

SHERIDAN COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

The Conservation Gazette • Fall 2014

FALL 2014

MISSION

The mission of the Sheridan County Conservation District is to provide for the protection and development of all natural resources while maintaining and improving the quality of life and economic future for the citizens of Sheridan County.

District Staff

Carrie Rogaczewski
District Manager
Amy Doke
Program Specialist

NRCS Staff

Andrew Cassiday
NRCS District Conservationist
Oakley Ingersol
Soil Conservationist

Elected

Board of Supervisors

John Kane
Susan Holmes
Emerson Scott, III
Edith Heyward
Orrin Connell

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SCCD updates their Long Range Plan

It's time again for the Sheridan County Conservation District to update their Long Range Plan. This plan provides an outline of activities and direction for the Sheridan County Conservation District natural resource program for the next 5 years. Public input is a critical component to any successful planning process. The District eagerly encourages public comment and has released a draft of the 2015-2019 Long Range Plan for Public Comment.

Included in the revision are updated Mission and Vision Statements. Over the years the District has tried to address all types of natural resource challenges. Realizing, however, that funding and project opportunities are limited in some natural resource areas, the new mission and vision stress the importance of water and land quality in Sheridan County. The proposed new mission and vision statements are as follows:

Mission:

To protect Sheridan County's water and land quality through assistance programs, education, monitoring, and planning.

Vision Statement:

Sheridan County is a unique blend of production agriculture, strong communities, recreational opportunities, and scenic value. As demographics and land uses evolve, the SCCD strives to be a leader for addressing emerging natural resource challenges. SCCD provides the tools for people to enhance land-use practices, foster a sense of stewardship, and encourage productive conservation strategies. Through outreach, education, and collaborative partnerships, SCCD improves awareness of water, land, and air quality, and the relationship between food products and agriculture. Financial accountability and prudent management of grants and other funding sources will ensure long-term stability to support the staff and resources necessary for effective operation.

To view the Draft 2015-2019 Long Range Plan, please visit the District website at www.sccdwy.org and download a copy. You may also request a copy by calling the office at (307) 672-5820 ext. 3.

Comments may be submitted to the Sheridan County Conservation District c/o Carrie Rogaczewski, 1949 Sugarland Drive, Suite 102, Sheridan, WY 82801. The comment deadline is December 08, 2014.





WATERJET STINGER

available for willow plantings

Do you have erosive banks with little to no vegetation? You might consider using willow cuttings to create bank stabilization. The District has a waterjet stinger and can assist with planting on a first come, first serve basis.

Guidelines for establishing cuttings for stream restoration

All types of willows, as well as cottonwoods can be established from cuttings; some success has been observed with dogwoods, as well. Dormant cuttings should be harvested nearby, if possible, and planted from late fall through early spring when plants are dormant. It's important to select cuttings from vigorous stands; older, decadent stands will generally yield weak cuttings.

Cuttings are best when harvested in the early spring before they break dormancy (leaf out), but can be harvested in the fall/winter and stored for several months in a cooler at 26 to 32 degrees Fahrenheit. When harvesting cuttings, avoid suckers; they will have less energy reserves than older growth. **Cuttings should generally be between ¾" and 3" in diameter**, although dormant poles up to **8" in diameter have also been successfully established**. Trim off side branches and 1-2 feet off the top of the cutting. The straighter the cutting, the easier to plant.

Cuttings must always be protected from drying out during handling. Some studies have shown a benefit to a 14-day soaking period prior to planting.



Plant with buds of the cutting pointed upward; cuttings won't grow if planted upside down. Plant cutting with at least 3-4 buds above ground. Cuttings should be planted with several inches below the mid-summer water table. At least ¾ or more of the cutting should be below ground level, and no more than about 8" extending above ground; this resists high flow damage and maximizes root development. The tops may have to be cut back after planting.

The easiest way to plant the cuttings is by using the Sheridan County Conservation District's waterjet stinger. **Alternative methods include pushing the cuttings in by hand when the soil is soft clay or sand, or using a rock bar to make a pilot hole when soil is predominately gravel or cobble.** The cutting must be stepped in well to achieve good contact between soil and cutting. Again, the bottom of cutting must reach to the mid-summer water table.

Smaller cuttings should be spaced 1-3 feet apart. The tip may be coated with a 50-50 mix of latex paint and water to identify the top and prevent moisture loss.

Deer protection during the first few years is critical on most sites. Commercially available, vented tube protectors work very well and offer wind protection also. Individual wire cages or general fencing may also be used.

