

# Powder River News

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### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Bill Jones-Vice-Chair

Amy Icanberry-Secretary/Treasurer

Dan Mahoney-Supervisor

Kevin Lund-Supervisor

### DISTRICT STAFF

District Manager–  
Anita Bartlett

Range & Wildlife Specialist– Reese  
Irvine

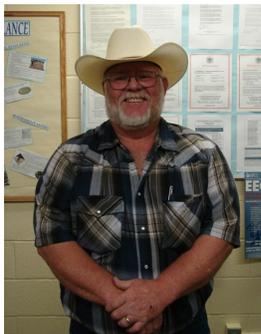
### NRCS STAFF

District Conservationist-  
Allison McKenzie

Rangeland Management  
Specialist-Kassie Bales

## WACD Convention

This year Board Supervisor Kevin Lund and District Manager Anita Bartlett attended the Wyoming Association of Conservation District (WACD) State Convention in Jackson, WY.



This year's convention focused on "Preparing for Wyoming's Future Natural Resource Challenges". Trainings and workshops included Soil Health, Mitigation banks and Habitat Exchanges, CCAA for Sage Grouse, Private Land Management-Regulation Issues and Alternative Solutions, and Federal Lands Adaptive Management. Kevin and Anita also attended committee meetings, the Wyoming Conservation Districts Employees Association (WCDEA) meetings, and the Annual WACD board meeting.

During the WCDEA meeting Anita was elected to serve as the Association's President for the next two years. The WCDEA's purpose is to provide training and networking opportunities to advance the professionalism and skills of the Conservation District employees, and to provide input and assistance to WACD in carrying out the duties of the Conservation Districts.



*December 2013*

## **E-Waste Collection**

E-waste (electronic waste) is the fastest growing form of toxic waste in the world. It is probably no surprise that considering our current age of technology and computers, e-waste makes up a significant portion of waste on the Earth.

However, what is surprising to most people is that e-waste is toxic. Some of the toxic substances of e-waste include the heavy metals, Mercury, Cadmium and Lead.



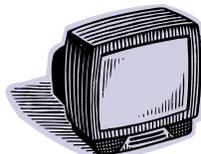
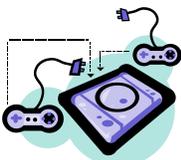
With this in mind the Powder River Conservation District came up with a solution for removing the e-waste in Southern Johnson County. They began collecting e-waste and properly disposing of it. They donate the e-waste to Cutting Edge Industries a division of NOWCAP Services in Casper. NOWCAP & Cutting Edge Industries exist to create employment opportunities for people with developmental disabilities or people who have experienced a brain injury.

The PRCD began this program in November of 2012 and since then they have collected approximately 1,826 pounds of e-waste. This weight does not include the 20 TVs and 27 computer monitors collected. The PRCD would like to thank everyone who has brought in e-waste and worked to make this program a success. The PRCD is no longer accepting TVs larger than 48 inches.

Please feel free to drop off your E-waste at the District Office located at 350 Nolan Avenue in Kaycee, WY. Below you will find a list of items that we can e-recycle:

- Answering Machines
- Cable Boxes (analog & Digital)
- Calculators
- CD-rom Drivers
- Circuit Boards
- Computer Towers
- Consumer Electronics
- Floppy Drives
- Insulated Cable (copper & aluminum)
- Laptop & Notebook Computers
- Surveillance Equipment
- Security Systems
- Video Equipment
- TVs

- Batteries (Not Car Batteries)
- Cables & Wire
- Cameras
- Cell Phones
- Computers
- Connectors
- Electronic Components
- Hard Drives
- Keyboards, Mice, etc.
- Stereo Components
- Telecommunications Equipment
- Servers
- Video Game Equipment
- Computer Monitors



# PLANT FACTS

**Common Name:** Big Sagebrush

**Species:** *Artemisia tridentata*

**Life Span:** Perennial

**Origin:** Native

**Season:** Evergreen

**Growth Form:** Shrub; erect, highly branched, crown rounded or spreading, trunk short; flowers August to September, reproduces from seeds



**Vegetative Characteristics:**

**Leaves:** alternate, simple; blades narrowly wedge-shaped.

**Stems:** twigs round, rigid, green above, brown below new growth pubescent; bark gray-brown, shredding into long flat strips.

**Other:** entire plant aromatic, quite variable in growth

**Floral and Fruit Characteristics:**

**Inflorescences:** heads in narrow, leafy panicles; heads numerous, erect to drooping.

**Flowers:** perfect, heads discoid; involucre in 4-5 series

**Fruits:** achene; obovoid, brownish, flattened, resinous

**Historic, Food and Medicinal Uses:** Wood once used for thatch and firewood, pollen causes hay fever, decoctions used by some American Indians as a laxative.

