

# South Central Mountain RC&D Resource

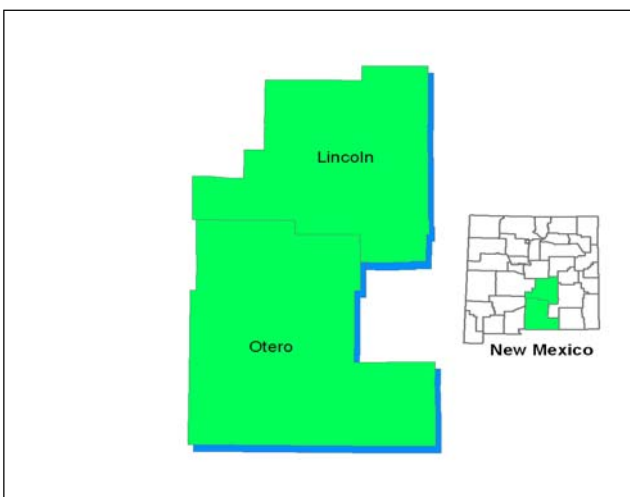
## Conservation & Development

Partnerships Serving America's Communities



*Help our public and private partners to meet their regionally identified resource conservation and economic development needs.*

## Cloudcroft FFA uses \$2500 Grant to Refurbish Shop Classroom



administrative fees for fiscal services rendered and re-granted back to the community in the form of micro-grants.

High school shop teacher and FFA leader Robert Booky is well known for his dedication to kids in the area. Booky collaborated with other FFAs in southern NM to buy supplies or barter and trade products.

His students learn trades like welding, wood-working, small sawmill operation, entrepreneurial and accounting skills to market their wares.

This includes planters for community gardens like one at the Hondo Senior Center.



Planters and Baskets. Every scrap of wood is utilized.

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### SCM Community Grant Project Highlights

- ◆ Project enables fun activities for youth as well as useful trades and life skills.
- ◆ School's program benefits 47 students per year.
- ◆ Local forest contractor donates sawmill and small diameter logs for program.
- ◆ Council to partner in hydroponic gardening.
- ◆ Projects like this provide valuable natural resources educational demonstration opportunities.

## Hondo Senior Center Adds Water Storage Tanks and Raised Planters

In 2009 Council created the "SCM Community Grant Program" funded through collection of administrative fees for fiscal services rendered and re-granted back to the community in the form of micro-grants.

The Hondo Senior Center used its award to purchase two 2,500 gallon water tanks and 12 raised planters. The planters were manufactured by the Cloudcroft High School shop class (another SCM Community Grant awardee) with wood donated by a forest contractor working a SCM/ State Forestry thinning project. The rounds were milled on a portable sawmill donated to Cloudcroft FFA by the same forest contractor.

FFA members delivered and set up the planters. Hondo students as well as Ecoservants (a youth work group) help with garden duties.

- **Project Highlights**
- Project with planters increase yield by 400%.
- Rain water harvesting conserves well water.
- Vegetables to be used by Seniors fresh or in prepared meals.
- Program to supply local food bank with fresh food .
- Project hopes to become nucleus of larger farmers' market initiative.

