



Why are we here?

History of the Program

The Santa Fe County Open Space program was initiated in 1999 with a series of bonds used to purchase open space property specifically for conservation and preservation. That initial phase of the program resulted in the acquisition of 6600 acres of open space property and the development of 46 miles of trail.

The Open Space program is an interdepartmental program in the Growth Management, Public Works and Community Services Departments. The Program has significantly grown and changed over the last 17 years and a new plan for specific and deliberate program operations and management is needed. This plan update will guide staff as we enter the resource management phase of the Open Space and Trails Program.

What will this plan do?

This plan will include implementation tools to protect, preserve, and restore open space properties in the county. The plan will provide procedural direction for all open space and county staff. The plan will identify short, mid, and long term priorities to focus capital and management resources.

The goal for Santa Fe County Open Space Program is to Preserve, Protect and Restore properties within the County. In order to do that, the County will focus on three areas:

1. Develop Best Management Practices (BMPs) for Open Space, Trails, and Parks;
2. Develop partnerships to foster stewardship and education around the properties to highlight what makes them special;
3. Enhance access to county properties where appropriate, by developing access standards and creating an interconnected trail system.

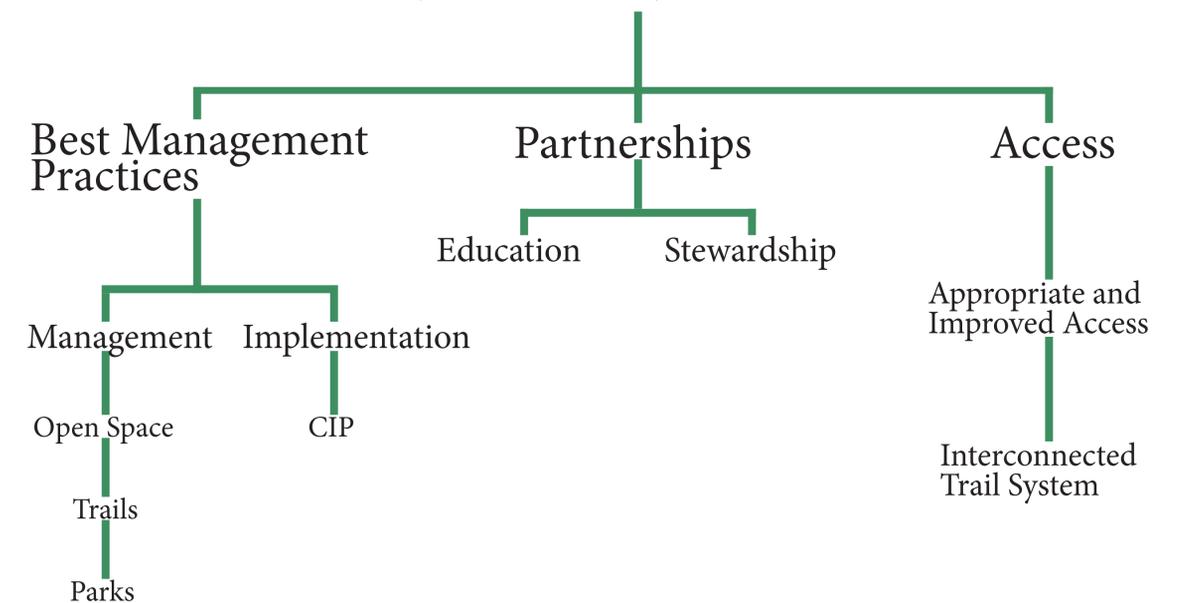
Why are we here today?

We need your input and ideas for future open space projects.

Staff have identified project focus areas based on current policies and planning. Each focus area will help determine short, mid and long term investments. Criteria were identified to streamline the process:

- Criteria 1: Clusters of Santa Fe County Open Space properties
- Criteria 2: Adjacency of public land to existing Open Space properties
- Criteria 3: Opportunity for partnerships (with public and private entities)
- Criteria 4: Opportunity for recreation, trail connections, and expansion of existing networks
- Criteria 5: Nearby Community support
- Criteria 6: Existing project investments, including capital investments and management plans

Preserve, Protect, and Restore



What do you think?

The project focus areas have listed a group of partnerships and potential trail connections. We need your help to make sure we are on the right track.

There are markers and post-its at all the stations. Tell us if you agree, or if you would like to add something.