**For Immediate Release**:

Date:  February 9, 2022

Contact:          Leigh Jenkins, Silver City Watershed Keepers Coordinator

                        575-538-8078, pickituptossnomas@gmail.com

**Pick It Up - Toss No Mas to Hold its Next Community Trash Cleanup**

**on Saturday, February 19, 9am – 1pm**

Through a partnership between the Town of Silver City and the Silver City Watershed Keepers, the anti-litter program Pick It Up - Toss No Mas will hold its next Community Trash Cleanup on Saturday, February 19 from 9 am to 1:00 pm at Gough Park.

Initiated in 2018 by Mayor Ken Ladner, the anti-litter campaign encourages community members, businesses, and organizations to join forces to keep our community clean and beautiful.

Since October, more than 100 community volunteers have picked up 3,181 pounds of trash, debris and recyclables from Highways 180 and 90, Silver City neighborhoods, Big Ditch Park and San Vicente Creek through the program.

At last month’s Community Trash Cleanup, 31 volunteers picked up 850 pounds of trash, debris and recycling. Thanks to all of the volunteers, including the WNMU Women’s Volleyball Team and Western Institute for Lifelong Learning for their participation in the event.

To join in the community effort, meet the Pick It Up – Toss No Mas team in the parking lot on the south side of Gough Park at 9 am on Saturday, February 19 and pick up trash bags, gloves, trash pickers and snacks. Volunteers will spend the morning cleaning up litter at a location of their choice and then return to Gough Park between 12 pm and 1pm to drop off trash and recyclables and record their cleanup results. The New Mexico Department of Transportation will collect the trash and haul it to the landfill. Recyclables will be collected by Silver City Recycles.

Pre-register at [silvercitywatershedkeepers.org](http://silvercitywatershedkeepers.org/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank) or register on-site at the event.

Be sure to wear close-toed shoes and bring a hat, water bottle, and sunscreen. Children 17 and under must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.  Because children under 12 are not permitted on state highways for the cleanup, families with younger children are encouraged to clean up litter in their neighborhood, Big Ditch Park or San Vicente Creek.

Monthly cleanup events are held the third Saturday of every month. Community members can also adopt a roadway or waterway to take care of and clean up throughout the year. Signups to adopt a roadway or waterway will take place at the event.

Pick It Up – Toss No Mas community cleanup events are partially funded by a grant from New Mexico Clean and Beautiful and are sponsored by the Town of Silver City, Silver City Watershed Keepers, Silver City Recycles, Silver City MainStreet, SWNMACT, Southwest Solid Waste Authority, and New Mexico Department of Transportation’s Toss No Mas Program.

More information and registration for the event can be found at [silvercitywatershedkeepers.org](http://silvercitywatershedkeepers.org/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank) or contact Silver City Watershed Keepers coordinator Leigh Jenkins at 575-538-8078 or via email at pickituptossnomas@gmail.com

 ###