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## UPCOMING

- NOV. 01 Seedling Tree Program Begins
- NOV. 11 Office Closed **Veteran's Day**
- NOV. 16-18 WACD 75th Annual Convention
- NOV. 26 Office Closed **Thanksgiving Day**
- DEC. 25 Office Closed **Christmas Day**
- JAN. 01 Office Closed **New Year's Day**
- FEB. 2021 Watershed Newsletters
- FEB. 2021 Steering Committee Meetings

## TREE PROGRAM 2020-2021

The Seedling Tree Program provides conservation grade seedling trees for purchase at a nominal price. The low-cost seedlings are available for purchase from November to early April. Seedlings are generally delivered in May and may be used for the following purposes:

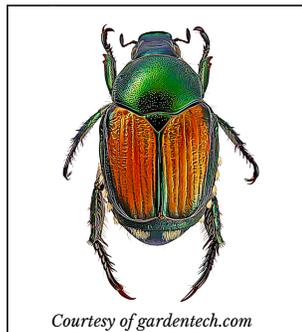
- Living Snow Fence
- Windbreaks
- Wildlife Habitat
- Visual Screens/Noise Barriers
- Erosion Control
- Reforestation
- Other Conservation Purposes



A wide variety of species are offered to meet conservation needs throughout Sheridan County. Seedlings are bundled in groups of 25 or 30, based on size and species selection. Popular species, and the variety package, tend to sell out quickly, so it's best to get your order in as soon as possible. To place a seedling order, you may:

- Download an order form or order online at [www.sccdwy.org/seedling-tree-program](http://www.sccdwy.org/seedling-tree-program)
- Pick up an order form from our office (Suite 102 in the Cottonwood Building)

## Japanese Beetle Advisory



*Courtesy of gardentech.com*

The Japanese Beetle is a non-native insect recently discovered in Kendrick Park. As a grub, the insect feeds on grass roots, damaging lawns, golf courses, and pastures. The adult beetle feeds on foliage, flowers, and fruits of over 300 ornamental and agricultural plants. The beetle, first discovered in New Jersey in 1916, is a highly destructive plant pest that can be difficult and expensive to control. **For more information on the Japanese Beetle and what you can do to help, please call the Weed and Pest Hotline (307) 655-8297 or visit the City of Sheridan's News webpage.**

## TREES AS BUFFERS FOR STREAMS

### Conservation Tree Highlight

A riparian buffer is a strip of vegetated land located between areas of land use and a waterbody. Like grasses, the roots of shrubs and trees can prevent and slow erosion on streambanks, while also trapping sediment and other pollutants, reducing the amount of pollutants entering the waterway. If your streamside lacks a mixture of native grasses, shrubs, and trees, planting a variety of species will not only bolster the strength of your streambanks but improve water quality and provide food and cover for wildlife, all while enhancing the aesthetic value of your property. Several water-loving trees are available for purchase through our tree program including willows, aspens, cottonwoods, dogwood, currants, and more.



# HOW YOU CAN HELP PROTECT NATURAL RESOURCES IN SHERIDAN COUNTY



SCCD is one of the 34 conservation districts in Wyoming. Each district has a unique program tailored to meet the specific natural resource needs of its district.

The SCCD is funded primarily through federal and state grants with some support from local funding sources, including contributions from private citizens.

Funds raised from private contributions are critical to the overall function of the SCCD, serving as match for grants, as well as providing for administrative services, technical assistance, and information and education.

Thanks to support from Sheridan County, the City of Sheridan, the Towns of Dayton, Ranchester, and Clearmont, and contributions from private citizens, SCCD has been able to help this community for the past 45 years. Over half of SCCD's budget goes toward on-the-ground projects aimed at improving the water and land quality of Sheridan County. You can help support our effort with a tax-deductible donation.

**DONATIONS CAN BE MADE ONLINE AT [WWW.SCCDWY.ORG](http://WWW.SCCDWY.ORG) OR BY MAIL TO 1949 SUGARLAND DRIVE SUITE 102 SHERIDAN, WY 82801**

## CELEBRATING CONSERVATION LEADERSHIP

The following individuals have dedicated years of service to help improve the natural resources of Sheridan County. These individuals are locally elected, unpaid volunteers. Many of them are your friends and neighbors who are trying to make a difference by directing conservation programs and priorities in Sheridan County. Please take the time to thank your locally elected Board of Supervisors, past and present, for all they have done and continue to do for natural resource conservation in Sheridan County!

