

March 2015

# Powder River News

## *INSIDE THIS ISSUE:*

PRCD Offering Cost Share Programs	1
How to Kill a Tree: 24 Ways	2
24 Ways continued....	3
WY Game & Fish Funding Available for Legume Seeding	4
Composter Sales	4
E-Waste Recycling	5
Recycling Bin Sales	5
Estate Planning Workshop	Insert

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## PRCD Offering Cost Share Programs

The PRCD is offering two Cost Share Programs: the first is for large rural projects that make a positive difference on the land. This is a cost share program where the PRCD matches 65% up to \$20,000, on a reimbursement basis. Projects will be reviewed by staff, then it must be approved by the PRCD board before they are initiated. The deadline to turn in applications is 4pm on Wednesday, July 1, 2015 . Some examples of projects that qualify under this program are: Solar pumping units, fencing for implementing rotational grazing systems on pastures, or fencing riparian areas to reduce impacts of livestock grazing.

The second cost share program provides incentive for residents and businesses to conserve soil, water and energy. The program also encourages beautification of the landscape. This program matches 50% up to \$1000, on a reimbursement basis. Some examples of projects that qualify under this program are: planting trees and shrubs, xeriscaping to replace traditional lawns, and installation of efficient drip systems for trees and shrubs. These applications are reviewed monthly and can be applied for at any time during the year.

For more information on these cost share programs or for an application please contact the PRCD office at (307) 738-2321 or stop by the office at 350 Nolan Avenue, Kaycee, WY.

*March 2015*

# *How to Kill a Tree 24 Ways*

Bonnie Appleton, Extension Specialist, Hampton Roads AREC

Few residential trees die of “old age.” Mechanical damage and improper tree care kill more trees than insects or disease. Avoid making these tree-damaging mistakes! Few of these items alone would kill a tree, but multiple problems will certainly stress and could eventually kill a tree.

1. “Top” tree to encourage watersprouts that weaken tree and encourage pests.
2. Leave co-dominant leaders to encourage “v” growth and splitting during winds and storms.
3. Leave crossing branches to rub protective bark and create wounds.
4. Ignore insects or disease damage.
5. Coat pruning cuts with paint or sealer to slow healing and promote pest problems.
6. Leave broken branches unpruned to encourage pests.
7. Spray unapproved herbicides over tree root area to weaken tree.
8. Damage roots and trunk with lawn equipment.
9. Rib through roots when digging trenches.
10. Plant close to house or obstacle to reduce adequate tree and root growing space.
11. Attach items to tree to damage bark or girdle branches with wire and rope.
12. Prune randomly to leave branch “stubs.”
13. Make pruning cuts flush to stem to reduce wound closure.
14. Leave tree staked until guy wire girdles trunk.
15. Leave wrap on to constrict trunk growth and rot bark.
16. Pile up excessive mulch to encourage rodent damage and bark rot.
17. Put non-porous black plastic under mulch.
18. Stack items atop roots to cause soil compaction.
19. Leave ball robing on to girdle trunk.
20. Plant near downspout to assure excessive water or water light to encourage shallow root growth.

March 2015

## 24 Ways Continued.....

21. Leave top of wire basket in place to girdle roots.
22. Leave treated or synthetic burlap on to prevent root growth.
23. Dig hole too narrow and over amend backfill to discourage proper root spread.
24. Dig hole too deep or fill with gravel to collect water and drown roots.

<http://pubs.ext.vt.edu/430/430-210/430-210.html>



*March 2015*

## **Wyoming Game and Fish Department Funding Available for Legume Seeding in the Upper Powder River**

The Wyoming Game and Fish Department has funding available to landowners who are interested in planting legumes for the benefit of mule deer. Anyone is welcome to apply, but priority will be given to projects that will enhance habitat on farm ground, riparian areas, and dryland habitats used by mule deer west of I-25. WGFD is offering to reimburse landowners for planting legumes at \$20/acre. Most legume species are eligible for reimbursement including alfalfa, clover, (with exception to sweet clover), sweet vetch, crown vetch, sanfoin, and cicer milk vetch. This is a great way to improve forage for a variety of wildlife on your land and improve hay grounds at the same time.

