



Coordinator's Watershed Corner September 2011

**A note to the Clean Water Committee, Paso del Norte Watershed Council
From the 319(h) Grant Watershed Coordinator, Brian Hanson**

Hello all,

I recently represented the Council at two outdoor events; the NM State Fair in Albuquerque and the Whole Enchilada Fiesta in Las Cruces. To demonstrate nonpoint source pollution and watershed best management practices, I utilized the Enviroscape Watershed Model and provided corresponding informational handouts. The Council teamed up with the City of Las Cruces Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program at the Whole Enchilada Fiesta and utilized games and prizes to engage the public and spark interest in watershed health.



NM State Fair, Albuquerque
Enviroscape model teaches children about watersheds



The Whole Enchilada Fiesta, Las Cruces
The Council displayed material for public outreach

September Events

Sept. 17 - Display at NM State Fair in Albuquerque

Sept. 19 - Watershed Council Meeting

Sept. 23, 24, 25 - Display at Whole Enchilada Fiesta in Las Cruces

October Events

Oct. 12 – Dia del Rio in Las Cruces; students collect water samples

Oct. 21 – 319(h) Stakeholder meeting @ Mesilla Valley Bosque State Park: 9-11 am.

Watershed Tip:
**Minimizing Runoff from Impervious Surface/Parking Lot
Runoff**

Impervious surfaces, soil compaction, and tree and vegetation removal can result in increased runoff and stormwater pollution. Management practices that promote natural infiltration, evapotranspiration, and reuse of rainwater, known as Low Impact Development (LID) can effectively remove nutrients, pathogens, and metals from stormwater, and can reduce the volume and intensity of stormwater flows. The photograph below illustrates how runoff from a parking lot can be routed to a low-lying area with vegetation that can filter the stormwater. For more information visit <http://www.epa.gov/owow/NPS/lid/costs07/factsheet.html> or <http://xrl.us/bjsg5u>



Photo provided by Peter Bennett, City of Las Cruces

Next Stakeholder Meeting: October 21, 2011 9-11 am, at the Mesilla Valley Bosque State Park
We will examine a culture of E. coli from the Rio Grande and discuss outreach strategies and the Watershed Based Plan.

319(h) Grant Team

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