

Summer 2020

Powder River News

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Joel Milos

Weed Bounty Program & Weed Pull Day

On Friday, June 5th, the PRCDD partnered with the JC Weed & Pest, Forest Service, NRCS, BLM, WY Game and Fish, UW Extension, and the Clear Creek Conservation District to hold a Weed Pull Day at Outlaw Canyon. There were 19 people who participated in the Kaycee Weed Pull day 4 were youth volunteers and 15 were agency folks. Roughly 240 lbs. of spotted knapweed, mullein and houndstongue was pulled by the volunteers. That afternoon a weed pull day event was held in Buffalo and another thousand pounds of weeds were pulled. We hope to continue this event in the future and are thankful for everyone that participated.

The Weed Bounty Program runs May 26-September 30, 2020. Johnson County Weed and Pest will pay \$0.50 per pound for the three species (spotted knapweed, mullein, and houndstongue). There are a few rules: The weeds must be bagged in the clear bags that are supplied by the JCW&P. Plants will be weighed, and checks will be written at the time of drop off. \$50 reward for verified new locations of ventenata or medusahead grasses. Bags and program details can be picked up May-July from the JCW&P during normal business hours. Weigh in/ payments will be from 7:00-12:00pm Mon-Thurs., beginning May 26, 2020.



**Public Notice
Proposed Budget for:
Powder River Conservation District
Fiscal Year 2020-2021**

<u>Expenditures:</u>	
Administration:	\$ 201,819
Operations:	\$1,694,078
Indirect Costs:	\$ 18,861
Capital Outlay:	\$ 0
Expenditures paid by reserves	\$ 266,701
Total Expenditures:	\$2,181,458

Funds to be added to Reserves: \$ 0

Total Cash Required \$2,181,458

<u>Revenue:</u>	
Reserves transfer	\$ 266,701
Anticipated Cash and Revenue:	\$1,676,260
Total General Fund:	\$ 109,898
Estimated Mil Levy:	\$ 128,600
Total Anticipated Revenue:	\$2,181,459

<u>Reserves:</u>	
Reserves:	\$ 438,299
Current total in Reserves:	\$ 438,299

The Powder River Conservation District will conduct its Annual Public Hearing for the proposed FY2020-2021 Budget on Tuesday, July 14, 2020 at 6:30pm at the PRCD Office located at 350 Nolan Avenue in Kaycee, WY. This Budget Hearing will be held in conjunction with our monthly board meeting. Interested residents are encouraged to attend.

/s/ Anita M. Bartlett
PRCD Manager

Public Notice

Powder River Conservation District
Notice to Voters

Applications for nominations for the Powder River Conservation District are available at the Johnson County Clerk's Office. The filing dates are August 5th through August 24, 2020 (not more than 90 days and not less than 70 days before the General Election to be held November 3, 2020).

Positions up for Election:

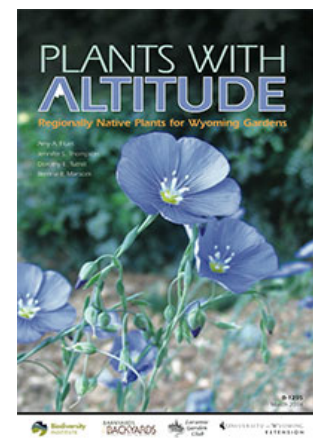
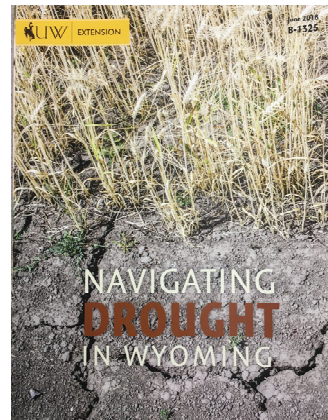
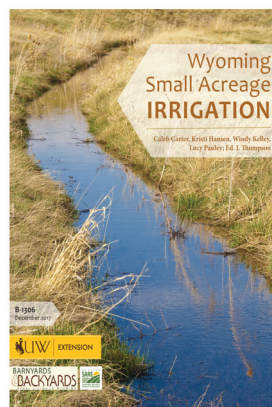
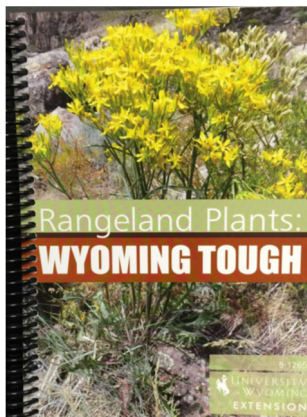
- Two (2) Rural Position which are a four (4) year term.
- One (1) Urban Position which is a four (4) year term

In order to be eligible for a rural position you must live outside of an incorporated town but within the boundaries of the Powder River Conservation District. To be eligible for the urban position you must live within the boundaries of an incorporated town in the Powder River Conservation District.

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.

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



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.

