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## Albuquerque, Rio Rancho residents recycled more than 6,000 Christmas trees

(Albuquerque, NM) – With the help of PNM, Albuquerque and Rio Rancho residents recycled 6,173 Christmas trees at four locations after the holidays, resulting in more than 90,000 pounds of mulch that PNM chipped with its equipment.

For more than 30 years, crews from PNM have been partnering with the City of Albuquerque's Solid Waste Management Department and Rio Rancho's Keep Rio Rancho Beautiful Division to grind Christmas trees into mulch after the holidays, which can be used to provide a better growing environment for plants in city common areas and residential landscapes.



PNM recycled Christmas trees at the following locations:

- **Albuquerque Eagle Rock Convenience Center**, located at 6301 Eagle Rock NE; 3,548 trees were chipped.
- **Albuquerque Montessa Convenience Center**, located at 3512 Los Picaros SE; 165 trees were chipped.
- **Albuquerque Ladera Golf Course**, located at 3401 Ladera Dr. NW; 1,298 trees were chipped.
- **Rio Rancho Sports Complex** located at 3501 High Resort Blvd SE; 1,162 trees were chipped.

## Quotes

### PNM:

“Most people may not think there is a correlation between PNM and vegetation, but it is an important part of the company’s work,” said David Stricker, the manager of vegetation management at PNM. “As part of our wildfire mitigation practices, and to help ensure reliability to customers, PNM proactively trims trees and monitors tree growth around powerlines throughout the company’s service areas. PNM also volunteers its time and equipment for this environmentally friendly Christmas tree recycling project with the City of Albuquerque and the City of Rio Rancho.”

### City of Albuquerque:

“With assistance from our partners at PNM and Parks & Recreation, we were able to collect nearly 5,000 trees during our Treecycling program this holiday season,” said Billy Gallegos, Director of Solid Waste for The City of Albuquerque. “This event offers the community a unique opportunity to support the City’s recycling efforts and extend the life of our landfill.”

### City of Rio Rancho:

“We more than doubled the number of Christmas trees that were recycled at the Rio Rancho Sports Complex compared to last year,” said the Keep Rio Rancho Beautiful Coordinator, Nick Dahl. “We want to thank all the Rio Rancho residents who participated, and we look forward to keeping Rio Rancho beautiful with projects of this magnitude in the future.”

### B-roll:

[Click here for b-roll of tree chipping.](#)

[Click here for interview.](#)

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### About PNM

PNM is the largest electricity provider in New Mexico serving nearly 550,000 customers. PNM is committed to transitioning its electricity to 100% carbon free while ensuring a reliable and resilient power system. Visit [PNM.com](https://www.pnm.com) for more information.