Reference: J. Chris Hoag. USDA/NRCS Plant Materials Center. 9/1994. Riparian/Wetland Project Information Series No. 4: How to Plant Willows & Cottonwood Dormant Pole Cuttings for Riparian Rehabilitation. Aberdeen, ID 83210.

Conservation for Kids



The Sheridan County Conservation District is pleased to announce three local winners of the 2014 Soil and Water Stewardship Week Poster contest. The three local winners are:

- K-1st Grade Division 1st Place Winner: Jack Melger, Tongue River Elementary
- K-1st Grade Division 2nd Place (tie): Malea Redinger, Woodland Park Elementary
- K-1st Grade Division 2nd Place (tie): Lindsey Walker, Big Horn Elementary

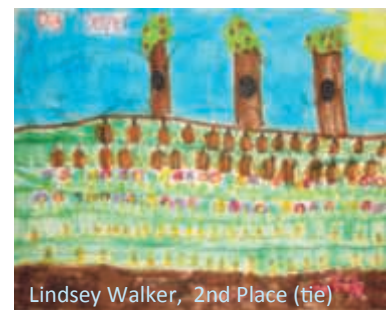
The District would also like to congratulate Jack on being a state winner! Jack will be recognized at the Wyoming Association of Conservation Districts annual convention, where he will be awarded a \$100.00 cash prize for his poster. GREAT JOB JACK!



Jack Melger, 1st Place



Malea Redinger, 2nd Place (tie)



Lindsey Walker, 2nd Place (tie)

Local winners received gift certificates to Sheridan Stationery. The District would like to thank Sheridan Stationery for co-sponsoring the awards!

2015 Poster Contest Theme

"Local Heroes, Your Hardworking Pollinators"

Please go to www.sccdwy.org for complete contest rules and information

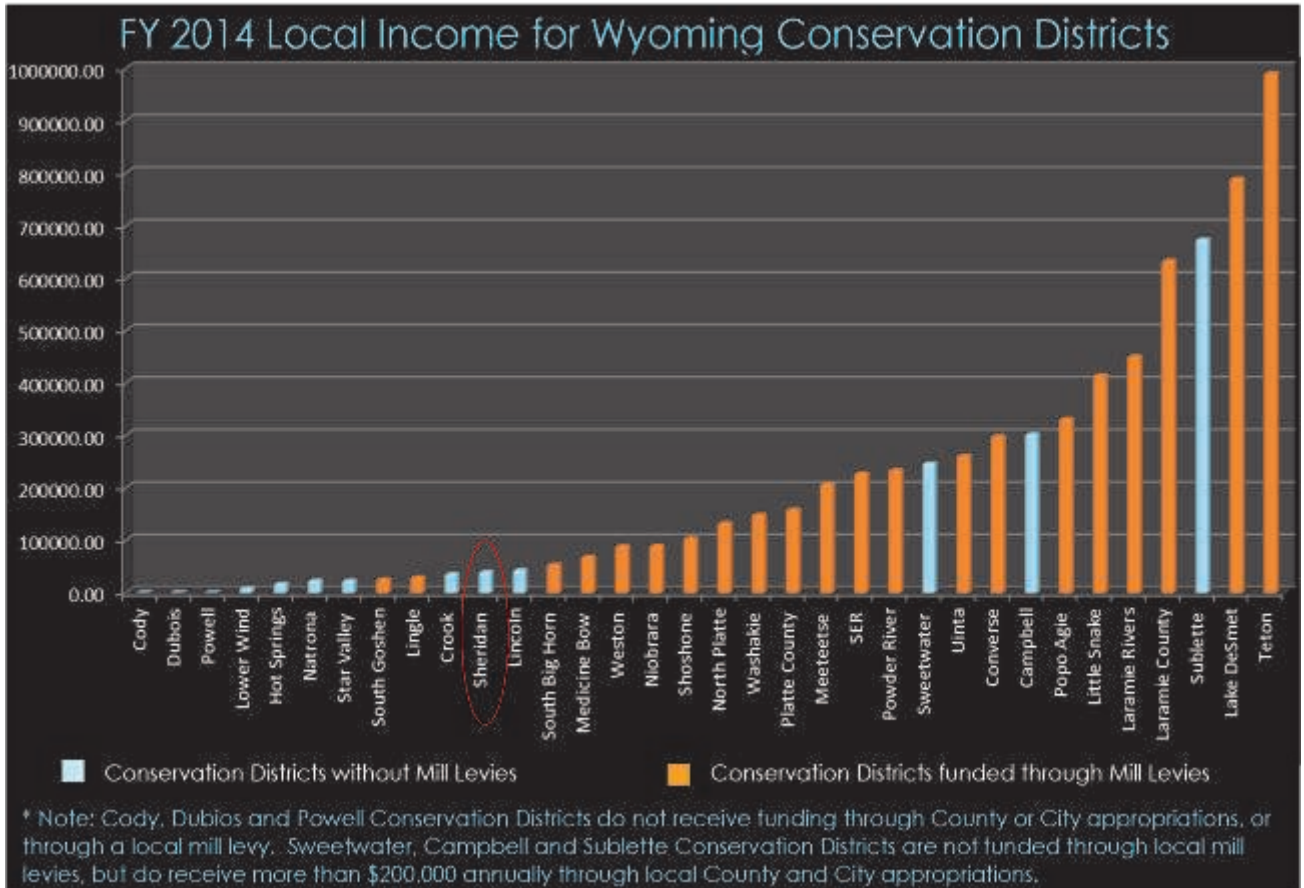
- More than 200,000 animal species serve as pollinators. Most are insects — only about 1,000 are hummingbirds, bats, or other small mammals.
- Flowers that rely on daytime pollinators are often brightly colored. Flowers that bloom at night are often more pale in color and instead emit sweet perfumes or other strong odors to attract moths, bats, and other nocturnal pollinators.
- The flowers of the Saguaro cactus are open both day and night so that they can be pollinated by bees, bats, and birds. Their most efficient pollinator? The Western White-Winged Dove!
- Most bees like warm areas, but there are bees that live in the Arctic and way up high in the Andes and Himalayas.
- Migrating pollinators follow nectar corridors during their travel. Keep those flyways full of blooming flowers!
- Some bees vibrate their flight muscles in order to knock pollen onto the stigma. Bumblebees do this for tomatoes, blueberries, and cranberries.
- The number of pollinators in an area is a great indicator of the overall health of an ecosystem.
- **All the world's chocolate depends on midges, tiny two-winged flies, that pollinate the cacao flowers. If you love chocolate, thank a fly!**



