

September 2015

Powder River News

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Area I Meeting

This year District Manager Anita Bartlett represented the Powder River Conservation District at the Area I meeting hosted by the Sheridan County Conservation District at the Brinton Museum outside of Bighorn, WY. Speakers for this year's Area Meeting included Colin Betzler with the Sheridan Community Land Trust who discussed several of the new Trail Systems in Sheridan County. These included the Soldier Creek Trail, Red Grade Trail System and the Tongue River Water Trail. Chace Tavelli with the Wyoming Water Development Commission informed attendees on the upcoming Powder River/Tongue River Basin Meetings. As well, during the morning session updates were given by the Wyoming Association of Conservation Districts, Wyoming Department of Agriculture, and the Wyoming NRCS.



The Area I Business Meeting was conducted following lunch. During the business meeting there was discussion on current legislative issues, the upcoming public hearing for the Categorical UAA for Recreation, and elections for Area I Director and Area I Councilmen.

Following the Area I Business Meeting the Wyoming Conservation Districts Employees Association President Anita Bartlett handed out the Area I Employee Awards. These awards included a Longevity Award given to Jennifer Hinkhouse, Campbell County CD(5yrs) and this years Area I Outstanding Employee of the Year went to Carrie Rogaczewski, Sheridan County CD. The PRCO would like to congratulate each of you for your hard work and dedication towards improving Natural Resources and Conservation in Area I.

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PREPARING FOR WINTER

As days grow shorter and nights cooler, it becomes clear-winter is almost here. Are your perennial plants ready? If not, here are a few helpful tips to get you ready.



Roses: Prune canes back to 10-12 inches and mulch the plants. Hardy shrub-type roses do not need fall pruning.

Bulbs: Gladiolus, dahlias, some lilies and other tender bulbs won't survive winter. Dig them up and store them in a cool dry place. Tulips, narcissus, and other hardy bulbs can be planted until you can't get through the soil to get them in the ground. In fact, it's actually better to plant them later, rather than earlier, as they can sometimes break dormancy if the wrong weather patterns occur.

Autumn Lawn Care: Tree leaves are a major hindrance to proper grass growth, if they get to thick on your lawn, they can actually kill even a healthy turf by not allowing the grasses to store enough energy for winter survival and proper dormancy. You should also trim any grass that does not normally get cut. Especially around tree trunks, shrubs, and perennials. Longer grass provides shelter for mice, which will make wintertime meals of the bark on such plants.

Trees: If you have young trees, protect the trunks from rodent and rabbit damage with hardware cloth. Tree wraps can also be used to protect the trunks of young and smooth-barked trees from winter sun injury, but the tree wraps need to be taken off in the spring. Winter sun injury happens when the sun warms and thaws the bark on the southwest side of the trunk. Cold night temperatures then freeze and kill the cells on that side of the tree. To protect the roots of recently planted trees, spread mulch two to four inches deep around the base as the soil freezes.

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



Did You Know?

- ◆ That the PRCD has been serving Southern Johnson County for 60 years.
- ◆ That Pete Meike was the longest serving PRCD Board Supervisor, he served for 42 consecutive years.
- ◆ That the PRCD appreciates the 40 people who have served and currently serve as District Supervisors.
- ◆ That the PRCD appreciates the hard work and dedication given by the 8 people who have worked for the District.
- ◆ That the PRCD wants to thank everyone for their continued support of all the District's Programs and Activities.



Wyoming Natural Resource Foundation Raffle

Your \$25 tax deductible donation to the WNRF enters you in a drawing to win:

1st place– 2015 John Deere XUV 550 Gator

2nd place–Homak Pro Series Rolling Tool Cabinet

This drawing will be held on November 4, 2015 in Laramie, WY at the WACD/WNRF state convention. To get your ticket stop by the PRCD Office at 350 Nolan Avenue in Kaycee.



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.