Seven Mid-Summer Lawn and Garden Tips

In July and August, the thrill of the garden's spring rebirth has worn off, the days are hot, and the mosquitoes are voracious. To save time and sweat while keeping your lawn and garden healthy, here are seven garden dos and don'ts for mid-summer.

1. Manage watering. The rule that your lawn or garden needs an inch of water a week is a good starting point, but it overlooks many variables. For example, in dry or windy weather, plants lose more water through the minute pores called *stomata* in their leaves. Wide or flat leaves lose water faster than narrow or plump leaves. And plants growing in soil with a lot of clay need watering less often than a plants growing in sandy soil, because sand drains faster. So rather than rely solely on the 1-inch rule, observe your soil and your plants. Here are clues that it's time to water:

- The soil is dry an inch or two below the surface. To check, stick your finger into the ground near the plant roots or dig out a slice with a trowel.
- The lawn doesn't bounce right back when you step on it.
- The leaves of garden plants show the slightest sign of wilting.

2. Mow high. Every type of lawn grass has a recommended low and high mowing height. Now is the time to mow high, so the taller grass shades the ground, which keeps the lawn's roots cooler and slows water evaporation from the soil.

3. Don't feed your lawn. Whether you live in the North or the South, the hot and often dry months of July and August are when the lawn grows more slowly. Wait to fertilize until fall, when cooler weather prompts grass to grow fatter roots in anticipation of winter.

4. Lightly feed vegetable plants and flowers. Unlike your lawn, which wants to be left alone right now, vegetables and annual flowers such as petunias, geraniums and impatiens appreciate a light feeding now, because they're expending a lot of energy blooming and producing fruit.

5. Think twice about spraying lawn weeds. Before you spray broadleaved weeds such as dandelions with a weed killer read the product label carefully for cautions against using it in hot weather. Many weed killers can also kill lawn grass if you apply them on a warm day, even if you spray early in the day when it's still cool.

If the label says the herbicide is safe to apply, don't be heavy-handed — applying more than the recommended amount can also damage the grass. And because the lawn grows slowly in mid-summer, the grass won't fill in those dead spots anytime soon. Weeds might, though.

6. Remove faded flowers. To keep flowering plants blooming longer, remove old flowers that have withered and are turning brown — a practice called *deadheading*. The exception is plants that you want to go to seed.

7. Give container gardens special attention. Plants growing in containers and hanging baskets don't have the luxury of sending their roots far and wide in search of water and nutrients. During the heat of summer, plan to water containers frequently — sometimes twice a day, if the pot is small or you've packed plants closely together.

Fertilize plants in containers more often than plants in the ground. Experts recommend a variety of different feeding approaches, but feeding every 7 to 10 days with a half-strength liquid fertilizer is a reasonable starting point. Another option is to use a slow-release dry fertilizer once a month. Observing your plants and drawing on your experience helps you find an approach that works for you.

NRCS Program Spotlight High Tunnel Systems

A high tunnel system is an enclosed polyethylene, polycarbonate, plastic, or fabric covered structure used to cover and protect crops from the sun, wind, excessive rainfall, or cold, to extend the growing season in an environmentally safe manner.



This practice applies to land capable of producing crops where sun or wind intensity may damage crops or where an extension of the growing season is needed due to climatic conditions. The practice does not apply to crops not grown in the natural soil profile. Raised beds are limited to 12 inches in depth but can be installed to improve soil conditions, fertility, and access. This program does not include greenhouses or low tunnel systems and does not allow plants to be



grown in pots, on tables, hydroponically, or in raised beds on top of weed barrier fabric.

The high tunnel structure must be planned, designed, and constructed from a manufactured kit in accordance with manufacturers' recommendations. The high tunnel frame must be constructed of metal, wood, or durable plastic; and be at least 6 feet in height at the peak of the structure. The high tunnel covering material shall have a 4-year-minimum lifespan. For polyethylene covers, a minimum 6-mil greenhouse grade, UV-resistant material should be used.

This practice has a minimum expected life of 5 years. Operation requirements for the facility depend on the type of facility chosen by the producer and will include provisions for proper disposal of residual material. Routine maintenance is needed to ensure that the facility operates as designed.



New NRCS Employee-**Buffalo Field Office**

Joel Milos was born and raised in Bellevue, Nebraska, where he fell in love with the open spaces and history of the Great Plains. He later decided to pursue a career in natural resource conservation, specifically with the grazing lands of the US. In 2018, Joel graduated from Chadron State College with a B.S. in Rangeland Management with an option in Wildlife Management. Shortly after graduating, he began his career with the NRCS as a Soil Conservationist in the brush county of South Texas. In his leisure time, Joel enjoys photography, hiking, birding, and fishing.



*Powder River Conservation District
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Kaycee, WY 82639*

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PRCD Board Meeting: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 at 6:30 pm in the District Office

PRCD Board Meeting: Tuesday, August 11, 2020 at 6:30 pm in the District Office

PRCD/NRCS Office Closed: July 3, 2020 for Independence Day



The PRCD is an equal opportunity employer.

Find us on the web: www.powderrivercd.org