

# THE CONSERVATION GAZETTE

—Fall 2009

## MISSION

To guide the protection and development of all natural resources while securing the quality of life and economic future for the citizens of Sheridan County.

## SCCD Completes Draft Long Range Plan for 2010-2014

The function of the Conservation District is to focus and coordinate technical, educational, and financial resources to meet the needs of the local landuser. This is possible through a close partnership with the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS). In Sheridan County, as in many places, the District and the NRCS share the same office, personnel, equipment, and supplies to deliver a strong, local conservation program.

The SCCD develops a Long Range Plan every five years to outline the long-term priorities and goals of the District. The Plan serves as the guiding document for development of District programs and activities and is intended to respond to changing natural resource needs in Sheridan County. It helps to create a common vision and direction for the Board of Supervisors.

To identify the current natural resource needs of Sheridan County, the SCCD distributed a natural resource questionnaire to all households in Sheridan County in August of 2008. The majority of respondents identified water quality as an important resource concern. Other concerns included weeds, small acreage management, rangeland health and grazing management.

The draft Long Range Plan is open to a 45 day public comment period through December 1, 2009. Comments received will be incorporated into the Long Range Plan, which will then be submitted to the Wyoming Department of Agriculture and Wyoming Association of Conservation Districts by the end of December 2009. To obtain a copy of the Long Range Plan, you may stop by the office, or download one from our website, [www.sccdofwyo.org](http://www.sccdofwyo.org).

## SCCD Seeks Input on Rain Barrel and Composting Opportunities

Have you ever considered using a rain barrel to water your garden? Do you have an interest in making your own compost, but don't know how or have a place to do it? The Sheridan County Conservation District may be able to help.

Using a rain barrel is a great way to store water from rain and snow events. The water can then be used to water plants and gardens. It also benefits water quality by reducing the amount of run-off, which picks up pollutants on the ground and carries them to streams. Composting barrels are an efficient way to make and store compost. These black barrels absorb heat from the sun more quickly than conventional composting to help create compost in a timely manner.

The SCCD is considering offering rain barrels and composters at a significantly reduced price. Before purchasing these items, SCCD would like to know the level of interest there is in Sheridan County. If you have an interest in composting and/or using rain barrels, please contact the District at 672-5820 ext. 3, or e-mail Amy at [amy.doke@wy.nacdn.net](mailto:amy.doke@wy.nacdn.net).



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## What's Happening in *YOUR* Watershed

With active participation from landowners and residents in Sheridan County, the Sheridan County Conservation District is involved with watershed planning efforts on three watersheds in Sheridan County. In an attempt to keep the community abreast of the latest happenings in each watershed, look for continuing updates in our quarterly newsletter.

**Goose Creek Watershed:** *Interim monitoring concluded in September with the collection of water quality samples and macroinvertebrates.*

**Tongue River Watershed:** *We are waiting on comments on the Prairie Dog Plan before proceeding any further with the Tongue River Watershed Plan. We hope to have the Plan updated later this fall. Once the updates have been made, SCCD will organize a steering committee meeting to go over changes and discuss water quality monitoring on the Tongue River watershed in 2010.*

**Prairie Dog Creek Watershed:** *The 45 day comment period for the Draft Prairie Dog Creek Watershed Plan closed on September 17. An open house, followed by a steering committee meeting, was held on that date. Steering committee members, as well as a representative from Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (WDEQ), were present for the meeting. Overall, the draft Plan was well accepted from the public and WDEQ. WDEQ did ask SCCD to make a few changes to help them understand some of the quantitative factors in the Plan. The steering committee approved the Plan at that meeting, with the understanding that SCCD would make the necessary changes and allow the steering committee a chance to review the Plan prior to final submission to WDEQ. SCCD is working on the changes and will submit the final Plan to WDEQ upon completion.*

## Conservation Stewardship Program

NRCS has announced a signup for the new Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) nationwide. The program provides payments for landowners who are willing to document an existing basic level of conservation stewardship on all land uses in the operating unit, and improve conservation management on at least one land use. CSP contracts will be written for a 5-year term, and will include all lands in the operating unit. Actual per-acre/per-year payments will be determined based on the levels of management a producer elects with total contract payments capped at \$20,000 per year.

