day***

***September 12***

***Regular Board meeting at 12 PM***

***October 10***

***Regular Board meeting at 12 PM***

***October 14***

***Office closed in observance of Columbus Day***

## **Socorro Soil & Water Conservation District**

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