### Dutch Creek-Clear Creek 1942-1968

A.R. Laier	1942-1947
Thomas Hughes	1942-1943
Frank Jacobs	1942-1953
Andrew Nelson	1942-1945
Joe Collins	1942-1945
Robert E. H.*	1943-1950
George Scales	1945-1959
Paul John Dodd	1945-1948
John H. Fowler	1947-1950
Bryant H. Ellis	1948-1951
William G. Collins	1950-1955
George S. Schuman	1950-1952
Wayne Wenburg	1951-1956
Emerson Hanson	1952-1955
Fred G. Garland	1953-1957
W. Perkins	1955-1965
Clark Ritchie	1955-1959
Paul Koltiska	1956-1958
Phil Schuman	1957-1960
H.R. Snider	1958-1960
Ralph Foster	1959-1962
Herman Sanders	1960-1961
Ivan Kerbel	1960-1963
Fred Kaufman	1960-1963
Earl Ellenwood	1961-1963
R. Kaiser	1962-1965
John Koltiska	1963-1965
Robert Miller	1964-1966
George Schuman Sr.	1964-1966
George W. Davis	1965
Ray Woods	1965-1967
John H. Symons	1965-1966
Jack Cooksley	1966-1968
Phillip Little Jr.	1966
Roger T.*	1967-1968
John Brug	1967-1968
George Koltiska	1968
Al Gorzalka*	Unknown
Patty Bard*	Unknown

### Tongue River 1948-1968

Ralph Delapp Sr.	1948-1963
Tony Pelesky	1948-1952
Ed Schreibeis	1948-1951
William Welch	1948-1960
Charles Hamilton	1951-1958
L.E. Smith	1951-1953
Henry Stanko	1952-1953
M. White	1953-1959
Lloyd Watson	1954-1958
J. Vernon States	1958-1963
Dan S. Scott	1958-1961
Harold Arney	1959-1961
Carl Kaufman	1960-1967
Rudolph Soltis	1961-1966
R.E. Loman	1962-1968
Bil Eisele	1964-1966
Ed Hallworth	1967-1968
Bob S.*	Unknown

### Cloud's Peak 1948-1968

Orr Garber	1948-1962
J.E. McCormack	1948-1949
Clyde Zimmerman	1948-1962;
	1964-1966
George F. Williams	1948-1961
Harold Lythgoe	1948-1950
George L. Morrison	1949-1952
William Kerbel	1950-1957
Frank Rawlings	1951-1952
Walter Bales	1952-1968
Allen Bard	1957-1963
Gene Williams	1961-1968
Harvey Rhoades	1962
Robert Molar	1963-1967
Earl Hanslip	1963-1968
Morris Dixon	1965-1968
Charles L. Marshall Jr.	1968
John McWilliams	Unknown
Eldon Roadifer	Unknown
Dean Fox	Unknown

### Clear Creek 1972-1994

**The Clear Creek Conservation District was formed in 1972 through a consolidation of the Dutch-Clear Creek, Cloud Peak, and Tongue River Conservation Districts.**

John Brug	1972-1973
Paddy Bard	1972-1973
Vernon States	1972-1974
Bob Stout	1972-1974
Morris Dixon	1972-1973

\*If you can help us fill in the gaps or correct any errors please contact us.

Leslie P. Schuman	1974-1980
Ray Frady	1974-1976
Gary Koltiska	1974
Del Church	1975-1981
Harlan Tulley	1975-1986;
	1989-1994
Robert Ligocki	1975-1995
J.R. Mitchell	1975-1990
Paul V. Jones	1981-1988
Bill Long	1982-1986
Jim Bohn	1986-1990
R.L. Nichols	1986-1988
Bill Wells	1988-1992
Richard Bumbaca	1990-1994
Carl "Tut" Anderson	1990-1994
Bill Doenz	1993-1994

### Sheridan County 1993-Present

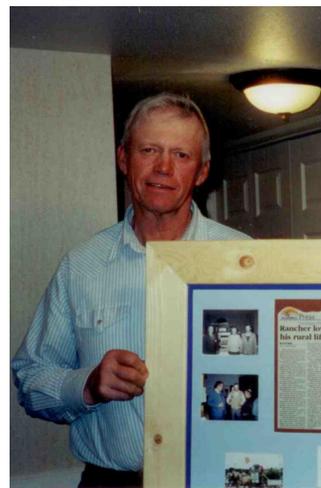
**Clear Creek was renamed Sheridan County Conservation District in 1993.**