Producers will need to complete a self-screening checklist initially to see if the program may be compatible with their operation. Applicants must be the operator on record for USDA program participation, and be in compliance with all basic USDA eligibility requirements. Applicants will develop a schedule of conservation management activities, and provide conservation and production records to document ongoing management and compliance. Interested producers should contact the Sheridan NRCS field office, 672-5820 ext. 3, for more information.

## Deadline Announced for 2010 EQIP Program

November 1, 2009 will be the last date applications will be accepted for participation in the 2010 Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). The program provides technical and financial assistance to landowners for installing conservation practices on agricultural lands. Typical projects include irrigation upgrades for water conservation, rangeland improvements, erosion control, and water quality projects such as stream restoration and livestock waste management. Applications received by November 1, 2009 will be prioritized and ranked through the winter, with approved projects contracted and funded in the spring of 2010. The November 1, 2009 cutoff date will also apply for the Wetland Reserve (WRP), the Agricultural Management Assistance (AMA), and the Wildlife Habitat Incentives (WHIP) programs. The Sheridan County Conservation District will convene a Local Workgroup Meeting, on October 20, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. in the upstairs conference room of the Cottonwood Center, to discuss local resource concerns and make recommendations to NRCS on ways to tailor the program to the highest local priorities. The Public is invited and encouraged to participate in the Workgroup meeting. For more information on the Programs please contact the Sheridan NRCS Field Office at 672-5820 ext. 3.

## Wyoming Natural Resource Foundation 4-Wheeler Tickets Available

The Wyoming Natural Resource Foundation is the 501(c)(3) organization that is a sister organization to the Wyoming Associate of Conservation Districts. A \$25.00 tax deductible donation enters you in a drawing to win a 2008 Polaris Sportsman 500 EFI ATV. The drawing will be held on November 19 at the 2009 Convention. For tickets or more information contact the Sheridan County Conservation District.

## CONSERVATION FOR KIDS



# HAUNTED HALLOWEEN WORD SEARCH



Dig up the **13** hidden Halloween terms in this spooky word search.  
You can go up, down, backwards, and diagonal to find them!

H	G	R	A	V	E	Y	A	R	D	C	M	T	H	V
A	O	H	R	I	W	I	P	O	W	J	A	I	A	A
U	U	I	O	T	O	C	U	S	Y	O	E	M	O	M
N	L	S	F	S	D	L	M	N	A	T	N	X	K	P
T	H	J	M	K	T	A	P	B	C	R	O	I	W	I
E	C	E	O	C	R	F	K	L	E	U	T	A	T	R
D	O	N	A	I	O	W	I	T	Z	W	S	L	O	E
H	B	I	T	T	N	V	N	H	O	P	B	L	Y	P
O	E	P	U	S	B	A	M	P	I	L	M	O	I	A
U	M	A	L	M	L	S	G	D	A	R	O	H	C	R
S	D	R	I	O	A	H	E	C	U	S	T	A	B	H
E	O	T	K	O	J	R	K	A	H	A	I	S	L	C
R	L	C	E	R	S	C	E	M	E	T	E	R	Y	T
W	A	C	K	B	A	W	L	U	M	P	O	W	E	I
J	S	I	N	T	S	E	V	L	O	W	E	R	E	W



Graveyard  
Haunted House  
Jack-o'-Lantern  
Bats  
Spiders  
Tombstone  
Black Cat

Broomstick  
Witch  
Vampire  
Werewolves  
Pumpkin  
Cemetery





**Sheridan County Conservation District**

1949 Sugarland Drive, Suite 102  
Sheridan, Wyoming 82801  
307-672-5820 Fax: 307-672-0052  
[www.sccdofwyo.org](http://www.sccdofwyo.org)

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
Paid  
Sheridan, WY

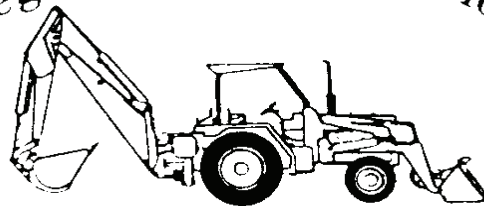
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

