



# Socorro SWCD

January 2010 Newsletter

## Cost Share Program

The Socorro SWCD has several cost share programs to assist landowners in our District. The first is our agricultural cost share program to assist in improving irrigation efficiency. Most projects funded under this program are land leveling. Has it been more than ten years since you have had your fields leveled? Are you noticing that it takes longer to get the water to the end of the field? We can assist you by surveying your field and then present you with a field design for leveling.

Are you tired of dragging your garden hose around your yard in the spring and summer to water all of your plants? We have a cost share assistance program for the installation of drip irrigation. These systems are pretty simple and easy to install. We require a controller, which will let you set the watering days and times, thus saving not only water but time! We can design a drip system for you and we have several publications that will assist you with your installation.

Do you still have one of those toilets that take several minutes to refill and are water guzzlers? If the toilets in your house were installed prior to 1995, they are probably water guzzlers! Toilets in the 1950's used 7 gallons per flush; toilets from the late 1960's used 5.5 gallons per flush; toilets in the 1980's started using only 3.5 gallons per flush; and then in 1996 with the National Energy Policy Act, all toilets made use only 1.6 gallons per flush. The Socorro SWCD has a cost share program to assist homeowners in our District with the replacement of older water guzzling toilets.

Contact our office for assistance with any of these programs. All of our applications are on our website [www.socorrowswcd.com](http://www.socorrowswcd.com)

The Socorro SWCD is assisting the teachers at Parkview Elementary School with an outdoor classroom project for their courtyard. Stay tuned for updates and possible volunteer projects!



## Pole Planting Season

Late January and early to middle February is the time to harvest and plant cottonwood and willow poles. Poles should be cut long enough to reach shallow groundwater and still have a few feet above ground. After cutting pole, soak in water for a few days, but no longer than two weeks. Auger the hole till you reach really moist soil, push pole as far down into hole as possible and then pack dirt back into hole. Use a stake or broom handle to push down through the dirt to pack dirt in tight and fill any air pockets. Poles need to be planted before they leaf out this spring!