

Spring 2019

# 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 28, 2019. 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.

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# 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](mailto:anita.bartlett@wy.nacdnet.net)

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



## **FREE WILDLIFE ESCAPE RAMPS** **FOR STOCK WATER TANKS**

PLEASE CONTACT US AT 738-2321 IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN PLACING RAMPS IN YOUR STOCK TANKS.

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## **TREE SALES**

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

Tree orders will be accepted until Friday, March 22, 2019. 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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## **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.

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## **NRCS 2018 Farm Bill**

Allison McKenzie District Conservationist, Johnson County

- The 2018 Farm Bill, like the others before it, demonstrates strong congressional support for private lands conservation.
- It will help NRCS continue its work to streamline, target and simplify our programs, and will help us fulfill the Secretary's additional goal of improving overall customer service.
- No new NRCS programs were added, and none were eliminated, so we will continue to offer the types of assistance producers have come to expect, and even improve upon them.
- Soil health and water quality and quantity are priorities of the agricultural community, and the Conservation title of the Farm Bill underscore congressional support for these areas of focus.
  - o For soil health:
    - EQIP expands opportunities for Conservation Activity Plans to include soil health planning, planning for resource conserving crop rotations, and precision conservation management planning. Soil testing was also added as an eligible practice under EQIP.
    - CSP expands conservation activities to include soil health planning, and highlights building soil organic matter through the adoption of resource conserving crop rotations.
  - o For water quality:
    - NRCS will continue to address water quality concerns through EQIP, CSP and RCPP.
    - This Conservation Title also requires collaboration with community water systems and state technical committees.
    - A minimum level of 10 percent of conservation program funding, other than CRP, is to be used for source water protection.
- New and Anticipated Concerns:
  - o EQIP assistance will be available for new and anticipated resource concerns.
  - o It specifically recognizes that producers are facing resource concerns created by extreme weather events and enables NRCS to help assist producers adapt to and mitigate against increasing weather volatility.
- This Farm Bill will help us reach more producers and give them key information, so they can make the best decisions for their land and their bottom line.



# 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/gardening/>

*Powder River Conservation District  
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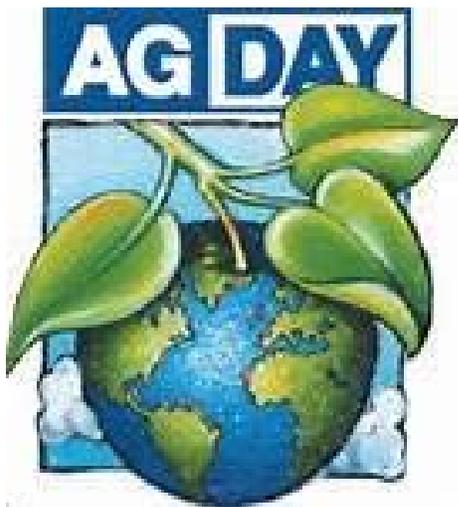
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Kaycee, WY  
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Mark Your  
Calendars!!!

PRCD Board Meeting: Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at 6:30 pm in the District Office

PRCD Board Meeting: Tuesday, May 14, 2019 at 6:30 pm in the District Office

PRCD/NRCS Office Closed May 27, 2019 for Memorial Day



*March 19th 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](http://www.powderrivercd.org)