

December 2015

# Powder River News

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Anita Bartlett

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## Estate Planning Workshop Keeping the Ranch in the Family

Don't Miss this opportunity to learn about the basics of estate planning. This workshop is free of charge and taught by native Wyoming Attorney, Robert Wyatt. Mr. Wyatt has 40 years of professional experience in estate and tax planning. We have tailored the workshop for ranch owning families who are interested in keeping their ranch in the family.

**January 26, 2016**

**5:00-8:00pm**

**Harold Jarrard Park Building**

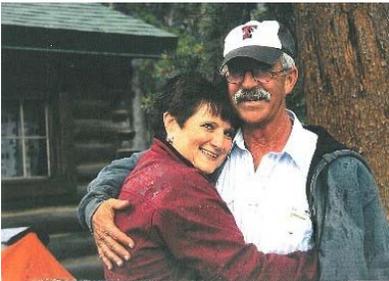
**Kaycee, Wyoming**

This workshop is open to the public and is brought to you through a partnership between the Powder River Conservation District and the Plank Stewardship Initiative. Reserve your space by contacting PRCD Manager, Anita Bartlett at 307-738-2321 or [anita.bartlett@wy.nacdnet.net](mailto:anita.bartlett@wy.nacdnet.net)

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## ***John Lawrence Retires with 33 Years of Service to the NRCS***

John began working for the NRCS as a soil conservation technician in 1982. He has served under three district conservationists (Jerry Gladson, Phil Gonzales and Allison McKenzie). John was born and raised in Johnson County on the family ranch northeast of Buffalo, WY. He and his wife currently reside on the family operation that has thrived for over 90 years. John and Verna have four grown children and Verna recently retired from service with the Johnson County Sherriff's office.



John's commitment to local producers has been invaluable to the conservation efforts in Johnson County. Water development, irrigation management, grazing systems and stock water pipelines are just a few areas of expertise that John has applied his common sense approach to during his career. His vast knowledge of the local area, its historical timeline, and the affordable approach to conservation practices has earned him the respect of landowners, contractors, and fellow staff members. Training newly hired NRCS engineers and technicians across the entire state is yet another way John has proven to be an invaluable resource to our agency.

While John has many accolades in his career, his fellow employees will testify that his ability to bring levity to the office during stressful work environments is the true reason John will be missed. The office "prankster" has facilitated many laughs throughout the years all while maintaining a professional manner. John possesses a working experience that can't be found in a book or ever replaced. The miles upon miles of stockwater pipeline that has been designed by John Lawrence and the conservation practices implemented within our county will serve as testament to a job well done for generations to come.

Please join the local NRCS staff in thanking John for 33 years of service as we bid him good luck in his retirement.

***January 8, 2016  
Occidental Hotel and Saloon  
5-7 p.m.***

***Drinks, Laughter and Memories!!***

## Emergency Watershed Protection Program

This past May between spring run off and rain, Southern Johnson County saw record breaking water levels in the Powder River drainage. With the water came damage to stream banks,



diversion, and many other structures. Most specifically the stream banks at the Sussex Dance Hall saw significant damage. The PRCD worked with the NRCS and the property owner to repair the damage. Seventy-five percent of the funding for this project was obtained through the NRCS' Emergency Watershed Protection Program, the remaining portion of the funding was covered by the PRCD. Local contractors worked to repair 514 feet of stream bank by



installing 16 log vanes and 4 log sills for improved bank stability. The movement of soil, cobble, and gravel was necessary to construct a 15 foot wide flood prone bench, and a 3:1 transition slope to the upper terrace. After the flood



prone bench and the upper terrace were reconstructed, both areas were seeded and approximately 2,902 square yards of turf reinforcement mat and erosion control mat was installed.



Emergency Watershed Protection Program funding was also obtained to repair damages done by flood water to the Sahara Diversion and the Nolan Diversion.

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## “Partners in Resource Excellence”

This year District Manager Anita Bartlett attended the “Partners in Resource Excellence” Joint-Convention between the Wyoming Association of Conservation District (WACD), the Wyoming Weed & Pest Council, and the Wyoming Section of the Society for Range Management on November 2-5, 2015 in Laramie, WY. Approximately 300 District Supervisors, District Staff, State and Federal Agencies, Agricultural Producers and other Natural Resource Professionals gathered from across Wyoming to take part in this event.

