



SGANA

A Backyard Visitor

San Gabriel Area Neighborhood Association

March 2006

Common contributors to storm water pollution

When it rains, oil, antifreeze, detergents, pesticides and other pollutants get washed from driveways, backyards, parking lots, and streets into storm drains and then directly to the Rio Grande untreated! The following items specify everyday pollutants occurring at our homes, businesses, and construction sites.

- Pet waste left on the ground gets carried away by storm water, contributing harmful bacteria, parasites and viruses to our river. Please clean up after your pet.
- Vehicle fluids such as oil, gas, and antifreeze are a #1 surface water quality problems nationwide. Recycle used oil in a clean, sealed, plastic container. Call Environmental Health at 768-2600 for a list of collection sites that accept used oil or for answers to questions regarding proper disposal of other chemicals.
- SWEEP! Hosing off pavements washes pollutants into storm drains leading straight to the river. If water enters a public street or storm drain you are violating City Ordinance and could have a fee added to your water bill.
- Deliver old paint, pesticides, solvents and batteries to any of the available hazardous waste drop off facilities. Call 345-1650 for more info.
- Street litter such as styrofoam, plastic, and paper can be prevented from blowing into inlets by keeping trash bins covered and by not littering. Remember, Albuquerque can be very windy!
- Yard waste such as grass clippings, tree trimmings, and leaves can be composted and used for fertilizer around the yard. Call the Bernalillo County Extension Office at (505) 243-1386 for tips on composting.

Citywide Neighborhood Cleanup

On Saturday, April 29, we will have the opportunity once again to participate in an annual nationwide effort to beautify our neighborhoods. For the last several years a small group of dedicated residents has comprised the heart and soul of SGANA's participation. This year we hope others will get involved and take advantage of the support of the Coldwell Banker Real Estate and Mortgage affiliates. They will place a dumpster in the driveway at 3917 Inca on Friday the 28th. It will remain there all weekend so bring your yard trash and other stuff.

Please do NOT bring hazardous waste or heavy construction waste such as cement blocks or hardened concrete as these materials will destroy the driveway when the dumpster is dragged back onto the trailer bed.

Anyone interested in being part of a neighborhood beautification team may come to a "sidewalk meeting" on Saturday morning at 9 a.m. Bring your rakes and weed killer. Heavy trash bags will be provided.

SGANA MISSION STATEMENT

To promote and protect the interests of the neighborhood residents. We do this by providing a link to city government activities, maximizing property values, and helping make the neighborhood a safe and enjoyable place for all of us to live.

Dates To Remember

- April 29 -- citywide neighborhood cleanup
- June Neighborhood Yard Sale - date TBA
- Neighborhood Ice Cream Social - date TBA

Board of Directors - Contact Information

President - Mark Webb

299-6675 or mkwebb@swcp.com

Vice-president - Dan Jones

299-1677 or abqdanj@swcp.com

Treasurer - Pat Maher

401-7326 or patmahernm@msn.com

Secretary & Newsletter Editor - Carol Driscoll

332-8038 or caroladriscoll@aol.com

Member At Large

Open Position - how about YOU?

<http://www.swcp.com/sgana>

Celebrating Albuquerque's Culture

Did you know that admission to the Albuquerque Museum is free on Sunday mornings from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and all day on the first Wednesday of the month? The museum is located at 2000 Mountain Road NW, at the intersection of Mountain Road and 19th Street, directly west of Tiguex Park. Additional rate information is as follows:

- Adult, \$4 (\$1 discount for Adult New Mexico resident with valid ID)
- Senior (65+), \$2
- Children, ages 4 - 12, \$1
- Children, 3 and under; Albuquerque Museum Foundation Members; ICOM, AAM & NMAM members, Free.

For more information call 243-7255 or go to their website at <http://www.cabq.gov/museum/>

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This issue of the **SGANA** newsletter is sponsored by **Pat Maher of Coldwell Banker**.
Pat Maher at 401-7326 or pmaher@CBLegacyNM.com

Thank you, Pat, for your generosity and your helpful hints.

Important Contact Information

City Government Website	www.cabq.gov
Emergencies - Police, Fire, Medical	911
Police Non-Emergency (242-COPS)	242-2677
Foothills Command	332-5240
Crime Stoppers (843-STOP)	843-7867
City Infoline	311

Reminder: it's the time of year for Annual dues. Revenues are used for beautification, cleanup, publicity, printing costs, the annual Ice Cream Social and refreshments at the meetings. Please send your check for \$10 made out to SGANA to Pat Maher at 10024 Hendrix Court NE.

The Federal Communications Commission Do Not Call Registry

If you haven't already put yourself on the Registry you may register your residential and wireless numbers by calling 1-888-382-1222 (TTY 1-866-4236). Remember that this Registry exempts fundraisers and certain other callers.

Insurance Change Possible Under Homeowners Act

Many metro Albuquerque homes purchased during the last two to five years have big gains in equity due to the current robust market conditions. If your home was purchased with a minimum down payment, the loan may have a required monthly mortgage insurance premium, perhaps for more than \$100 per month.

If you feel the equity in your home is now at least 20% of the value, it is worth calling your loan servicer. You may be eligible for deletion of Private Mortgage Insurance under the Homeowners Protection Act. Ask your loan servicer to send you the information of the procedure for petitioning the deletion of your Private Mortgage Insurance. Your loan servicer is the place where you currently send your house payment. Most monthly statements or coupon books have a customer service number. Call them and explain your inquiry. Some servicers require a minimum payment history of 24 months; others longer. You can also expect to pay for an appraisal.