Dave Clarendon	1994
William Harasym	1995
Dean Fox	1995-1998
George Lunbeck	1995-2000
Norma Nichols	1995
Tara Everett	1996-1997
Curt Symons	1996-2002
Tom Pilch	1996-2002
Robert Ligocki	1996-2002
Dave Garber	2000
Jill Morrison	2000-2004
Roger Wilson	2003-2008
John Chase	2003-2006
Janet Maxwell	2003-2006
John Kane	2005-2016
Larry Ligocki	2007-2008
Roger Reinke	2007-2014
Susan Holmes	2009-present
Robert Brug	2009-2012
Emerson Scott, III	2012-present
Edith Heyward	2012-present
Orrin Connell	2014-present
Brad Holliday	2016-2017
Doug Masters	1996-2008;
	2017-present

## In Loving Memory

**Robert Ligocki**  
May 18, 1941–October 3, 2020

In October, we said goodbye to one of our champions of conservation. Bob began his first term as a conservation district supervisor in 1996 and served for over 25 years. He joined a long list of supervisors that had served districts in Sheridan County since 1942. Even after his retirement, Bob continued to stay involved. Along with his wife, Joan, Bob provided ranch tours for elementary students, participated in parades and other community activities, and was a strong advocate for the role of agriculture and the importance of natural resource conservation.





There are over 26 different types of special districts in Wyoming and more than 650 special districts exist throughout Wyoming's communities providing vital services to protect the health, safety, and general welfare of her citizens.

Collectively there are more than 2,350 Wyoming citizens serving on these local district boards, excluding 9 of the listed entities that include joint powers boards and similar types of entities. These board members serve without pay to provide a service to Wyoming's communities. Assuming these district boards meet at least monthly, not including the additional time they invest in their special districts, there are an estimated 55,000 hours spent conducting the business of special districts. Using the value of volunteer sector time this would equate to \$1,265,000 in service annually to the state and her communities at no cost.

Some examples of special districts include:

- Conservation districts
- Fire protection districts
- Irrigation districts
- Public Irrigation & Power
- Recreation districts
- Watershed improvement districts
- Weed and pest districts
- and many more!

Source:  
[www.wyospecialdistricts.com/about-wasd/](http://www.wyospecialdistricts.com/about-wasd/)

**IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN JOINING THE WASD OR WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT [WYOSPECIALDISTRICTS.COM](http://WYOSPECIALDISTRICTS.COM)**

## ACME POWER PLANT SITE *Reclamation Update*

The former Acme Power Plant project is a local effort to address contamination in soils, groundwater, and building materials at the 5-acre site along the Tongue River. Initial investigations identified large quantities of asbestos, PCBs, petroleum hydrocarbons, and other contamination throughout the site. Through a contract with the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality, WWC Engineering has completed soils and groundwater sampling activities through an EPA Assessment Grant. Data is currently being validated and compiled into reporting documents, which will form the basis for development of clean-up alternatives and cost estimates. A public meeting (with a virtual option) will be scheduled once this information is complete. A structural survey of the building was conducted in September; while the survey suggests that the building is structurally sound, it is still unclear whether it can be incorporated into future reuse discussions. Funding for additional assessments of the buildings and coal-ash pile and to begin partial cleanup was recently requested through another EPA grant opportunity. If awarded, those funds would be available in the fall of 2021.

The University of Wyoming Haub School recently finished documenting the narrative history of the Acme Power Plant and the surrounding area. "The Power of Acme's Past: Historical Background and Personal Narratives," is available on the project website. The website also includes information on the site's history, environmental assessments, timelines, funding, photos, and other updates as well as interactive links for people to save their stories about the site's past and their ideas on potential future uses.



**Please respect fences and adjacent landowners. Do not enter the site. The site is contaminated and is a risk to your health and safety.**

The site is not safe for volunteer assistance at this time, but there are still ways to be involved:

- Make a donation. This shows community support and allows us to leverage grants and obtain other funding.
- Share stories and reuse ideas on the project website [www.acmeprojectwyoming.org](http://www.acmeprojectwyoming.org)
- Provide input and feedback at public meetings



## *Environmental Quality Incentives Program*

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is a voluntary program that provides technical and financial assistance to producers to address natural resource concerns and deliver environmental benefits such as improved water and air quality, conserved ground and surface water, increased soil health and reduced soil erosion and sedimentation, improved or created wildlife habitat, and more.

The Local Working Group, consisting of agencies and individuals in Sheridan and Johnson counties (Division IV), meets annually to determine priorities within the area. The LWG serves as an advisory board to the State Technical Committee which helps adapt state NRCS policy to local needs.

