



## Aztec Springs 30 acre Prescribed Burn Scheduled for January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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*Santa Fe, NM* – The City of Santa Fe Fire Department, The Nature Conservancy, and The Forest Stewards Guild are convening a prescribed pile burn on 30 acres of city land near the municipal watershed on January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016, weather dependent. The burn will be contingent on wind, relative humidity, temperature, and expected weather patterns.

This work is part of the Fire Department's mission to reduce risk to lives and property from wildfire. It is also part of The Nature Conservancy's Fire Learning Network (<http://goo.gl/CJwJBh>) and the Fire Adapted Community Learning Network ([www.facnetwork.org](http://www.facnetwork.org)) and is designed to promote fire adapted communities and reduce wildfire risk. Pile burning is often part of reducing hazardous fuels and is needed to reduce the heat, intensity, and spread of a future potential wildfire.

Firefighter and community safety is the top priority for the burn. The burn will use experienced and qualified firefighters. The team will follow an approved burn plan, comply with New Mexico Air Quality Bureau smoke management guidelines, and have wildland firefighting equipment on-site. Smoke will be visible and may settle into surrounding area at night but should disperse the following day. The team will work to minimize smoke impacts to communities by visually monitoring smoke.

"This burn is an important step for the Fire Department in our work with homeowners, neighborhoods, and other partners to reduce risk to the residents of Santa Fe and our watershed." noted Fire Department Wildland Superintendent Greg Gallegos. "We are working here because it is important for the nearby landowners, and the health of our watershed that we safely reduce these hazardous fuels."

During the burn period, information regarding the project can be obtained by calling **505-470-0185**. Information will also be posted at [www.forestguild.org/ControlledBurning](http://www.forestguild.org/ControlledBurning).

Are you on social media? Stay up-to-date on the burn by following the Forest Stewards Guild on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/forestguild/](http://www.facebook.com/forestguild/)) and Twitter (@ForestGuild).

Landowners interested in learning more about Fire Adapted Communities can visit [www.fireadaptednewmexico.org](http://www.fireadaptednewmexico.org), a website designed by Fire Service Support LLC and the Forest Stewards Guild for New Mexico.

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