

Spring 2017

Powder River News

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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 Friday, June 30, 2017. 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.

Spring Landscaping Tips

Early Spring

Prune Fruit Trees

Most fruit trees, including apples, pears, cherries, and peaches, benefit from being thinned every year. This encourages a more open habit that keeps the trees healthy and makes it easier to harvest the produce. The best time to prune is before new growth develops.

Pull Back Winter Mulch

If you spread a layer of winter mulch to protect your plants from heaving, you'll want to remove it when plants begin to grow and danger of extreme winter temperatures has passed. Keep mulch or some type of covering handy to protect your plants in the case of an unseasonably late arctic blast.

Prune Roses

In most regions, you'll want to prune your roses just as or before new growth emerges from the canes. Cutting your roses back encourages strong, healthy shoots that will produce lots of blooms. A trim also gives the plants a more open habit, which helps them resist diseases such as black spot.

Cut Back Ornamental Grasses

Cut back ornamental grasses to about 4 inches tall before or just as they put out new growth. This is also the time to divide ornamental grasses, if you wish to do so.

Prune Summer Flowering Shrubs

If any of your summer-blooming shrubs, such as butterfly bush, potentilla, and summersweet, are getting out of hand, give them a haircut in early spring. This won't affect their blooms because they make their flowers on new growth.

Early Spring to Mid-Spring

Divide Overgrown Perennials

Give older perennials new life by dividing them. Dig up varieties (such as Siberian iris, aster, coreopsis, yarrow, and many hostas) that form dense clumps and split them apart. They'll bloom better when they're not crowding each other out -- and you end up with more plants to fill in your yard or to share with friends and neighbors. You don't need to worry about dividing peonies, bleeding hearts, baptisias, amsonias, or hellebores; these varieties do just fine on their own. Splitting them can set the plants back.

Plant Trees and Shrubs

Spring's cool, moist conditions make it the perfect time to add trees and shrubs to your yard. There are many reasons to grow trees and shrubs: They add value and beauty to your property; they can shade your home, reducing your summer energy bills; and if you select fruit-bearing varieties such as apples or blueberries, they supply food for your family. The most common mistake when planting trees and shrubs is planting them too deeply. The root flare, where the roots meet the trunk, should be at or just above the soil level.



Mid-Spring to Late Spring

Prune Spring Blooming Shrubs

Once your forsythia, camellias, lilacs, and mock oranges finish flowering for the season, give them a haircut if they need it. They start making next year's floral display just a few weeks after they finish blooming, so cut them back as flowers fade so you won't be disappointed next year.

***Information obtained from the Better Homes and Gardening website: <http://www.bhg.com/>

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Conservation Assistance Just a Click Away Online Access Now Available to LLCs!

By Brenda Ling, public affairs specialist, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Wyoming

Remember the time you had to drive to your local NRCS office to sign some paperwork? Sure, you probably still had to run into town anyway. However, as a busy rancher and/or farmer, you have many things that need to get done and you only have so many hours in a day.

NRCS offers Conservation Client Gateway, a secure website that allows you to request assistance, sign documents and interact with field staff online. This service is available not only to agricultural producers, but also to business entities, such as LLCs.

With Conservation Client Gateway, you can:

- ◆ Request conservation technical assistance;
- ◆ Apply for financial assistance through the Farm Bill's conservation programs;
- ◆ Review and sign conservation plans and other documents;
- ◆ Document completed practices and request practice certification;
- ◆ Request and track payments for completed contract items;
- ◆ Store and retrieve your conservation files, including documents and photographs.

This is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. All the information you need will be at your fingertip.

NRCS field staff will still come out to your operation and provide one-on-one personal assistance with conservation planning and delivery.

Using Conservation Client Gateway is voluntary. You are free to continue working with NRCS as you always have. This online tool allows you to have more options.

Questions? Visit with your local district conservationist or go online: www.nrcs.usda.gov/clientgateway.

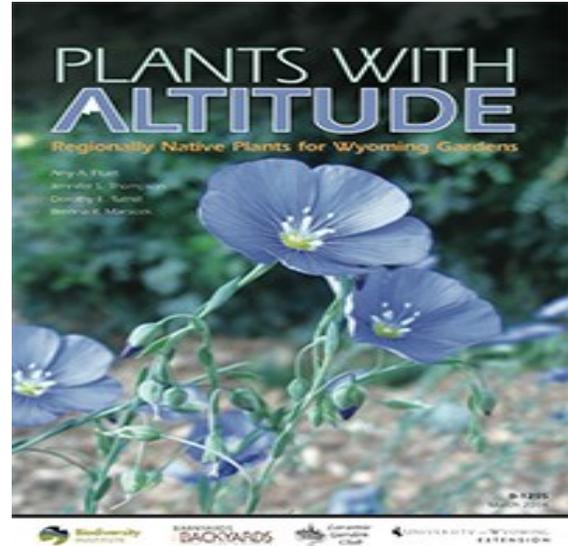
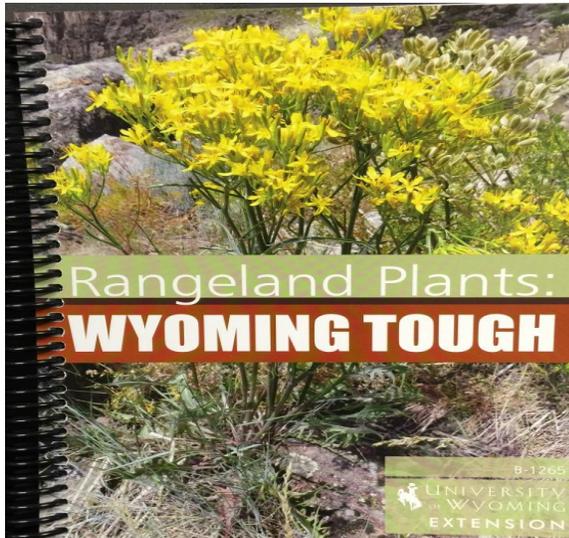


