



# Town of Edgewood

## Agenda

### Workshop

**Tuesday, September 23, 2025 at 5:00 PM**

Edgewood Town Hall Commission Chambers, 171A NM 344  
Edgewood, NM 87015

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This meeting is held in-person. As a convenience, a meeting live-stream may be available but could be impacted by technology or internet signal. Click link for YouTube live-stream:

<https://www.youtube.com/@thetownofedgewoodnm/streams>

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**A. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER**

1. Roll Call (by Town Clerk or designee)

**B. DISCUSSION**

1. Ordinance to Protect Local Water Resources and Regulate Large Grass Areas and Golf Courses

**C. ADJOURNMENT**

**Town of Edgewood Ordinance 2025-\_\_**

**An Ordinance to Protect Local Water Resources and Regulate the Development of Large Grass Areas including Golf Courses**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Edgewood is located in a semi-arid region with limited and sensitive water resources; and

**WHEREAS**, responsible water stewardship is essential to the long-term sustainability and health of the Town’s residents, agriculture, and ecosystem; and

**WHEREAS**, the development of traditional golf courses requires significant quantities of water, particularly for the maintenance of turfgrass; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Edgewood seeks to ensure that all future developments align with our regional water conservation goals and land use planning objectives;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it ordained by the Governing Body of the Town of Edgewood, New Mexico:

**Section 1. Definitions**

- a. Large Grass Area: are turf grassed areas greater than 1/8 of a lot four acres or less and no more than 0.5 acres on lots larger than 4 acres and is irrigated with ground water from wells or other sources of potable water.
- b. Golf Course: A facility designed for the sport of golf, including fairways, greens, driving ranges, clubhouses, and all associated features.
- c. Turfgrass: Any natural grass species used for recreational or aesthetic purposes.
- d. Artificial Turf: Synthetic grass-like material designed to resemble natural turf, requiring no irrigation.
- e. Potable Water: Water suitable for human consumption.
- f. Effluent/Reclaimed Water: Treated wastewater approved for non-potable use such as irrigation.

**Section 2. Golf Course Restrictions**

1. Water Source Requirements:

## **DRAFT**

- a. No golf course shall be approved that proposes the use of potable groundwater or municipal water supplies for irrigation purposes.
- b. Only 100% reclaimed or harvested water systems may be considered, and proof of long-term water supply (minimum 30-year plan) must be submitted and approved by the Town.

### 2. Turfgrass Limitation:

- a. Total turfgrass coverage shall not exceed 10% of the total acreage of the golf facility.
- b. Turfgrass shall be limited to greens and tee boxes only.
- c. All fairways, roughs, and non-play areas must be composed of artificial turf, xeriscaping, or native vegetation.

### 3. Irrigation Plan:

- a. A detailed water conservation plan must be submitted, including:
- b. Irrigation technology specs (e.g., drip systems, smart controls).
- c. Monthly and annual water usage projections.
- d. Drought contingency protocols.
- e. Leak detection and response measures.

## **Section 3. Environmental & Community Impact Review**

### 1. Hydrological Study:

- a. All golf course applications must include an independent, peer-reviewed hydrological impact study, paid for by the applicant, to assess the effects on the local aquifer and other users.

### 2. Public Benefit Analysis:

- a. Applicants must demonstrate substantial public benefit beyond economic profit, including measurable water offsets, community green space integration, or ecological restoration components.

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**Section 4. Penalties and Enforcement**

- 1. Failure to comply with this ordinance shall result in:
  - a. Immediate suspension of construction or operation permits.
  - b. Fines up to \$1,000 per day for violations.
  - c. Revocation of conditional use permits or zoning variances.
- 2. Any party found to have submitted false or misleading information shall be barred from development activities within town limits for a period of 5 years.

**Section 5. Severability**

If any section, clause, or provision of this ordinance is declared invalid by a court, such invalidity shall not affect the remainder of the ordinance.

**Section 6. Effective Date**

This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon adoption by the Governing Body of the Town of Edgewood.

**Optional Add-Ons:**

Moratorium clause: A temporary halt on all golf course developments until a comprehensive water study is completed.

Citizen Referendum clause: Require any new golf course to be approved by public vote.

Government Property Exemption: Property owned or leased by Federal, State, and Local Governments will be exempt from this Ordinance.

**PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 20<sup>th</sup> day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2025.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kenneth Brennan, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

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Victoria Archuleta, Interim Clerk