



CITY OF RIO COMMUNITIES

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**from the  
Rio Communities City Council and Office of the Mayor**

- WHEREAS** the City of Rio Communities encourages and supports soil and water conservation;
- WHEREAS** the Valencia Soil and Water Conservation District’s mission is to provide natural resource conservation for a quality environment through active leadership, cooperation, and partnership; and
- WHEREAS** the Valencia Soil and Water Conservation District shares the importance of conservation with students from Rio Communities through its environmental education programs in support of New Mexico’s Next Generation Science Standards; and
- WHEREAS** annually over 400 students from Rio Communities are provided hands-on environmental education at either their school or at the outdoor classroom of the Valencia Soil and Water Conservation District’s Whitfield Wildlife Conservation Area; and
- WHEREAS** the Whitfield Conservation Area Complex of 280 acres preserves wildlife; provides demonstrations and workshops for residents of Rio Communities; and has become a premier wildlife viewing destination, attracting 75+ visitors and their ecotourism dollars to Rio Communities during the Valencia Soil and Water Conservation District’s recent Get Outdoors Day public event; and
- WHEREAS** the Valencia Soil and Water Conservation District helps the farmers, gardeners, and ranchers of Rio Communities improve their own management of soil and water resources through financial assistance, technical workshops, and free-soil testing; and
- WHEREAS** the City of Rio Communities and the Valencia Soil and Water Conservation District have an opportunity to partner in the restoration of 140 acres at the Whitfield Complex’s Rio Abajo Conservation Area;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Rio Communities City Council and Mayor of Rio Communities, do hereby declare their appreciation of the Valencia Soil and Water Conservation District and proclaim the month of October 2021 as

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION MONTH

in Rio Communities, New Mexico, and urge all citizens to recognize the dedication and hard work of the Valencia Soil and Water Conservation District and encourage them to engage with their District to conserve natural resources in order to provide a healthy Rio Communities economy and community.

IN OFFICIAL RECONGITION WHEREOF, we hereby affix our signatures this 12th day of October 2021.

**City of Rio Communities Governing Body**

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Mark Gwinn,  
Mayor

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Joshua Ramsell,  
Councilor Mayor Pro tem

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Robert Chavez,  
Councilor

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Margaret "Peggy" Gutjahr,  
Councilor

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Jimmie Winters  
Councilor

ATTEST

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Elizabeth F. Adair,  
Municipal Clerk