

Next Generation Water Summit: Drought, Growth, and Social Equity

Online June 2-4; Free to Santa Fe Residents Plus: In-Person Events and Giveaways

May 26, 2021 – The Next Generation Water Summit (NGWS) is coming to a computer screen near you on June 2 – 4, 2021. The theme is "Drought, Growth, and Social Equity," and each day is devoted to one aspect of that theme. The keynote, "Connecting Climate Change to Local Impacts" by Professor Katharine Hayhoe, will kick off the Summit.

The NGWS brings together the building and development community, water reuse professionals, and water policymakers in a collaborative setting to share best practices and learn about innovative water conservation and water reuse techniques that can be used to comply with water conservation restrictions spreading across the Southwest.

The 2021 NGWS will be held on a virtual conference platform. Attendees will be able to view live and recorded sessions on-demand, visit a virtual exhibit hall, and network with fellow attendees from across the country.

Drought and growth are issues that are critical to the economies of communities in the Southwest. The Summit will have multiple sessions addressing these issues with sessions on **Friday**, **June 4** (New Mexico Day) dedicated to the Northern New Mexico area. These sessions include:

- New Mexico and Santa Fe Water Supplies
- Water Conservation and Growth
- Roundtable featuring Santa Fe City Councilor Carol Romero-Wirth; Water Division Director Jesse Roach; Land Use Director Eli Issacson; Marcos Martinez, City Attorney's office; and Water Conservation Manager Christine Chavez

"To further community engagement and the discussion of growth and water, this year's Summit will feature local experts on our current and future water supplies, as well as an open roundtable discussion where residents can ask questions," said Doug Pushard, co-Chair of the 2021 NGWS. "With the ongoing mega-drought, now is the time to engage and help us all build our water security future for the entire community."

Residents of Santa Fe City and County are invited and encouraged to attend for free. To register for the Summit, please visit <u>ngws.vfairs.com</u>.

The Summit is accompanied by three in-person community events. For more information, visit <u>savewatersantafe.com</u>.

Saturday, June 5

- 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.: Water Conservation Demonstration Garden Tour, Santa Fe Water Conservation Office, located across parking lot from Yoga Source and Midtown Bistro on San Mateo Road
- 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.: Raingarden Tour with Reese Baker of <u>The Raincatcher</u>; 1925 Aspen Drive

Sunday, June 6

10 a.m. to 12 p.m.: Pollinator Day at Railyard Park

Rainbarrel Raffle

Event attendees will be entered to win a rainbarrel. You can "stack" your entries by attending each event, i.e., if you attend all three events, you'll earn three entries. There will be four lucky winners!

Giveaways

Each event offers some great giveaways to help you save water and support pollinators:

- Pollinator garden seed packets
- Water conservation kits
- Shut-off nozzle for your garden hose
- Our NEW Pollinator Resource Guide which gives you discounts at local nurseries.

The City of Santa Fe is a proud <u>Bee City USA</u> affiliate. These events are intended to encourage and inspire residents to plant for pollinators and save water by learning how to choose water-wise native plants, trees, shrubs and cacti that support pollinators and wildlife that inhabit our urban forest.

About the Water Summit

Hosts of the Next Generation Water Summit are the Santa Fe Green Chamber of Commerce; Green Builder® Coalition; City of Santa Fe; the Alliance for Water Efficiency; KUELwater; and Santa Fe Area Home Builders Association. The education partner is Santa Fe Community College, and the national media partner is Green Builder® Media.

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