If a landowner is interested in participating, they should call WGFD and request an application. Once the application is accepted, landowners must buy and plant the seed, and then provide an invoice to WGFD for reimbursement. The landowner will be asked to agree to a management plan that is which will include deferment of grazing for one growing season (April 1<sup>st</sup>-July 31<sup>st</sup>) on planted acres to ensure the success of the seeding. Haying is an allowed management tool. Since these plantings focus on preferred wildlife forage species, landowners enrolled in the program are not allowed to submit a wildlife damage claim on any of planted acres for five years.

**If you are a private landowner located in the upper Powder River drainage and you are interested in planting legumes for mule deer or have additional questions, please call Todd Caltrider (WGFD Terrestrial Habitat Biologist) at 307-283-3410. The application period for this program is ongoing.**

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## **Composter Sales**

Our Composters are 60 gallon black plastic. Why use black barrels? Black absorbs heat from the sun better than any other color, and as experienced composters know, the hotter the temperature of the contents, the faster the barrels will produce finished compost. Put in your "greens and browns", give the barrels a spin and you will be well on your way to making your own compost, far better than money can buy.

The PRCO will be selling composters at the significantly reduced price of \$80. Order forms are available at the PRCO office. If you have an interest in purchasing a composter please contact the District at 738-2321 or by email at [anita.bartlett@wy.nacdnet.net](mailto:anita.bartlett@wy.nacdnet.net)



March 2015

## PRCD Continues to Collect E-Waste

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.

The Powder River Conservation District wants to thank everyone who has brought in their E-Waste and encourage anyone who has E-Waste to please bring it in to us. So far we have collected just over a **ton of E-waste** (this does not include the 36 computer monitors and 37 TVs collected as well). The E-waste we collect is donated 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 is no longer accepting TVs larger than 32 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	Batteries (Not Car Batteries)
Cable Boxes (analog & Digital)	Cables & Wire
Calculators	Cameras
CD-rom Drivers	Cell Phones
Circuit Boards	Computers
Computer Towers	Connectors
Consumer Electronics	Electronic Components
Floppy Drives	Hard Drives
Insulated Cable (copper & aluminum)	Keyboards, Mice, etc.
Laptop & Notebook Computers	Stereo Components
Surveillance Equipment	Telecommunications Equipment
Security Systems	Servers
Video Equipment	Video Game Equipment
TVs	Computer Monitors

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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 for \$7.00 a 50% cost-share rate—original price \$14.00.

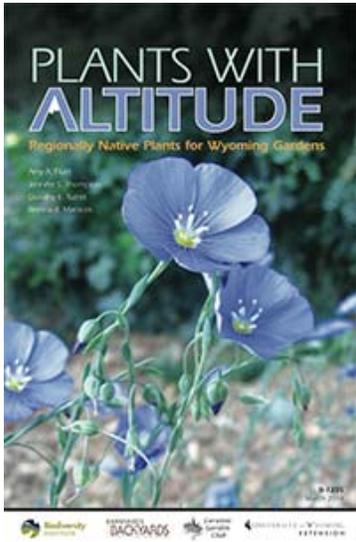
*Powder River Conservation District  
P.O. Box 48  
Kaycee, WY 82639*

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



PRCD Board Meeting– April 9th at 6:30pm at the District Office

Estate Planning Workshop– April 16th 5:00pm at the HJP



# Plants with Altitude

Regionally Native Plants for Wyoming Gardens

This booklet highlights many native tough, well-adapted plants that are suited for our climate.

Stop in the Powder River Conservation District Office and pick up your **FREE** copy today.

The PRCD is an equal opportunity employer.

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