



DNR QUARTERLY

Navajo Nation Division of Natural Resources

www.dnr.navajo-nsn.gov

April to June 2017

Fourth Celebration Ready to Go

WINDOW ROCK, AZ.— “Thank a Veteran.”

That’s the theme of the 31st Annual Navajo Nation Fourth of July Celebration and PRCA Pro Rodeo , which will be held on July 1-4, 2017 here in the Navajo Nation capital.

Thanks to new partners, the Annual Navajo Nation Fourth of July Celebration and PRCA Pro Rodeo will include more Navajo and inter-tribal entertainment such as a traditional Navajo song and dance, an inter-tribal pow wow, gourd dance and a Cultural Night.

Navajo Nation Parks and Recreation Department Director Martin L. Begaye, stated, “Many Navajoland visitors come to visit the Navajo Nation to see our scenery, but we also want them to experience Navajo culture. The Fourth of July is a great time to spend quality time with family while enjoying the great outdoors. This is a truly a one-stop venue that celebrates the spirit of the west and the legacy of the Navajo people.”

The Annual Navajo Nation Fourth of July Celebration will also include a PRCA Pro Rodeo that will be held on July 1-4th with Rodeo Slack at 8:00 am on Saturday, July 1st and nightly performances beginning at 7:30 p.m. at the Dean C. Jackson Memorial Arena on the Navajo Nation Fairgrounds.

For more information: (928) 871-6478 or www.navajonationfair.com

ON THE HORIZON

Navajo Nation Fourth of July Celebration & PRCA Pro Rodeo: Navajo Nation Fairgrounds: July 1-4th

Youth Summer Arts & Culture Workshops...Every Tuesday & Thursday in July..NN Museum

July 12th Moving Picture Exhibit...NN Museum

Four Corners Monument Social Pow Wow, July 22nd....Four Corners Monument (928) 206-2540

Asaayi Mountain Run: August 19th



In This Issue

- Customer Service
- Navajo Nation Zoo Receives Blessing
- DOE Visit
- Feral Horse Survey
- Connecting Navajo Culture

Mark your calendar to attend the Navajo Nation Fourth of July Celebration in Window Rock.



DNR staff attend customer service training at Crystal Chapter on April 11-12th.

It's All About the Customer

CRYSTAL, N.M. - Feeling satisfied.

That's how the public should feel. And it is one goal of excellent customer service that Navajo Nation Division of Natural Resources staff learned during a customer service workshop in Crystal on April 11-12th.

There are many facets of providing excellent customer service. One such factor is emotion, which plays a big role in communication. It is important to control one's emotions and be calm and maintain a professional demeanor whether that be face-to-face or on the phone. Every individual is responsible for how they feel and people cannot make us feel anything. In other words, "We talk ourselves into how we feel."

Moreover, our attitude about a particular topic or issue creates how we feel about it.

Staff also learned that there are four major types of personalities: Directors, Socializers, Peace Makers and Thinkers. Directors are succinct and like to control; Socializers are creative and enthusiastic; Peace Makers are great team players and are agreeable while Thinkers are perfectionists and analytical. Knowing one's personality profile and your co-workers can help improve communication and understanding. Do you know what kind of personality you have?

Excellent customer service also requires active listening, and people do not listen alike. It was noted that Peace Makers are the best listeners. Asking questions provide clarification and it encourages dialogue.

"We cannot afford to become too emotional."

The hardest part of customer service or emotional labor is empathy, which means to honor someone else's emotions without becoming emotional. How to honor emotions: Allow the emotion to be expressed; Listen to the emotion as it is being expressed and Acknowledge that you have heard it.

A Blessing

WINDOW ROCK, AZ. – A new blessing.

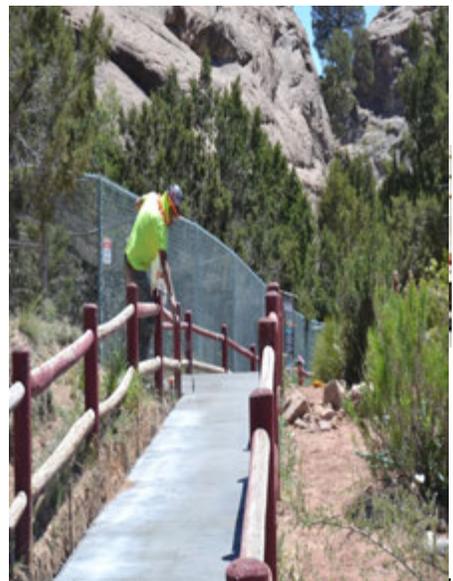
That's what the Navajo Nation Zoo is receiving in the year 2017.