(Source: Beautiful Wildlife Garden, <http://www.beautifulwildlifegarden.com/pollinator-fun-facts.html>)

Annual Membership Contribution Drive

The Sheridan County Conservation District (SCCD) is one of 34 Conservation Districts in Wyoming. Each district has a unique program directed to address its natural resource concerns. Wyoming Conservation Districts are funded through a variety of funding sources including local mill levies or appropriations, state and federal grants, private grants and others. The SCCD is funded primarily through state and federal grants. A portion of SCCD's annual budget is provided through the City of Sheridan, the Towns of Dayton, Ranchester and Clearmont, Sheridan County, and private citizens by an annual membership drive. This funding is greatly appreciated and critical to the overall function of the District. It serves as match for state and federal grants while providing funding for administrative services, technical assistance and information and education. Equally important, local funding means local accountability. The District values its commitment to local resource conservation and local funding helps keep that commitment! Financial stability supports the District staff and resources needed for effective operation. In addition to state and federal grants and private donations, the SCCD will continue to build and maintain partnerships to provide long-term stability in district operations.



SHERIDAN COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP PLEDGE FORM

Name: _____ Mailing Address: _____
 Amount Enclosed: \$50.00 \$100.00 \$150.00 Other \$ _____
 Signature: _____ Date: _____
 E-mail: _____



Members who contribute \$50.00 or more to the 2015 Sheridan County Conservation District membership drive will receive a **FREE COPY** (while supplies last!) of the book "Plants with Altitude" a field guide for regionally native plants for Wyoming gardens.

- ☐ Yes! Please send me my **FREE COPY** for my contribution of \$50.00 or more to this year's membership drive.
☐ No thank you. Enclosed is my membership contribution. I do not wish to receive a **FREE COPY** of this publication.

Non-deductible contributions can be made directly to the "Sheridan County Conservation District" (SCCD). For tax-deductible contributions, make checks payable to the "Wyoming Natural Resources Foundation." This tax-exempt, statewide organization, will return 95% directly to the SCCD with the remaining 5% going to fund state-wide conservation programs.

PLEASE MAIL YOUR MEMBERSHIP TO: Sheridan County Conservation District
 1949 Sugarland Drive, Suite 102
 Sheridan, WY 82801

YOUR MEMBERSHIP IS GREATLY APPRECIATED!!