Trainings and workshops held during the Convention included National Historic Preservation Act and SHPO, Rangeland Research on-the-ground with private and public land managers, Collaborative Adaptive Landscape Management for Beef and Birds in the Western Great Plains, Unconventional Ranching, Endangered Species in Wyoming, and Small Acreage. We also heard from Keynote Speaker UW Professor Emeritus and Author, Dennis Knight who discussed the second edition of his book “Mountains and Plains: The Ecology of Wyoming Landscapes”. Following Dr. Knight’s presentation we heard from Bob Budd, Executive Director of the Wyoming Wildlife & Natural Resource Trust as he updated participants on the Governor’s Sage Grouse Executive Order.

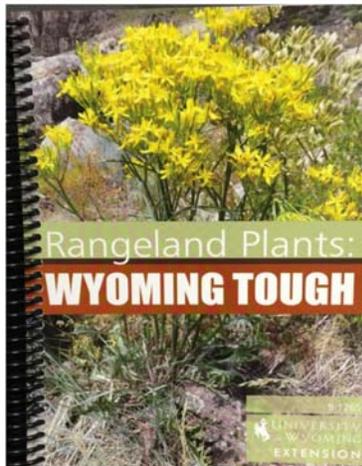
Anita also attended committee meetings, the Wyoming Conservation Districts Employees Association (WCDEA) meetings, and the Annual WACD board meeting. During the WCDEA meeting Anita was re-elected as the Association President and will serve another 2 years as president.



*December 2015*

**Here are some fun facts straight from America's farms for you to absorb and share:**

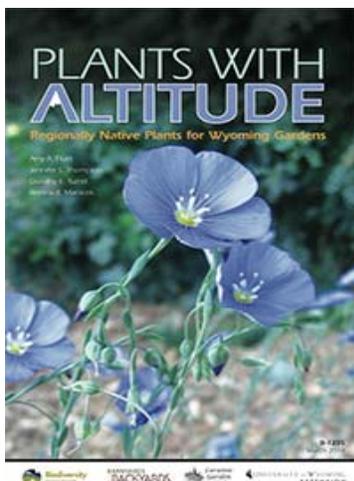
- Like snowflakes, no two cows have exactly the same pattern of spots.
- There are 47 different breeds of sheep in the U.S.
- Pork is the most widely eaten meat in the world.
- Elevators in the Statue of Liberty use a soybean-based hydraulic fluid.
- The longest recorded flight of a chicken is 13 seconds.
- The average dairy cow produces seven gallons of milk a day, 2,100 pounds of milk a month, and 46,000 glasses of milk a year.
- Raising beef cattle is the single largest segment of American agriculture.
- One pound of wool can make 10 miles of yarn. There are 150 yards (450 feet) of wool yarn in a baseball.
- Soybeans are an important ingredient for the production of crayons. In fact, one acre of soybeans can produce 82,368 crayons.
- The heaviest turkey ever raised weighed 86 pounds, about the size of an average third-grader.



## **Rangeland Plants: Wyoming Tough**

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.



## **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.

## TREE SALES

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

Tree orders will be accepted until Friday, March 25, 2016. 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 a variety or bundle sizes so please stop in for an order form. Please contact the PRCD as soon as possible if you are interested in ordering trees.

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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 PRCD will be selling composters at the significantly reduced price of \$80. Order forms are available at the PRCD 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)



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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 \$7.50 a 50% cost-share rate—original price \$15.00.

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

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

Mark Your  
Calendars!!!

PRCD Office will be closed: December 24-25th in observance of Christmas Day

PRCD Office will be closed: January 1st in observance of New Years Day

PRCD Board Meeting-January 14th at 6:30pm at the District Office

PRCD Office will be closed: January 18th in observance of Equality Day

Estate Planning Workshop: January 26, 2016 at 5:00-8:00pm @ HJP

*Merry  
Christmas*

The word "Merry" is written in a large, red, cursive font. The word "Christmas" is written in a similar red, cursive font below it. There are two clusters of green holly leaves with red berries. One cluster is positioned between the "y" of "Merry" and the "C" of "Christmas". The other cluster is positioned below the "M" of "Merry" and to the left of the "C" of "Christmas".

The PRCD is an equal opportunity employer.

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