



Celebrate the earth

May 8, 2017

The Laboratory is committed not only to excellence in science and technology but also to completing all work in an environmentally responsible manner.

To celebrate Earth Day in the community, the Laboratory partnered with Pajarito Environmental Education Center (PEEC) for an activity encouraging a written commitment to the environment. About 50 people filled out postcards pledging to hike more, plant gardens, and collect litter during the next year. PEEC plans to mail the postcards back to the people who filled them out before Earth Day 2018.

The Lab's Pollution Prevention Program and the Community Partnerships Office also co-sponsored a poster contest in Northern New Mexico public schools. Students from kindergarten through sixth grade designed posters showcasing this year's theme of recycling, conserving energy, and improving air quality. The top three winning posters from San Felipe Day School, Pojoaque Schools Sixth Grade Academy, Taos Day School, and other schools can be seen [here](#).

Local school kids designed posters celebrating recycling and conservation.

During the past month, departments across the Laboratory participated in the Great Garbage Grab. This annual competition awards a traveling trash trophy to the division that collects the most litter in Northern New Mexico, both inside and out. This year a total of 548 bags of garbage were collected in the community.

Continuing with the theme of caring for the environment, this month the Laboratory is focused on building pride where we work by tidying our offices, laboratories, storage areas, and shared indoor and outdoor space. This new "housekeeping initiative" includes general clean up in our own offices to promote safety and security, as well as salvaging and recycling unneeded office supplies to be reused by Northern New Mexico schools.

To learn more about how the Laboratory's operations might impact Northern New Mexico, please see the recently published [Annual Site Environmental Report Summary](#), which details the Lab's commitment to environmental programs.

As a resident of Northern New Mexico, how do you care for our environment? If your organization would like to partner with the Laboratory on an environmental initiative, please contact the Community Partnerships Office. We look forward to hearing from you.

—Kathy Keith

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