Sheridan County Conservation District 2015 Tree Order Form

This nursery stock must be used for conservation purposes, not in ornamental or landscape plantings.
No plant purchased from the SCCD or their distributors may be resold as a living plant.
Payment must accompany order. Refunds will not be given for cancelled orders after 2/1/2015.
If trees ordered are not available, a refund will be issued, unless a substitution is requested.

Order # _____

I have read and agree with the above "Conditions of Sale." _____

Name: _____

Daytime Phone: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Evening Phone: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Check if you want to receive our newsletter:

E-mail: _____

☐ via e-mail ☐ hardcopy ☐ no thanks

(E-mails will be used for contact purposes when trees come in)



TYPES OF PLANTINGS (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):

___ Windbreaks/Living Snow Fences

___ Wildlife Habitat

___ Erosion Control

___ Reforestation

___ Visual Screen/Noise Barrier

___ Other

PART A: Bareroot Trees-lots of 25 per species only Deciduous- 10-24" top height (1 year old trees)

Species	Price Per 25	# of Units	Total
LO002-Aspen	\$32.00		
LO003-Black Currant	\$32.00		
LO004-Black Walnut	\$32.00		
LO005-Buffaloberry	\$32.00		
LO006-Bur Oak	\$32.00		
LO007-Caragana	\$32.00		
LO008-Chokecherry	\$32.00		
LO009-Cotoneaster	\$32.00		
LO010-Green Ash	\$32.00		
LO011-Golden Willow	\$32.00		
LO012-Hackberry	\$32.00		
LO013-Honeylocust	\$32.00		
LO014-Hybrid Poplar	\$32.00		
LO015-Lilac	\$32.00		
LO016-Nanking Cherry	\$32.00		
LO017-Native Cottonwood	\$32.00		
LO018-Native Plum	\$32.00		
LO019-Ohio Buckeye	\$32.00		
LO020-Peachleaf Willow	\$32.00		
LO021-Redoiser Dogwood	\$32.00		
LO022-Sumac	\$32.00		
LO023-Woods Rose	\$32.00		
PART A: TOTAL			

PART B: Bareroot Variety Package-25 Trees Chokecherry, Buffaloberry, Redoiser Dogwood, Native Plum and Rocky Mt. Juniper (5 Each) \$35.00 per package

Species	# of Units	Total
LO043-Variety Package		
PART B: TOTAL		

PART C: Bareroot Trees-lots of 50 per species only CONIFER- 6-9" top height (2-3 year old trees)

Species	Price Per 50	# of Units	Total
LA033-Limber Pine	\$75.00		
LA034-Black Hills Ponderosa Pine	\$75.00		
LA035-White Fir	\$75.00		
PART C: TOTAL			

PART D: Bareroot Trees-lots of 10 per species only CONIFER-9-12" top height (3-4 year old trees)

Species	Price Per 10	# of Units	Total
LA036-Austrian Pine	\$29.00		
LA037-Black Hills Spruce	\$29.00		
LA038-Colorado Blue Spruce	\$29.00		
LA039-Eastern Red Cedar	\$29.00		
LA040-Engelman Spruce	\$29.00		
LA041-Scotch Pine	\$29.00		
LA042-White Fir	\$29.00		
PART D: TOTAL			

Supplies/Services

Weedbarrier Fabric	Cost/ roll	Qty	Total
6'x300' roll	\$100.00		

TOTAL CALCULATIONS

Qty	Total
PART A	\$
PART B	\$
PART C	\$
PART D	\$
Supplies/Services	\$
Subtotal:	\$
Sales Tax (Subtotal x 0.06)	\$
Total Amount Due:	\$

TO ENSURE AVAILABILITY, PLEASE ORDER SOON AND ENCLOSE PAYMENT WITH YOUR ORDER.

ORDER DEADLINE: 3/31/2015

Please return order and make checks payable to:

Sheridan County Conservation District

1949 Sugarland Drive, Suite 102

Sheridan, WY 82801

Please visit our website at www.sccdwy.org and click on "tree program" to view species descriptions.



Your landscape will thank you for choosing the right tree for the right location

By Mark Hughes

Trees are the most long lived plants we grow— many live and enhance a landscape for 100 or more years if given a chance. Because of their long lives and importance in a landscape, take care to select the best species for a situation. If the right tree is chosen and well cared for, it will establish and grow well. If the wrong tree is chosen, 5 to 10 years of precious tree-growing time may be lost before the mistake is realized.

