

Winter 2018

Powder River News

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WACD 73rd Annual Convention

This year District Manager Anita Bartlett and District Supervisor Kevin Lund attended the 73rd Wyoming Association of Conservation District (WACD) State Convention in Evanston, WY on November 13-16th. where District Supervisors and Staff, State and Federal Agencies, Agricultural Producers and other Natural Resource Professionals gathered from across Wyoming to take part in this event.

During Convention we attended many sessions featuring speakers including: Jaime Tarver, ENDOW Rural Council; a Conservation District Roundtable which features projects from Sheridan, Johnson, Albany, Natrona, and Sublette Counties; Jimmy Bramblett, Deputy Chief-Programs, NRCS; Dr. Kelly Crane, University of Wyoming; Drew Bennett, University of WY/ Ruckelshaus Institute; and a presentation of the History of the Evanston Roundhouse where the convention was held.

Anita & Kevin also attended committee meetings, the Wyoming Conservation Districts Employees Association (WCDEA) meetings, and the Annual WACD Board Meeting. During the WACD Awards Luncheon Allison McKenzie was named the 2018 WACD Outstanding District Conservationist. She was nominated by the Powder River Conservation District. (More Information on this award can be found on pg. 2)



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WACD OUTSANDING DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST Allison McKenzie, NRCS District Conservationist, Johnson County

During her tenure with the NRCS, Allison has endeared herself to the community through her work, her personality and her compassion. She is a valuable resource for Southern Johnson County and we all have come to rely on her in numerous ways.

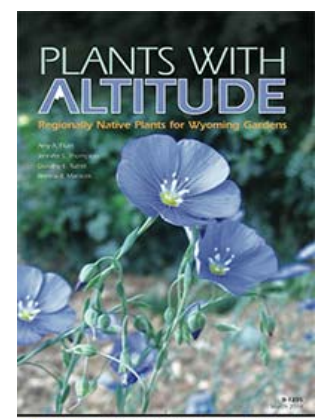
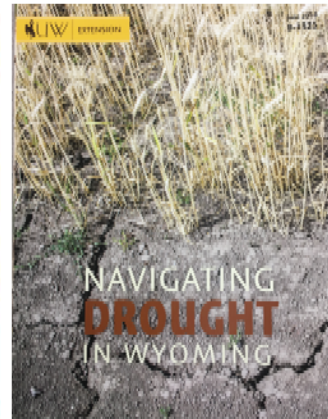
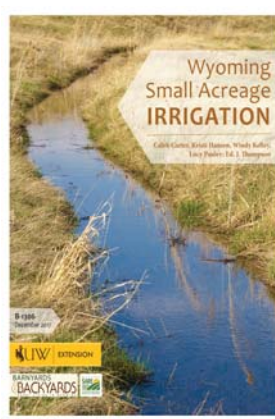
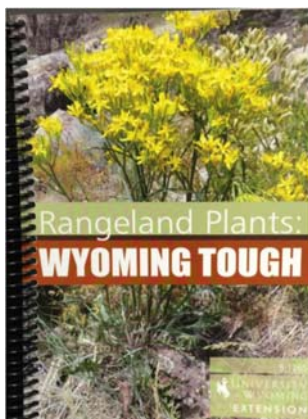
As a professional, Allison shares her knowledge and resources for agriculture, range, wildlife, rural and urban interests in the community. During the flood of 2002 & 2008, Allison was a pivotal part of the rebuilding process providing support, resources and compassion to those in need. Again, during the flooding season that occurred in 2015 Allison was there for us all. She spent days and nights watching the floodwaters, sharing information and calming nerves. She is quick to come to those in need and follows through with her programs.



Allison has developed successful relationships with all segments of the community. Young and old alike count on her as a resource. Her conservation projects with cooperators are completed in a professional, timely matter. It's almost funny, but when a question arises in the community that touches on conservation in one way or another, "let's ask Allison, she'll know," is usually the comment that can be heard!

Farm Bill projects, environmental assessments, range improvement and flood mitigation are just a few of the resources that Allison provides to our community. Her abilities go way beyond what is expected of a NRCS employee and has earned the trust of some of our toughest community members. She works well with partner organizations, understands different personalities and facilitates progress in her work. She is invaluable and we'll keep her as long as we can!