*Tree order forms are now available for the District low cost seedling tree program. To ensure your desired species will still be available, place your order as early as possible. Also, keep in mind fall is the time for site preparation. The best method of site preparation is to plow and work the soil the summer or fall before planting and to keep it fallow and weed free going into the winter. This ensures a deep, mellow seedbed with a maximum moisture and minimum weed competition the following spring. Tree order forms for Spring 2010 delivery are included in this newsletter or are available at the office or at [www.sccdofwyo.org](http://www.sccdofwyo.org).*

### Calendar of Events

10/20/09	Local Workgroup Meeting
11/01/09	EQIP/WRP/AMA Sign-up Deadline
11/10/09	SCCD Board Meeting
11/11/09	Veteran's Day—Office Closed
11/16-11/19	Nov. 16-19: WACD Convention
11/26/09	Thanksgiving—Office Closed
12/08/09	SCCD Board Meeting
12/25/09	Christmas—Office Closed
01/01/10	New Year's Day—Office Closed

Legocki Backhoe Service, INC



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

Remember—You can now get our newsletter sent to your e-mail inbox. Simply e-mail Amy, ([amy.doke@wy.nacdn.net](mailto:amy.doke@wy.nacdn.net)), subject line "newsletter" and our next issue will be sent to you electronically.

# Sheridan County Conservation District 2010 Application for Seedling Trees Order # \_\_\_\_\_

You must own at least two (2) acres of land.

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.

Bare root trees are available in multiples of 50 per species only.

Potted trees are available in multiples of 30 per species only.

Payment must accompany order. Refunds will not be given for cancelled orders after 3/1/2010.

If trees ordered are not available, a refund will be issued, unless a substitution is requested.

I have read and agree with the above "Conditions of Sale." - \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Evening Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Acres of Ownership: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

Types of Plantings (Circle all that apply): *Windbreaks/Living Snow Fences*  
*Visual Screen/Noise Barrier*

*Wildlife Habitat*  
*Erosion Control*

*Reforestation*  
*Other*

Bareroot Trees-lots of 50 per species only DECIDUOUS- 10"-30" Topheight \$49.00 per 50 CONIFER- 5"-12" Topheight \$49.00 per 50			
Species	Cost per 50	# of units	Total
01 Caragana			
02 Cotoneaster			
04 Chokecherry			
05 Lilac			
06 Native Plum			
07 Sumac			
08 Sand Cherry			
09 Nanking Cherry			
10 European Sage			
11 Woods Rose			
12 Buffaloberry			
14 Golden Currant			
16 Mountain Mahogany			
17 Red-osier Dogwood			
18 N.M. Privet			
19 Wax Current			
20 Green Ash			
21 Siberian Elm			
22 Hybrid Cottonwood			
23 Native Willow Mix			
24 Golden Willow			
25 Hackberry			
26 Honeylocust			
28 Lombardy Poplar			
30 Bur Oak			
32 Coyote Willow			
34 Peachleaf Willow			
55 Prairie Sky Poplar			
101 Colorado Blue Spruce			
102 Eastern Red Cedar			
103 Ponderosa Pine			
104 Rocky Mt. Juniper			
<b>BAREROOT SUBTOTAL</b>			
To ensure availability, please order soon and enclose payment with your order. Order deadline: 3/31/2010			
Please return order and make checks payable to: Sheridan County Conservation District 1949 Sugarland Drive, Suite 102 Sheridan, WY 82801			

