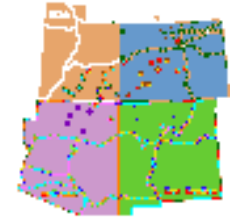




# Four Corners Region roots&shoots



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## A Message from Ray

**“We have a choice to use the gift of our lives to make the world a better place.”—Dr. Jane Goodall**

Dr. Jane continues to be an inspiration to all of us who are passionate about the health of our communities, our natural world and the other wonderful inhabitants of this glorious place we call home—our planet earth.

Her vital message is one of empowerment and hope and is a call to action to get off the sidelines and experience life directly each and every day.

Roots & Shoots is about doing just that! It is about working with others to make a positive difference in our world and having a lot of fun in the process.

The Four Corners States Regional Office is open for business. We want to know how we can work with you to help make every day one that we all look forward to and can be proud of.

In addition, please send us your stories so that we can share them with others. Many may still be pondering whether they can really make a difference and your efforts will inspire them to jump into action. If you can include a picture of your group and your project, it makes it come to life for others.

We appreciate the opportunity to celebrate this terrific opportunity with you! Together, **WE CAN** make the world a better place!

Ray Powell DVM  
Regional Director

# Four Corners on the Lookout for Youth Leaders

Would you like to get involved in making a difference with Roots & Shoots on a broader level? You can! Help Four Corners establish its first Youth Leadership Council by applying for the council (if you are 14 - 20 years old) or encouraging a member of your group to apply (if you are a group leader).



The Roots & Shoots Youth Leadership Initiative gives young people the training, tools and opportunities to develop into community leaders who have potential to create positive local and global change. Currently, there are youth leaders serving on two Regional Youth Leadership Councils (California and New England) and one College Leadership Council. In addition, there is a National Youth Leadership Council made up of representatives from all the councils and youth leaders not currently located in a region.

The benefits to becoming a member of the Four Corners Youth Leadership Council include:

- Receive Roots & Shoots Compassionate Servant Leadership training
- Establish a close connection and real world experience with Roots & Shoots and the Jane Goodall Institute, an international network and organization
- Sustain relationships with world-renowned leaders in community-centered conservation and education
- Participate in Spring Orientation Retreat and Youth Leadership Immersion Experience in Tanzania, specifically designed for R&S Youth Leaders
- Build and extend transferable skills including: critical thinking, resource development, verbal and written communication, team building skills, organization methods, research skills, relationship building and networking
- Make connections with motivated young people from across the nation and around the world
- Gain valuable leadership experience and receive letters of the recommendation from R&S staff for college or job applications
- Enjoy privileges of individual R&S membership including: access to Roots & Shoots resources, invitations to special events, special discounts, International and Regional newsletters, Discussion Boards and much more
- Act as a representative for R&S a regional and/or national events
- Gain self-efficacy skills and the ability and confidence to express and implement your ideas



**If interested in applying for the Four Corners Youth Leadership Council, please contact Jessica Morgan via email, [jmorgan@janegoodall.org](mailto:jmorgan@janegoodall.org), or phone, 505.988.1670, by December 7.**



## Santa Fe Animal Shelter Youth Board Launches Campaign

The Santa Fe Animal Shelter Youth Board is comprised of 11 students, ages 11-16, who are ambassadors for both Roots & Shoots and the Santa Fe Animal Shelter. Representing public and private schools in the Santa Fe area, these students all have a commitment to projects and campaigns that heighten public awareness of animal humane education in their community.

The youth board's goals for the 2008 year are to educate their community about responsible pet care and the links between animal abuse and domestic violence. The youth board members have already participated in several public events in Santa Fe, distributing educational materials and speaking to people about the importance of issues such as animal adoption and spay/neuter. Bringing their individual talents to the group, the youth board has created educational materials, including a short film, poster artwork, articles for the local media and two MySpace pages that inform the local and global communities of their accomplishments and goals.