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.

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.



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.

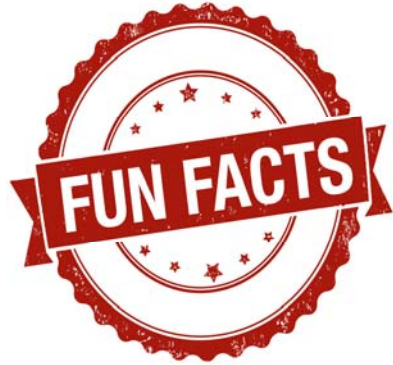


Recycle bins are being offered for \$7.50 a 50% cost-share rate—original price \$15.00.

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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.
- Farm and ranch families comprises just 2% of the U.S. Population
- 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; approximately 34 million cattle are slaughtered in the U.S. each year.
- Cattle, corn, and dairy products are the top 3 U.S. agricultural products.
- Livestock production feeds billions of people and employs 1.3 billion people. That means about 1 in 5 people on Earth work in some aspect of livestock production.
- 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.
- 9 states have more cattle than people. (Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Oklahoma, and Wyoming)
- A beef animal that weights 1,000 lbs. will produce 640 lbs. of meat products, such as, steaks, roast, and hamburger. When other products and byproducts are considered, 99% of the beef animal is used.
- It takes 768 bees, flying over 55,000 miles, visiting 2 million flowers to produce 1 lb. of honey



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



How the NRCS Application Process Works

The Natural Resources Conservation Service's (NRCS) mission is, "Helping People Help the Land." The NRCS accomplishes this mission by helping farmers and ranchers design, implement, and potentially provide financial assistance for conservation practices. But how exactly does the NRCS application process work?

If you have any resource concerns on your property like erosive soils, lack of adequate livestock water, inefficient irrigation water use, etc. please stop by your local NRCS office and talk to the field office staff. The NRCS accepts applications year round for all of the offered programs. However, the NRCS receives funding once or twice per fiscal year, this is called a batching date. Once NRCS receives their batching date all applications received before or on that date are put into that round of funding. Any applications received after that date will be put into the next batching date. To find out more about applications you can go online or into your local office to speak to the field staff about your resource concerns. Field offices will help you decide if the programs are a good fit for you.

The first step of the application process will be establishing or updating records with the Farm Services Agency (FSA). You will be considered ineligible if you do not have records up to date with FSA. Once records are established with FSA, the NRCS will gather more information on your property that is pertinent to the project. This information can include soil type, resource concerns, proximity to listed streams, vegetation inventory, slope of a field, etc. NRCS uses this information to create a plan for your project. Engineers may be consulted for certain practices such as livestock water pipelines, pivots, wheel lines, etc. Once information is gathered the NRCS will rank your application.

The ranking process involves inputting the information gathered from your property into an online form that every NRCS office uses. This form will generate a ranking score based on the resource concerns and items being planned to address the resource concerns. Once the application is ranked each field office will have a division meeting. Johnson County is in a division with Sheridan County, which means they share the money allocated to the division. At this meeting, offices will check that all questions were answered using the same criteria to ensure fair ranking scores. The division's money will be allocated to the applications with the highest ranking score in each category. Money is allocated down the line until the division is out of funds. If your application is ranked high enough, and receives funding; you will be notified by the NRCS and your application will be moved into a contract. If your application did not receive funding you will be notified and asked if you would like to roll your application into the next batching date.

There are two field offices in Johnson County, one located in Buffalo and the other in Kaycee, that would be happy to help you with any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to stop by or call. **Buffalo NRCS Field Office: 307-620-3020. Kaycee NRCS Field Office: 307-738-2321.**

December 21, 2018 is the deadline for the 1st Batching Date for the Fiscal Year 2019 Funding.

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

Non-Profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
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Mark Your
Calendars!!!

PRCD Board Meeting: Tuesday, January 8, 2019 at 6:30 PM at the District Office

PRCD/NRCS Office Close December 24-25, 2018 for Christmas

PRCD/NRCS Office Closed January 1, 2019 for New Years

PRCD/NRCS Office Closed January 21, 2019 for Martin Luther King Jr Day

Merry

 **Christmas**

The PRCD is an equal opportunity employer.

Find us on the web: www.powderrivercd.org