Decide Role of Tree in Landscape

Many homeowners make the mistake of deciding what kind of tree they want and then trying to fit it into their landscapes. A more positive approach is to decide where a tree is needed and what that tree should do in the landscape. Do you need a deciduous tree to provide shade in the summer but let the sunshine through in winter? Do you need an evergreen for winter interest and to provide year-round shelter from the wind? Should it provide habitat for wildlife? Are there buildings or utilities near that you need to keep in mind when considering tree size? What tree type (size, shape, color) will suit or enhance the landscape?

After the desired type of tree has been determined, then it is much easier to select a specific species that is adapted to your site conditions.

Location, Location, Location

Location is everything when planting a tree. Allow plenty of room for the tree to grow. A common tree planting mistake is a seedling spruce tree placed right next to a building foundation. While that little seedling will benefit from the first few years of added protection, it will soon overgrow its space and rub against shingles and siding, not to mention roots pushing on house foundations resulting in an untimely removal. Allow plenty of room for large trees to reach their mature size and to avoid future conflicts. As a general guideline, most medium and large trees should be planted a minimum of 15 to 20 feet from houses and other structures. Evergreen trees should be planted on the north and northwest sides of a house to block cold winter winds. Avoid planting on the south side, which can block the warming sun in wintertime.

Proper tree selection and placement will help reduce costly maintenance, enhance your property value, and provide healthier trees for your landscape.

Mark Hughes, a veritable tree of knowledge, is the community forestry coordinator with the Wyoming State Forestry

The full publication can be viewed at www.barnyardsandbackyards.com (select Landscaping or you can pick up a copy at a Wyoming State Forestry district office).

If you are interested in obtaining a subscription to the Barnyards and Backyards magazine, please e-mail amy.doke@sccdwy.org, subject line: Barnyards and Backyards, no later than December 1, 2014. If there is enough interest, the District may be able to cover the cost for a one-year subscription to the magazine.



Conservation program update

Andrew Cassiday, NRCS District Conservationist

EQIP Deadline December 19th

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is a voluntary program that provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers through contracts up to a maximum term of ten years in length. These contracts provide financial assistance to help plan and implement conservation practices that address natural resource concerns and for opportunities to improve soil, water, plant, animal, air and related resources on agricultural land and non-industrial private forestland.

Sheridan County producers wanting to apply for the 2015 EQIP must do so by December 19, 2014. To apply please stop by the SCCD/NRCS offices at 1949 Sugarland Drive, Suite, 102. You may also call (307) 672-5820 ext. 3 to set up an appointment.



Farewell to two-term supervisor

The staff and SCCD Board would like to extend a sincere THANK YOU and farewell to Roger Reinke. Roger has been on the SCCD Board of Supervisors since 2006. Through out his two terms, Roger has attended almost every WACD Convention and is frequently checking in to see what needs to be done. Roger has served as the Vice-Chairman for most of his term, and been a representative on the Forest Service Supervisory Committee for the past several years. We sure are going to miss his smiling face!

Newsletter sponsorships resume

The SCCD newsletter is distributed to approximately 1,100 residents in Sheridan County. It is also published on our website at www.sccdwy.org.

To help offset the costs of printing our newsletter and to help local business advertise at a reasonable price, the SCCD periodically offers newsletter sponsorships. For \$45.00, sponsors can pay to have a full color business card published in our newsletter. Sponsors may choose to have their ad run in either the fall or spring edition or both (\$90.00 for two). If you wish to have your business card included, please contact Amy at the SCCD. Business cards must be received no later than April 1st for the Spring Edition and October 1st for the Fall Edition. You may also e-mail a business card to amy.doke@sccdwy.org, subject line: Newsletter Sponsorship.

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JERRY FORSTER
 District Conservationist (Retired)

P.O. Box 623, Ranchester, WY 82839
 307-655-9012 or 307-752-7744
donnajerry@trcable.tv

Legocki Backhoe Service, Inc.



Richard Legocki
 1945 Skyline Drive
 Sheridan, Wyoming 82801
 Phone: 307-674-8334



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www.sccdofwyo.org

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The Sheridan County Conservation District would like to thank the following sponsors for helping with the 2014 Wyoming Association of Conservation Districts Annual Convention, in Sheridan, Wyoming. We couldn't do it without you!

Platinum Level



Gold Level



Silver Level