Regular Potted Trees-lots of 30 per species only ALL 6"-12" Topheight \$59.00 per 30 1 1/2" to 2" square pots			
Species	Cost per 30	# of units	Total
200 Aspen			
201 Austrian Pine			
202 Colorado Blue Spruce			
203 Douglas Fir			
204 Englemann Spruce			
208 Ponderosa Pine			
209 Rocky Mt. Juniper			
213 Narrowleaf Cottonwood			
214 Limber Pine			
218 Fremont Cottonwood			
<b>REGULAR POTTED SUBTOTAL</b>			
Small Potted Trees-lots of 30 per species only ALL 4"-6" Topheight \$45.00 per 30 1" round tube pots			
300 Colorado Blue Spruce			
302 Douglas Fir			
303 Englemann Spruce			
304 Lodgepole Pine			
305 Ponderosa Pine			
306 Scotch Pine			
309 Eastern Red Cedar			
310 Rocky Mt. Juniper			
321 Bristlecone Pine			
<b>SMALL POTTED SUBTOTAL</b>			
Supplies/Services			
Weedbarrier Fabric	Cost/roll	Qty	Total
(6'X300') roll	100.00		
TOTAL CALCULATIONS			
Bareroot			\$
Regular Potted			\$
Small Potted			\$
Supplies/Services			\$
Subtotal			\$
Sales Tax (Subtotal X 0.06)			\$
<b>Total Amount Due:</b>			<b>\$</b>
Please call the office for information and pricing on other fabric sizes, tree protectors, and use of fabric machine* and planter**			
*Fabric machine requires 40+ horsepower tractor with 3 point hitch			
**Tree planter requires 40+ horsepower tractor with hydraulics			

ORDER DEADLINE MARCH 31, 2010

# Sheridan County Conservation District 2010 Application for Seedling Trees

## Species Descriptions

Although the species listed have proven adaptable to Wyoming conditions, each species may have limited adaptability to local soil types and conditions.

More detailed descriptions available at [www.sccdfwyo.org](http://www.sccdfwyo.org)

### Shrubs

**CARAGANA:** Medium to tall shrub; drought resistant and tolerant of alkaline soils; good wildlife species.

**COTONEASTER:** Medium shrub, grows well on most soils up to 8,000 feet.

**BUFFALOBERRY:** Medium to tall shrub; drought resistant and tolerant of alkaline soils; good wildlife species.

**CHOCKECHERRY:** Medium shrub, plant up to 8,000 feet. Preferred by a variety of wildlife species.

**EUROPEAN SAGE:** Medium shrub, good alkaline tolerance, plant up to 6,000 feet.

**GOLDEN CURRANT:** Small to medium shrub, fairly drought and alkali tolerant. Good cover for small wildlife. Plant up to 8,000 feet.

**LILAC:** Tall, one of the better shrubs for windbreak purposes, to 8,500 feet.

**NANKING CHERRY:** Medium and hardy, does well on most soils statewide. Edible fruit relished by wildlife; to 7,500 feet.

**PLUMS:** Tall shrub or short tree. Does well on moist soils (excluding alkali) up to 8,000 feet.

**REDOSIER DOGWOOD:** Small to medium sized; tolerant of flooding; tolerant of cold; plant up to 8,000 feet.

**SAND CHERRY:** Small shrub; best on sandy to loamy soils; plant up to 7,500 feet.

**SERVICEBERRY:** Tall shrub. Does well on moist soil up to 9,000 feet. Excellent wildlife species.

**SUMAC:** Medium, excellent alkaline tolerance; does best at elevations up to 8,000 feet.

**N.M. FORESTERIA (privet):** Very tall, does well on moist soils up to 7,500 feet. Good wildlife cover.

**WILD ROSE:** Low, small shrub, grows well on most soils; will not tolerate much shading. Good wildlife species.

### Trees

**ASPEN:** Tall tree, poor drought resistance, hardy in cold temperatures, plant up to 11,000 feet.

**LACEBARK ELM:** Tall tree; up to 5,000 feet; tolerates alkaline soil well.

**COYOTE WILLOW:** Medium height, requires moist soil, good wildlife value.

**BUR OAK:** Medium to tall tree; hardy and drought resistant; tolerant of a wide range of soils; good food value for wildlife, to 7,000 feet.

**COTTONWOOD HYBRID (COTTONLESS):** Tall, fast growing plant in moist soils or in areas with supplemental water below 6,000 feet.