FY 2014-2015 Accomplishments

Administration

- Attended Area I meeting and the WACD State Convention
- Acted as a cooperating agent to Buffalo BLM Field Office Resource Management Plan revision meetings.
- Attended the WCDEA Winter Training, and the CCAA/CCA Workshop.
- Participated in the Local Working Group Meetings, Johnson County Commissioners meetings, Stock Trail Users Meeting, Dull Knife Irrigation Meetings, National Conservation District Employee Association Conference Calls, and WY Conservation District Employee Association Conference Calls and meetings.
- Served as the Wyoming Conservation District Employees Association President
- Public Outreach- Publish articles in local newspaper & published 4 district newsletters, continued to maintain & update the district website

Education

- Adult Education
 - Estate Planning Workshop
 - CCAA/CCA Workshop
 - City Council & County Commissioners Presentation
- Youth Education
 - World Water Monitoring Day
 - Adopt A Tree Program with the Kaycee Elementary School
 - Ag in the Classroom Activities
 - The Miraculous Seed and Transplanting
 - What Is a Mineral?
 - Flower Dissection
 - Microscopes
 - Animal Adaptations/Habitats
 - Mapping Skills
 - Plant Cells/Plant Kingdoms
 - Black Hills Natural Resource Youth Camp
 - Stream Bank Disturbance Field Day
 - Johnson County 3-4th Grand Rendezvous



Special Projects

- Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day w/ Lake DeSmet C.D.
- Tree Program
- Collected and recycled over a ton of electronic waste
- Boys and Girls Club Community Garden
- Small Project Cost Share Programs-three Small cost share projects were completed this year; they included a two native/xeriscaping projects.
- Tree Plantings at Meike Bunkhouse
- Middle Fork Stream Bank Stabilization Project
- Began work on Two Emergency Watershed Protection Projects
- Tree City USA/Arbor Day Celebration
- Assisted the North Fork Water Users Association form The Dull Knife Irrigation District

Water Quality

- Offered a free private well water testing day to landowners for them to test their wells for bacteria and Domestic/Irrigation/Livestock use.

Rangeland Management

- 6 Rural Cost Share projects were completed this past year. They included drilling a well, installing stock water pipelines, two cross fences, stock tanks, and a reservoir restoration project

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PRCD Makes Changes to its 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. **However, 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.

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. So far we have collected almost 2 tons of E-waste (this does not include the 36 computer monitors and 44 TVs collected as well). The E-waste we collect is donated to Cutting Edge Industries a division of NOWCAP Services in Casper. NOWCAP & Cutting Edge Industries exist to create employment opportunities for people with developmental disabilities or people who have experienced a brain injury.



E-waste (electronic waste) is the fastest growing form of toxic waste in the world. It is probably no surprise that considering our current age of technology and computers, e-waste makes up a significant portion of waste on the Earth. However, what is surprising to most people is that e-waste is toxic. Some of the toxic substances of e-waste include the heavy metals, Mercury, Cadmium and Lead.

Please feel free to drop of your e-waste at the District Office located at 350 Nolan Avenue in Kaycee, WY. Below you will find a list of items that we can e-recycle:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Answering Machines | Batteries (Not Car Batteries) |
| Cable Boxes (analog & Digital) | Cables & Wire |
| Calculators | Cameras |
| CD-rom Drivers | Cell Phones |
| Circuit Boards | Computers |
| Computer Towers | Connectors |
| Consumer Electronics | Electronic Components |
| Floppy Drives | Hard Drives |
| Insulated Cable (copper & aluminum) | Keyboards, Mice, etc. |
| Laptop & Notebook Computers | Stereo Components |
| Surveillance Equipment | Telecommunications Equipment |
| Security Systems | Servers |
| Video Equipment | Video Game Equipment |
| Computer Monitors | |

FREE WILDLIFE ESCAPE RAMPS FOR STOCK WATER TANKS

WE HAVE TWO TYPES OF RAMPS AVAILABLE: EXPANDED METAL AND FIBERGLASS. PLEASE CONTACT US AT 738-2321 IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN PLACING THE RAMPS IN YOUR STOCK TANKS.

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

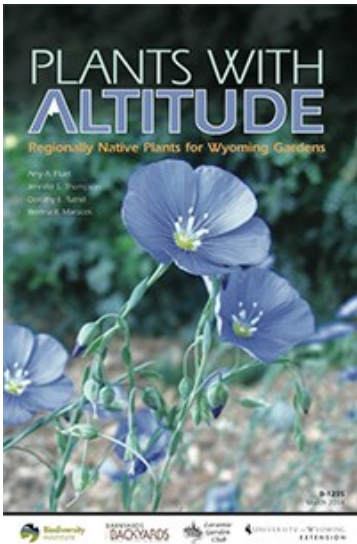
Non-Profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Kaycee, WY
Permit #1



PRCD Board Meeting-October 8th at 6:30pm at the District Office

Office Closed October 12th in observance of Columbus Day

Office Closed: November 11th in observance of Veteran's Day



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.

The PRCD is an equal opportunity employer.

Find us on the web: www.powderrivercd.org