Open Gate

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Open Gate Program

Open Gate is a voluntary access program available to outdoor users and landowners statewide. The program leases lands and waters from private landowners to provide access to the public for hunting, fishing and trapping.

Each property participating in Open Gate will have specific rules for permitted activities agreed upon by the landowner and NMDGF. These rules will be posted on the property and are also available on the NMDGF website. Hunters, anglers and trappers can use this information to locate and learn about properties that match their interests.

It is the responsibility of the individual using the property to know and obey posted rules. Citations may be issued for violation of any rules or regulations.

Leave no trace. Be a respectful and courteous guest.
• Follow all posted rules.
• Leave all gates as you found them.
• Don't block gates or roads with parked vehicles.
• Don't shoot towards livestock, buildings or equipment.
• Do not leave trash, and pick up any trash found along the way.
• If you see the landowner, don't forget to offer an appreciative thank you!

Landowners Can Earn Extra Cash for an Open Gate Lease

NMDGF is interested in leasing more lands with quality habitat for hunting, fishing and trapping. Willing landowners can sign an agreement with NMDGF and receive a per-acre payment based on opportunities provided. In addition to property leases, NMDGF will also pay for right-of-way access across the property of a landowner to allow hunters and anglers access to otherwise inaccessible tracts of State Trust or federal lands. New Mexico provides liability protection to landowners who participate in Open Gate.

Funding for the Open Gate program is provided by a portion of annual HMAV sales.

To learn more about the Open Gate program, please visit: **https://www.wildlife.state.nm.us/ hunting/maps/open-gate-program/** or call: **505-469-8880**.