Thanks to a partnership from the Navajo Tourism Department, the Navajo Nation Zoo will be able to accommodate all its visitors.

M.O.B. Construction Company from Navajo, New Mexico is paving a new pathway to make the entire zoo grounds accessible to the public.

Navajo Nation Zoo Manager David Mikesic, stated, "We have many visitors who want to visit the Eagle Aviary and the rest of the zoo, but it was not accessible to everyone. The modification helps those with baby strollers, wheel chairs and greatly helps keep visitor feet dry during the winter and summer rains. I want to thank the Navajo Tourism Department for their continued partnership to make the Navajo Nation Zoo a wonderful venue for the Navajo people and world-wide visitors."

The Navajo Nation Zoo recently held a 40th Anniversary Celebration on June 10th.



New sidewalk in the making at the Navajo Nation Zoo

DOE Officials Visit Navajo Nation

WINDOW ROCK, AZ. -

Very positive....that's how the director of the Office of Legacy Management—Carmelo Melendez describes his very first visit to the Navajo Nation.

Melendez and others participated in a Technical Familiarization Tour of abandoned uranium sites on the Navajo Nation in May.

“The Legacy Management staff cares deeply about technical solutions to protecting the Navajo people and the environment,” stated Melendez. “Listening, consulting and collaborating is a key element of our relationship. We will continue to support the five-year plan colloquially and collaborate on technical approaches that are feasible, suitable and acceptable.”

Navajo AML Director Madeline Roanhorse said, “We appreciate Mr. Mendoza’s visit to the Navajo Nation. We hope community concerns pertaining to groundwater remediation will be addressed, particularly the Tuba City UMTRA site.”



Horses graze on the Navajo Nation.

Free Range Horse Survey Conducted

WINDOW ROCK, AZ. – Whether it’s by land or by air, trying to obtain an accurate number of free-ranging horses on the Navajo Nation is not an easy task.

Just ask Navajo Nation Division of Natural Resources staff who have been working ardently for the past several years to manage free-ranging horses on the Navajo Nation.

Navajo Nation Department of Agriculture Director Leo Watchman, Jr., stated that it will take an integrated approach, which is why the Department partnered with the Navajo Nation Department of Fish and Wildlife to survey the free-range horse population on the Navajo reservation.

The Navajo Nation Department of Fish and Wildlife received funding from the BIA to complete a first-ever aerial survey of the free-range horse population. A systematic survey and density estimate was conducted by Eagle Environmental, Inc. of Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Based on aerial observations from the systematic survey, Eagle Environmental, Inc. estimated that there were more than 38,000 free-roaming horses on the Navajo Nation in the year 2016, with a 90 percent confidence range of 32,188 to 52,033 horses.

Navajo Nation Fish and Wildlife Department Director Gloria Tom, stated, “We need to begin discussing this problem as a group because it affects more than just agricultural resources. We need to come up with a strategy that will take an integrated approach. It is becoming a major problem, particularly from a wildlife point of view. This problem affects all DNR departments and we need to approach this in an interdisciplinary approach. We also need to recognize that one method of technique is not going to solve the problem.”

Tom added, “We have many tools in our tool kit including roundups, voluntary surrender and other means to harvest horses and a combination of a variety of these management tools should be evaluated for effectiveness. “





From left to right: Navajo Nation Museum Director Manuelito Wheeler, Navajo Nation Division of Natural Resources Executive Director Bidtah Becker, and Museum staff Shanidiin Jeff and Nate Bitsoie.

Connecting Navajo Culture

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI – Connecting the dots.

That’s how Navajo Nation Museum Director Manuelito Wheeler describes his presentation during the Annual American Alliance of Museums Meeting and Museum Expo.

In his presentation to Museum Expo participants, Wheeler stated, “Projects and events that we do at the Navajo Nation Museum have a direct correlation and impact on us as Navajo people. Navajo culture is already relevant in the 21st Century – we just help people connect the dots. It’s important because our history and culture as Navajo people have gotten us to this point in time. From here it’s up to us where we want to go as the Navajo Nation.”

**“Navajo culture is already relevant in the
21st Century”**

The Navajo Nation Museum was the only tribal museum to present a session.—the name of their session was titled “Making Navajo Culture Relevant in the 21st Century. DNR staff all had an opportunity to talk about the importance of Navajo culture at the annual networking event.

SOMETHING NEW

- ◆ The Navajo Nation began issuing homesite leases without BIA approval on April 1st.
- ◆ Alvina Arviso was selected as the new Navajo Nation Fair Manager.
- ◆ A First-Ever Social Pow Wow will be held at Four Corners Monument on July 22nd (928) 206-2540