**Livestock Losses:** volatile oils may cause rumen stasis

**Forage Value:** good for sheep and wildlife on winter range, fair for cattle; high in protein but also high in volatile oils; food source and cover for many kinds of wildlife.

**Habitat:** valleys, plains, basins, and mountain slopes; most abundant in dry, well-drained, gravelly or rocky soils.

\*\*sited from *North American Range Plants*, Fifth Edition, Stubbendieck, Hatch, Butterfield.\*\*

## PROMOTING AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM

This school year the PRC D would like to remind all teachers and youth groups to take advantage of our Wyoming Ag in the Classroom Tool Chests. Some of the topics covered in the chests are: animal identification, grazing, birds, bugs, soils, fire, geology, trees, mapping, mammals, water quality, weeds, landscaping, and journaling. If you are interested in what the tool chest has to offer stop by and see us. Materials are available at all times. **As well, feel free to contact the PRC D if you would like us to assist you in any of your Ag related activities. We are always more than willing to come to your classroom or meeting to help in any way that we can.**





## Here's Looking at 2014



The time of year has come where we are getting geared up for 2014. NRCS would like to encourage agriculture producers to **submit applications** for cost-share assistance. Application's that want to be considered for funding in 2014 will need to be submitted by December 20<sup>th</sup>. The new Farm Bill is still being worked on so the exact name of the programs and time frame is unknown but here's what will hopefully be available:

- Financial assistance to install or implement structural and management conservation practices. Examples include: increase grazing distribution through fences or water development or improving irrigation systems.
- Financial incentives to create high quality wildlife habitat. Examples: riparian area improvements, fish passages, and stream restoration.
- Financial incentives to improve existing sage-grouse habitat by using grazing deferment to improve ground cover. In addition to the incentive payment for grazing deferment there is also the option to install practices that will better help grazing distribution. Examples: stock and wildlife water development and cross fencing.
- Financial assistance to restore and protect wetlands and associated uplands through easements and cost-share only.
- Conservation easement.

\*\*\*Please stop by the USDA-NRCS office if you are interested in more information.

## **Powder River Conservation District: Who We Are and What We Do**

In March 1941, the State Legislation passed an enabling act which established conservation district in Wyoming. Conservation Districts are subdivisions of state government, much like school boards and are the only local government charged specifically by state statute with natural resource management.

The Powder River Conservation District was established in November of 1955. For the past fifty-eight years the PRCD has been and will continue to be committed to representing the people of Southern Johnson County at the local level. We strive to provide leadership to initiate the necessary programs that will meet the peoples' needs for the conservation of their natural resources and the improvement of the environment.



Many services are offered through the PRCD for people to take advantage of, these include: the sale of large and small stock tree, drip irrigation, weed barrier and irrigation dam materials, hazardous/household waste collection days, well water testing, and educational workshops and materials. As well, we also have an extensive water quality program, youth education program, Russian olive removal program, and provided assistance for small water development projects on the Kaycee Stock Rest.

## TREE SALES

**The Powder River Conservation District is taking orders for trees.**

Tree orders will be accepted until Friday, March 28, 2013. The PRCD



has available large stock trees, shrubs, fruit trees, and seedling trees. A full list of trees can be obtained from the PRCD. Orders are subject to availability as some types of trees sell out faster than others.

In order to purchase seedling trees you must own at least 2 acres of land. They come in bundles of 25 or 30 each. Please contact the PRCD as soon as possible if you are interested in ordering trees.

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## RECYCLING BINS

**Powder River Conservation District is offering stackable recycle bins to promote recycling efforts that will increase our landfill's life span.**



**Recycling Bins** 18 gal./72 qt. stacking bin with an easy access front flap. Ideal for recycling or dry storage - indoor or outdoors. Stacks with or without the lid. Front lid stays open when desired.

Recycle bins are being offered at a 50% cost-share rate—original price \$12.50.

## FREE WILDLIFE ESCAPE RAMPS FOR STOCK WATER TANKS

WE HAVE TWO TYPES OF RAMPS AVAILABLE: EXPANDED METAL AND FIBERGLASS. PLEASE CONTACT US AT 738-2321 IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN PLACING THE RAMPS IN YOUR STOCK TANKS.

*Powder River Conservation District  
P.O. Box 48  
Kaycee, WY 82639*

Non-Profit  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Kaycee, WY  
Permit #1



PRCD Board Meeting—Friday, December 20th @6:00 PM

The PRCD/NRCS Office will be closed December 25th in observance of Christmas

The PRCD/NRCS Office will be closed December 31st-January 1st in observance of the New Year

The PRCD/NRCS Office will be closed January 20th in observance of MLK Day



The PRCD is an equal opportunity employer.

Find us on the web: [www.powderrivercd.org](http://www.powderrivercd.org)