**COTTONWOOD NARROWLEAF:** tall, requires moist soils or in areas with supplemental water up to 6,000 feet.

**GOLDEN WILLOW:** Medium to tall, plant same as cottonless cottonwood but up to 7,500 feet.

**GREEN ASH:** Medium to tall, on most soils, up to 8,000 feet.

**PEACHLEAF WILLOW:** Small to medium tree or large shrub, shade tolerant, tolerates alkaline soils.

**HACKBERRY:** Tall tree, grows well in most soils; up to 7,500 feet.

**HONEYLOCUST:** Medium to tall, on most soils in the plains.

**LOMBARDY POPLAR:** Medium to tall columnar tree, need permanent sub-irrigation, not recommended as a component row species in windbreak, up to 8,000 feet.

**SIBERIAN ELM:** Tall and drought resistant, on most soils statewide below 6,500 feet.

### Conifer Trees

**AUSTRIAN PINE:** Tall, on most soils of low pH up to 7,000 feet, a good windbreak pine.

**BRISTLECONE PINE:** Medium to tall tree, grows well on poor sites above 7,000 feet.

**COLORADO BLUE SPRUCE:** Tall, on moist soils but will grow on drier sites if watered for establishment, to 9,500 feet.

**DOUGLAS FIR:** Tall, on east and north slopes above 6,000 feet.

**EASTERN RED CEDAR:** Medium, on most soils in the plains below 6,000 feet; drought resistant when established, good windbreak species.

**LOGSPOLE PINE:** Tall, on most soils above 6,000 feet.

**PINON PINE:** Medium tree, grows well in arid, droughty sites when established, to 7,500 feet.

**PONDEROSA PINE:** Tall, on most soils of low pH except heavy clay, up to 8,500 feet. Tolerates alkaline soil, high wildlife value. One of the better windbreak trees.

**ROCKY MT. JUNIPER:** Medium tree, does well on most soils; 8,000 feet; drought resistant when established; excellent windbreak species.

**SCOTCH PINE:** Tall, on most soils of low pH and below 7,000 feet; not advisable for windbreaks because of brittleness and not winter hardy at maturity; good Christmas tree.

**SUBALPINE FIR:** Medium tree, shade tolerant.

**WHITE FIR:** Tall tree, grows best on east and north slopes; to 9,000 feet; good Christmas tree.

**ENGLEMANN SPRUCE:** Tall tree; requires shade, plant only above 8,000 feet.

### The WACD Program

The Wyoming Association of Conservation Districts Tree Program enables farmers, ranchers and other landowners to obtain trees at nominal cost. The purpose of the program is to encourage the owners to plant effective wind barriers to protect buildings, cropland and feedlots and for erosion control, other conservation practices, reforestation, and Christmas tree plantings.

These trees cannot be resold as living trees (the roots must be severed). It is mandatory that the order form be completed in full and that all information is legible.

### Plan Before You Plant

A planting plan should be prepared before trees area ordered or planted. The planting plan will show the proper location for the planting, the best species for your site, spacing between rows, spacing between trees in the row and the correct number of trees and shrubs needed. The plan will also point out requirements for proper planting to gain initial survival and how to keep trees in a vigorous growing condition.

For planting assistance contact the Conservation District, Natural Resources Conservation Service District Conservationist, or the publication entitled "The Farmstead Windbreak" which provides helpful information on tree planting and maintenance care.

### Seedling Trees

1. Farmstead protection requires 3 or more rows of shrubs and trees. Field protection can be obtained with 1-3 rows of shrubs and trees with proper design and protection.
2. Spacing between rows should be at least 4 feet wider than the cultivation equipment to be used, usually 12' to 16' for irrigated land and 20' for dry land.
3. Spacing in the rows varies with the species. For small to medium shrubs- 2' to 4', tall shrubs 4' to 6', small to medium trees -8' to 10', medium to tall trees 10' to 14', pines and spruce -12' to 14', and junipers -6' to 8'. A tight row of deciduous shrubs on the windward side is desirable to trap snow in the windbreak.
4. The land should be cultivated and fallowed in the fall prior to planting the windbreak. Weed control of the planting is a must to maintain survival.
5. For lasting performance, better protection and greater aesthetic value, two or more rows should be evergreen species.

ORDER DEADLINE MARCH 31, 2010