Farmers and ranchers who lease and/or own agricultural land are eligible to apply. For more information, visit [nrcs.usda.gov/farmbill](http://nrcs.usda.gov/farmbill) or make an appointment to see Andrew Cassiday, NRCS District Conservationist, or Oakley Ingersoll, NRCS Soil Conservationist, by calling our office at (307) 672-5820 ext. 3.



## **GOT VENTENATA OR MEDUSAHEAD?**



Unfortunately these pesky invasive grasses aren't going anywhere anytime soon. At the 2018 LWG meeting and again at the 2020 LWG meeting, due to the spread of these invasives, degraded plant condition remained the #1 priority for Division IV.

Financial assistance is available for treatment of these species. Contact the NRCS office to find out if you're eligible.



1949 Sugarland Drive, Ste 102  
 Sheridan, WY 82801  
 (307) 672-5820 ext. 3  
[www.sccdwy.org](http://www.sccdwy.org)



Non-Profit Org.  
 U.S. Postage Paid  
 Sheridan, WY  
 Permit No. 21

Our mission is to protect Sheridan County's water and land quality through assistance programs, information and outreach, monitoring, and planning.

**SCCD's regular board meetings are currently being held virtually the first Tuesday of each month at 4 pm.**

### THANK YOU

to Doug Masters for serving a second time on the SCCD Board of Supervisors. We will miss you!



### CONGRATULATIONS

to Emerson Scott for being re-elected to serve his third term on the Board!



### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

- Susan Holmes  
Chair
- Edith Heyward  
Vice Chair
- Orrin Connell  
Secretary-Treasurer
- Emerson Scott  
Supervisor

Doug Masters  
Supervisor

### DISTRICT STAFF

- Carrie Rogaczewski  
District Manager
- Jackie Turner  
Program Specialist

### NRCS STAFF

- Andrew Cassiday  
District Conservationist
- Oakley Ingersoll  
Soil Conservationist

### WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST BOARD MEMBER!



Stephanie Masters has been a near life-long resident of Sheridan County, where she has embraced a number of roles over the years including that of a business owner, land owner, cattleguard, mother and grandmother. She is anxious to serve her community in this newest role as a member of the Conservation District, and looks forward to putting her personal and professional experience to work for the businesses and families of Sheridan County. Stephanie enjoys being surrounded by her children and grandchildren while spending time on the family ranch near Dayton.

### STORMWATER POLLUTION: From Goose Creek to the Gulf of Mexico

When it rains or snows, anything on the ground can be picked up and swept into storm drains, including trash, sediment, and animal waste. Storm drains empty into nearby waterbodies, like our streams and rivers. In Sheridan, storm drains flow into Little Goose, Big Goose, and Goose Creek.

Wyoming is a headwater state, meaning many of the major river systems in the United States begin in the mountains of Wyoming, ultimately ending in the Gulf of Mexico. What we do here can impact miles and miles of downstream water resources. Stormwater pollution can physically degrade the conditions of waterbodies, endangering public water supplies, aquatic life, fisheries, and more.

### WHAT CAN I DO?

Individuals can help prevent stormwater pollution by:

- Picking up after your pets
- Using only the recommended amounts of fertilizers and pesticides
- Use the oil recycling facilities in Sheridan, Dayton, or Clearmont
- Keep trash out of the storm drains - AKA. don't litter
- Put debris from sweeping up driveways and sidewalks into the trash rather than into the street

### HOW DOES THE SCCD DO THEIR PART?

The SCCD offers financial assistance for projects that benefit water quality in impaired watersheds, like septic system replacements, corral or animal feeding area relocation, and fencing and stockwater systems that reduce livestock access to waterbodies. Most recently, the SCCD has partnered with Frog Creek Partners to sponsor four Gutter Bins in the City of Sheridan.

Frog Creek Partners' Gutter Bin stormwater filtration system removes pollution from storm drains to help make rivers and oceans cleaner.

**Sheridan's 11 Gutter Bins installed around downtown have captured over 2500 pounds of pollution within the past three years. Ten more donated by generous sponsors will be installed this month.**

If you or your business is interested in helping to reduce pollution in our local watersheds and beyond, we encourage you to reach out to Frog Creek Partners to sponsor a Gutter Bin.



(307) 797-7720  
[heya@FrogCreek.Partners](mailto:heya@FrogCreek.Partners)  
[www.FrogCreek.Partners](http://www.FrogCreek.Partners)



Brian Deurloo, President and Founder, is a Sheridan native who is working to help protect watersheds around the world. Deurloo's first Gutter Bins were installed in the City of Sheridan. The patented Gutter Bins are manufactured locally in Sheridan, Casper, and Gillette.