The youth board members hope to broaden the reach of their message by producing radio programs, writing newspaper articles and displaying materials that further communicate their campaign of responsible pet care. The board has also identified a need to address the connection between animal abuse and domestic violence in the school system. The members of the board have plans to give classroom programs to their peers in Santa Fe and other northern New Mexico communities about this important issue. This is an extremely bright and motivated group of young people who bring strong leadership and creative ideas to Roots & Shoots and the Santa Fe Animal Shelter.

## Four Corners Region Delivers “Message in a Bottle” to New Mexico 4<sup>th</sup> Graders

In October, Regional Program Assistant, Jessica Morgan and New Mexico State Coordinator, Bonnie Schmader helped educate over 300 students about the choices and consequences of buying bottled water and disposing of the plastic bottles during a two-day Children's Water Festival in Rio Rancho and Albuquerque, New Mexico.



Students learned how petroleum-based, PET plastic is produced, the high cost of bottled water, the small percentage of bottles recycled versus the high number going to landfills and the many new items that can be made from recycled plastic.

Students played a game where they followed the journey of used plastic water bottles. By rolling over-sized dice, the students moved from station to station, either accruing points for being re-used or recycled, or not earning points while getting stuck in the landfill.

At the end of each 30-minute session, students learned about alternatives to plastic water bottles, including a

great new product that is made from corn resin. It takes 80 days to grow the corn, the bottles can be re-used up to 80 times and afterwards the bottles completely biodegrade within 80 days of being composted. If you'd like to learn more about corn-resin water bottles, you can check out this site:

<http://www.newwaveenviro.com>

## Test Your Skills: Water Bottle Trivia

Here are some of the trivia questions we asked the students. Test your knowledge and see if it changes the way you think about plastic water bottles:

1. How many gallons of oil does it take to make enough plastic water bottles for one year?

- A. 4 million
- B. 25 million
- C. 47 million

2. Americans throw away how many plastic bottles every hour?

- A. 23,000
- B. 300,000
- C. 2.5 million

3. Fourteen 20-ounce PET bottles can be recycled to make?

- A. One extra large t-shirt
- B. 1 square-foot of carpeting
- C. New plastic bottles
- D. All of the above

4. How much money did Americans spend on bottled water last year?

- A. 3 million dollars
- B. 15 million dollars
- C. 8 million dollars

5. On average, how many bottles of water did **each American** consume last year?

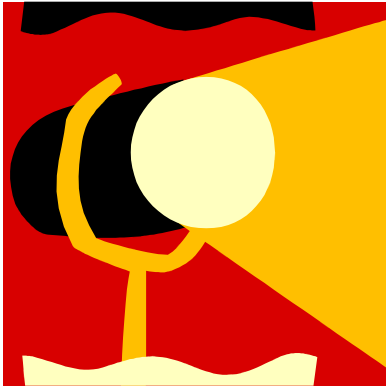
- A. 43
- B. 79
- C. 167

6. What percentage of disposable plastic water bottles is recycled in the United States?

- A. 14 percent
- B. 62 percent
- C. 38 percent



Answers: 1.C 2.C 3.D 4.B 5.C 6.A



## Project Spotlight: Standout Projects from Around the Region

- The **Rio Grande Roots & Shoots Homeschool Group** in Albuquerque, New Mexico organized an event called “One for The River.” The objective of the event was to share a sense of compassion and stewardship for the Rio Grande River. The students and members of the public brought water from places far and wide and ‘gave back’ to the Rio Grande. Students also created artwork and shared poetry and songs about their appreciation for the river.
- Congratulations to Sammi Goldfeld, the youth leader for **Resources for Health Roots & Shoots**, on winning second place in the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Solar Cook-off at the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Green Building Expo in Scottsdale, Arizona. Sammi’s dish of stuffed mushrooms and couscous won her a brand new solar cooker.
- Santa Fe’s **Seeds & Pods Roots & Shoots** group at El Dorado Elementary School created cards from original artwork of chimpanzees. The cards were sold as a fundraiser, earning enough money for the students to adopt a chimpanzee through the Jane Goodall Institute’s Chimpanzee Guardian program.
- On October 20th, **Arizona Roots & Shoots families** joined the staff at Reeves Mountain for an unforgettable harmonious weekend of hiking and learning about natural healing, organic gardening and the desert. The group cooked meals from food grown on the land, and learned to identify natural remedies for specific personal needs. The kids ranging in age from 1 to 13, tried new foods, helped in cooking, explored, collected bones, found crawdads in the creek, hiked, collected veggies and herbs from the garden and much more.