**CONSERVATION
CLIENT GATEWAY**
CONSERVATION ASSISTANCE JUST A CLICK AWAY

- 1**
REQUEST
TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE
- 2**
APPLY FOR
FINANCIAL
ASSISTANCE
- 3**
REVIEW, SIGN
& SUBMIT
APPLICATIONS,
CONTRACTS & MORE
- 4**
TRACK YOUR
PAYMENTS

Spring 2017

Stop in and get your Free copy of these great plant books!!!



We Want Your Input

The Powder River Conservation District is interested in holding education workshops and tours and we would like your input. What type of workshops would you like to see (landscaping, trees, range management, reclamation, energy development, etc)? What time of day/year works best (morning, afternoon, evening, all day/half day or spring, fall, summer, or winter)? Is there any particular speaker you would like to hear? Any information you can provide us with would be greatly appreciated. We want to provide you with the best possible educational experience possible.

Past workshops and Tours have included Range Management 101, 301, and 501,



Ranching for Profit, Grazing Management, Rangeland management, Holistic Resource Management, Estate Planning, Gardening in Wyoming, Xericaping, and Trees and Shrubs for Wyoming.

To provide us with feed back you can stop in at the district office (350 Nolan Avenue), send us a letter, call us at (307) 738-2321 or e-mail us at anita.bartlett@wy.nacdnet.net

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Emergency Watershed Protection Program

The Powder River CD and the NRCS want to take a moment to update the community on our Emergency Watershed Protection Program Projects as there are many of you who will be affected by these projects or see the benefits from them. We would like to thank everyone for their continued patience as we work towards completing these projects.

- The Nolan Diversion EWP Project is currently construction, the bottom cross vane has been completed, along with the rocked pool. Construction has been started on the top cross vane, with dirt work and reclamation still to be done, we hope to see the project completed in the next few week. This deadline will be dependent on the weather and river conditions.
- The Harold Jarrard Park EWP project as in the final design stages and we hope to have a final design soon. We anticipated starting this project following spring run-off.

The Harold Jarrard Park project will have a formal bid process and pre-bid site visit, but at this time those dates have not been set. Please continue to watch the Voice and Buffalo Bulletin for bid notices and do not hesitate to contact the PRCO or NRCS with any question that you may have.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.



PRCO's E-Waste Program

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. **Remember we are no longer accepting TV's.** They can be recycled at the Buffalo Recycling Center. We are sorry for any inconveniences this may cause.



For a complete list of items that can be recycled please contact the PRCO Office.

Please feel free to drop off your E-waste at the District Office located at 350 Nolan Avenue in Kaycee, WY.

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

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

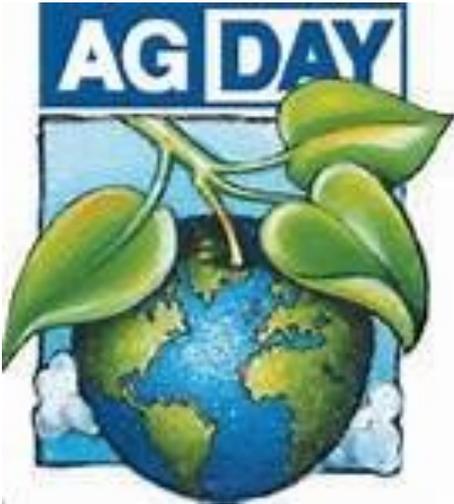


PRCD Board Meeting: Thursday, April 13th at 6:30 pm at the District office

WPLI Meeting: Tuesday, April 18th at 6:00 pm at the Fire Hall

PRCD Board Meeting: Thursday, May 11th at 6:30 pm at the District Office

Office Closed Monday, May 29th in observance of Memorial Day



March 21th or National Ag Day is about recognizing - and celebrating - the contribution of agriculture in our everyday lives. The PRCD wants to recognize and thank all of our local Ag Producers for their contribution to our community, state, and nation.

THANK YOU

The PRCD is an equal opportunity employer.

Find us on the web: www.powderrivercd.org