The New Mexico Tree Farm Committee is pleased to announce that Lloyd and Debra Basha have been selected as the 2018 Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year for New Mexico. An Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year award is given to a Tree Farmer in recognition of their accomplishments on the ground and within the outreach and education realm.

You would never imagine as you are driving out to the Basha’s that they have a model windbreak on their property, let alone hundreds of thriving trees. Where the Basha reside, outside Estancia, New Mexico, it is truly a treeless area. For miles. And for miles you can see the Bashas windbreak, where there are literally no other trees. When Lloyd Basha moved out to their home in 1979, the first thing he thought was, no trees! “I should have been born back East,” he says. “Instead of being a native New Mexican, I always wanted trees”. Trees there are. But it did not come easy. Lloyd and his wife, Debra and all their children have put hours, years of hard work to have the windbreak, orchard, pond and wildlife they now have on their property. The Bashas bought seedlings from New Mexico State Forestry’s Conservation Seedling Program. They purchased a thousand trees and drove up to Santa Fe with their big pick-up truck. They could have put all the trees in the back seat of their car. But today they probably could not fit one tree in that same pick-up. Growing trees
is hard anywhere, but especially difficult where the Bashas live. But they did some things right. When they purchased the seedlings from State Forestry, they also received a publication called “Guidelines for Planting Windbreaks in New Mexico”. They followed the book step-by-step. But probably even more important, they found out about drip-irrigation and began the arduous task of installing the drip system. Today they have sixteen acres of windbreak, with every tree accompanied by the drip system. The Windbreak has been modified over the years for the better using lessons learned.

Nominating forester, Todd Haines stated, “When I first received re-inspection form for the Bashas in 2000, I was wondering what was out in the Estancia area. For those who know the area, it is barren and not the type of place you expect to find a Tree Farm. Let’s just say I was amazed’. Over the years we frequently visited the property to bring people to learn from their efforts. After the windbreak was established an orchard was planted. Lloyd felt the kids needed to be involved in the planting and know where food comes from. “Some of it grows on trees”. The children have been involved in all aspects of the windbreak and orchard. The girls help fertilize, once they knew which side of the tree got the fertilizer? Everyone helps with the weeding, and there is plenty of that. Last year everyone helped with the pruning, and when trees die, they help dig the old one and plant the new one. Lloyd stated his big concern, back in 2000,” I sometimes worry the kids will move into the city and have a gravel front yard’. But for the time being, everyone is involved and what a result! Let him tell you what happened now that it is 2019. The Bashas were so enthusiastic when we asked if they had photographs of what the property looked like when they got there, we decided we should show you too! Come out and see what it looks like 40 years later.
The Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year event will be held on September 28, 2019 on the Basha property with lunch provided by the New Mexico Tree Farm Committee. Festivities begin at 10 am.

Please RSVP by **MONDAY September 23, 2019**

Contact Todd Haines, Bernalillo District Forester via e-mail at todd.haines@state.nm.us or call (505)867-2334 so, we can get an accurate head count for lunches.

From the North take NM 337 (formerly South 14) until it T’s. Go East 2 miles to Riely Road (A027). I will be tough to see a sign, but it will be flagged the day of the event. Proceed South approximately 6 miles to Road A001, go West and follow the road around the turn to the South. This turns into B097, go 2 miles to Road B100 turn East. Continue 1.5 miles and go up the long driveway to the South. You have arrived.

From the South (Mountainair) proceed North along Road B097 just over 9 miles to B100. Proceed East Just over 1.5 miles. Turn up the driveway North. You have arrived.
Conservation Seedling Program Fall Sale to Begin
State Forestry Division offers new seedling species for 2019

SANTA FE, NM - The State Forestry Division Conservation Seedling Program fall sale begins Monday, July 8, 2019. More than 57,000 tree and shrubs will be available for purchase online at nmforestry.com, including a few species not previously offered.

“We’re excited to offer a wide variety of seedlings to landowners who may be looking for something a little different,” said Conservation Seedling Program Manager Carol Bada. “This is the first year we’re offering pecan and Texas red oak”. Other seedlings include Arizona cypress, Rocky Mountain penstemon, ponderosa pine, Douglas-fir, chokecherry, New Mexico foresteria and many more.