*Rio Grande R&S “One for the River” Project*



*Sammi serving stuffed mushrooms and couscous, her award winning dish*



*Organic gardening at Reeves Mountain*

*Seeds & Pods Roots & Shoots making cards as fundraiser*



To have your standout project featured in the next regional newsletter, send a brief description and photos of your project to Jessica Morgan via email, [jmorgan@janegoodall.org](mailto:jmorgan@janegoodall.org), or mail to, 216 Otero St. Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501.

# New Staff Member in the Four Corners Office!



Our new Regional Program Assistant, Jessica, has made a place for herself in the Four Corners region. Jessica's story with Roots & Shoots began as an intern in the National Office located in Arlington, Virginia. After six wonderful months learning the tricks of the Roots & Shoots trade, Jessica wished to move closer to home and take a more active role in representing Roots & Shoots. The Four Corners regional office was the perfect fit. An avid horse rider, environmentalist and volunteer, Jessica has found the perfect fit with Roots & Shoots, giving her the opportunity to combine all three of her passions. We welcome Jessica to the staff!



## Welcome to all of our new Groups!

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| BASIS Scottsdale Roots & Shoots- Scottsdale, Arizona          | Flagstaff Community Crusaders- Flagstaff, Arizona             |
| Village Meadows Roots & Shoots- Peoria, Arizona               | Desert Sky Middle School- Tucson, Arizona                     |
| Bourgade Catholic High School- Phoenix, Arizona               | Ocotille 4 <sup>th</sup> Grade R&S- Tucson, Arizona           |
| Khalsa Montessori Community Service Club- Tucson, Arizona     | Hampden Academy- Aurora, Colorado                             |
| Wilkinson Public Library R&S-Telluride, Colorado              | Wolf Sanctuary R&S- La Porte, Colorado                        |
| Care For The Planet.org R&S group- Nederland, Colorado        | Roots & Shoots Fort Collins Ape Group- Fort Collins, Colorado |
| Wilkinson Public Library- Telluride, Colorado                 | R3 Roots & Shoots- Erie, Colorado                             |
| Evergreen Roots & Shoots- Evergreen, Colorado                 | Garaland Country School- Denver, Colorado                     |
| GJ Youth- Grand Junction, Colorado                            | Rusty Chimps- Santa Fe, New Mexico                            |
| Wind River Ranch Foundation- Watrus, New Mexico               | Wildcat Wilderness Club- Las Cruces, New Mexico               |
| Humane Society of Southern New Mexico- Las Cruces, New Mexico | Uintah River High School R&S- Fort Duchesne, Utah             |
| GLE Haven Academy- Murray, Utah                               | Roots & Shoots at Lit'l Scholars- Salt Lake City, Utah        |
| The Wildlife Warriors- West Jordan, Utah                      |   |



## Save the Date!

The Four Corners Region is planning a Roots & Shoots Summit in Albuquerque May 9-11, 2008. Activities will include a group leader mixer, hands-on service learning activities and projects and talks by local organizations and community leaders. This will be a great way for both leaders and kids to get inspired and go home with great new ideas and energy for your next Roots & Shoots project. Stay tuned as we will be sending you more information in the near future!

## Thank you Roots & Shoots Sears Volunteers!

The Four Corners Regional Office would like to extend a special thank you to all of the groups in our region that participated in the Sears in-store event on November 3 and 4. We appreciate your willingness to represent Roots & Shoots at your local Sears store. We would also like to congratulate Regina Wolff, an outstanding Roots & Shoots leader in Flagstaff, Arizona, on winning the drawing for the Kenmore Elite Ultrawash HE dishwasher.



*Pioneer Roots & Shoots members sharing information about energy efficiency with Sears customers*

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**Ray Powell DVM, Regional Director**  
**Bonnie Schmader, New Mexico State Coordinator**  
**Jessica Morgan, Regional Program Assistant**