Seedlings are available to landowners who own at least one acre of property in New Mexico. Landowners must also agree to use the seedlings for conservation purposes - this may include wildlife habitat, riparian restoration, wildlife habitat, erosion control, reforestation, Christmas tree plantations, or other conservation needs.

One-year-old seedlings are sold in 10-cubic-inch containers and available in minimum lots of 49 of the same species for $80. Multi-species bundles are offered in one-season growth containers for the same price. Two-season, large container seedlings (40 cubic inch pot) are available in lots of 20 for $57. There is a $5 handling fee per order and all sales are final.

The last day to order will be October 11, 2019. Distribution will take place between September 16 and October 18. The last day to pick up seedlings at the Santa Fe distribution center will also be October 18.

A full list of seedlings and ordering information is available at nmforestry.com. Payment with a Discover Card, Master Card, or Visa is accepted online. Checks are also accepted with mail-in application forms, which can be downloaded from the website. Landowners who wish to have an order form mailed to them should contact the New Mexico State Forestry Division at (505) 476-3325.

There is an additional $10 fee for UPS orders due to increase in shipping costs. Seedlings may also be picked up at the NM State Forestry seedling warehouse, Casa de Arboles (Tree House), 3250 Calle Princesa Juana, in Santa Fe. Hours of operation are Thursdays and Fridays, 8:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. A map to the distribution center is available online at nmforestry.com. All proceeds are reinvested back into the NM State Forestry Conservation Seedling Program.
Forest Restoration Field Day
Sept. 14, 2019 • 9:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
JTH Forestry Research Center, Mora, N.M.

Forest health in New Mexico and the Southwest is on the decline due to a combination of factors, including fire suppression, increased fuel densities, and inadequate forest management. This results in forests burning at catastrophic levels, an occurrence projected to worsen in the coming decades.

The purpose of this event is to:
- Provide a synopsis on the declining state of New Mexico’s forests.
- Share current research and management strategies addressing some of the issues.
- Emphasize the need for a strong forestry education program in New Mexico.
- Open the dialogue for continued education and support on future directions.

Hosted by the Forest Restoration Triangle (FORT): New Mexico Forest and Watershed Restoration Institute, the Forestry Program at New Mexico Highlands University, and the JTH Forestry Research Center at NMSU-College of ACES.

For more information contact: oburney@nmsu.edu • (575) 387-2319
1) COMMITTEE MEETING
All Tree Farmers are invited and encouraged to attend our 3rd New Mexico Tree Farm Committee Meeting of the year (three held annually). Please join us at 1:30 pm on Wednesday, December 18th, 2019 at the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish office located at 7816 Alamo Road. NW, Albuquerque, NM 87120. Come out and hear what other tree farmers have been up to and share your tree farm accomplishments with the group. We look forward to visiting with you. If you have any questions, please contact Arnie Friedt at arnie.friedt@state.nm.us

2) BUY, SELL OR TRADE
Are you looking for forestry related equipment to buy (i.e. chipper, splitter, chainsaw, etc.)? Or, do you own forestry related equipment you would like to sell or trade? Forestry related equipment only, please, no homes or land. We would like to help you make the connection with other New Mexico Tree Farmers. Provide us with a description of the equipment, price, photo and contact information and we will post it in the New Mexico Tree Farm Bulletin. If you would like us to help you make the connection, please provide information to Arnie Friedt at arnie.friedt@state.nm.us

3) COMMUNITY CORNER
If your community is having a forestry related public event let us know the details and we would be delighted to promote your event in the New Mexico Tree Farm Bulletin. Give us the event details, Who, What, Where and When with contact information and we will include in our monthly bulletin. If you would like us to help you promote your event, please provide information to Arnie Friedt at arnie.friedt@state.nm.us

4) E-MAIL INSTEAD OF SNAIL MAIL
Would you prefer to receive your Tree Farm Bulletin by e-mail instead of snail mail? If so, contact Arnie Friedt at arnie.friedt@state.nm.us and provide him with your contact information. By receiving your Tree Farm Bulletin by e-mail our operating costs are reduced. Thank you for considering this option.