

LIVING ON A FEW ACRES IN



CAMPBELL COUNTY

RESOURCE LIST

STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES

Bureau of Land Management:	CC Conservation District.....682-1824
Buffalo Field Office.....684-1100	CC Planning & Zoning Division.....685-8061
United States Department of Agriculture:	CC Road and Bridge Department.....682-4411
Farm Service Agency.....682-8843	CC Weed and Pest.....682-4369
Natural Resources Conservation Service:	City of Gillette.....686-5206
Gillette Field Office.....682-8843	Emergency Management.....686-7477
United States Forest Service:	Fire Department.....682-5319
Powder River Ranger District.....684-7806	Hospital.....688-1000
Thunder Basin National Grassland.....358-4690	Landfill.....682-9499
Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality:	Library.....682-3223
Sheridan673-9337	NRCS.....682-8843
Wyoming Department of Transportation:	Post Office.....682-3727
Gillette.....682-3550	Public Health.....682-7275
Wright.....464-1361	School District Bus Barn.....682-4179
Wyoming Game and Fish Department:	Sheriff.....687-6160
Regional Office.....672-7418	UW Cooperative Extension Service.....682-7281
Warden (north).....682-4353	
Warden (south).....687-7157	
Wyoming State Engineer.....777-7011	



2 business days before you intend to dig....

CALL 811 for locates!!!



Wright:

<u>OTHER NUMBERS</u>	
Gillette:	
CC Assessor.....682-7266	Clinic.....464-0413
CC Attorney.....682-4310	Fire Department.....464-1522
CC Building Division682-1970	Library.....464-0500
CC Clerk's Office.....682-7585	School District Bus Barn.....464-1459
CC Commissioners.....682-7283	Sheriff.....464-0039
	Town Hall.....464-1666

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Photo and Technical Information Provided by:

- ◆ Barnyards & Backyards Publications
- ◆ Campbell County Conservation District (CCCD)
- ◆ Campbell County Fire Department
- ◆ Campbell County Public Works
- ◆ Campbell County Weed and Pest
- ◆ Natural Resources Conservation Service
- ◆ Small Acreage Issue Team Interns - Campbell County
- ◆ University of Wyoming Extension - Campbell County
- ◆ Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality
- ◆ Wyoming Game and Fish Department
- ◆ Wyoming State Forestry Division

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Is Rural Living For You?

Though there are many benefits to living on a rural property, there are some things to take into consideration before you purchase land:

- * You may not have access to the irrigation water that runs through your own land, and you are responsible for the quality of the water that leaves your land;
- * You may lose a pet or livestock to a predator;
- * You are responsible for fire that starts on your land and spreads to other properties;
- * Wildlife have big appetites and may be hard to keep out of your landscaping, gardens or hay stacks;
- * There may be limited access to utilities often taken for granted when living in a more urban area;
- * You must make sure to have an in-depth knowledge of the property you buy. This includes any problems with soil, drainage, and even subdivision covenants;
- * Cost of construction may be high for things such as barns or shelters for livestock and hay;
- * There is a large time commitment required to mow fields, maintain fences, spray weeds, feed livestock, deal with muddy facilities, doctor sick animals, vaccinate healthy animals, etc.
- * Rural water sources are typically private wells that are not always reliable due to quantity or quality;
- * Minerals or pollutants may contaminate your well;
- * The time and fuel required to get to town tend to be greater than imagined, especially in inclement weather;
- * It takes time to learn about and maintain domestic wells and pumps, sewer systems, irrigation pumps, ditches, and hand lines;
- * The access road to your property may not be publicly maintained, and it may be your responsibility to maintain it;
- * Your neighbor may apply pesticides or herbicides that drift onto your land;
- * The open meadow bordering your property might soon turn into another subdivision, open-pit mine, logging, or other 'unsightly' place, so you should be open to noise, smells, or a change of scenery;
- * You may find you cannot subdivide your acreage but land in the vicinity is being subdivided.

What to Know Before You Buy...

There are many things to consider before you buy a piece of property and move out of town.

The following sections will provide some helpful tips and things to look into before making a decision.

If You're Moving for the Scenery...

Many people buy a piece of land based solely on the surrounding scenery. They generally do not take into account the possibility a forest could be used for logging or an open prairie could become another subdivision. You can find out about the zoning of surrounding properties from your county's planning department. They can tell you if there are future developments in planning stages.

A benefit of living in the country is being away from the commotion of towns and cities, but one of the drawbacks of living in the country is the weather. Not only can it wreak havoc on a house built on bad soils or in a natural drainage, it can leave you stranded for days at a time.



Don't Forget the Minerals...

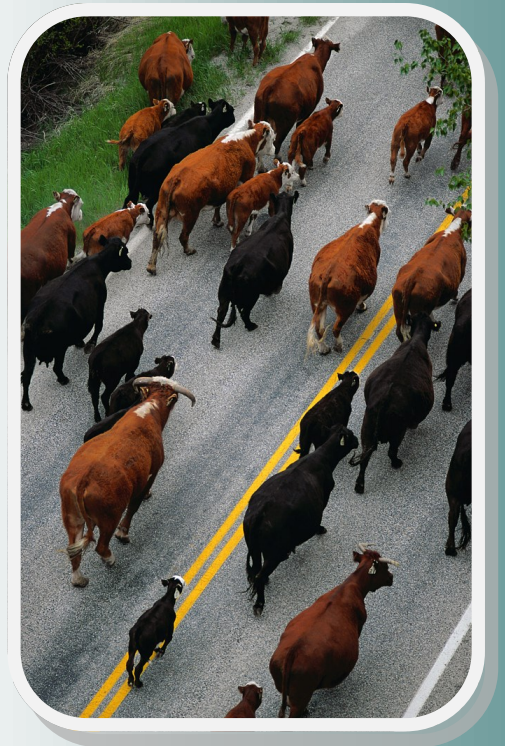


Campbell County is well known for its minerals. Why else would it be called the Energy Capitol of the nation? While Campbell County resources have helped fund wonderful projects all over the state, there can also be negative impacts. In the Powder River Basin area, mining uses often expand, which may affect the land negatively. There is also the issue of mineral rights. Many property owners do not own the mineral rights under their property. Owners of mineral rights have the right to change the surface characteristics to extract minerals. It is very important to know

what minerals may be under the land you buy and who owns them. Contact the Campbell County Clerk's office with questions on how to research mineral rights.

Agriculture = Open Spaces

- ⇒ Agriculture is a major economic contributor to local economies. If you chose to live among and next to ranching operations, you may be affected by them; you have the opportunity to help keep the ranching operation viable by learning how you can be a good neighbor to this important part of our community.
- ⇒ Wyoming has an “open range” law. This means if you do not want cattle on your property, it is your responsibility to fence them out, not the rancher’s to keep the cattle off your property.
- ⇒ If you plan on owning horses, cattle, sheep, goats, llamas, or alpacas, you must obtain brand inspections on these animals if ownership changes, even if the animal is not branded. Also, horses, cattle, sheep, and goats must have a brand inspection to cross county or state lines, even if no change in ownership occurs or the animals are not branded.
- ⇒ Livestock may cause odors and noise, which are objectionable to some people. If you find them annoying, you may want to find a parcel in an area of the county where agriculture is not prevalent.
- ⇒ Livestock are occasionally moved on public roads. When you encounter a livestock drive, please pull over to the side of the road and allow the drive to pass. Or, if a rider directs you to move forward, do so slowly. The delay will cost you only a few minutes. Enjoy the scene; this is the “real west” or “Wyoming gridlock” and is a critical part of your neighbor’s ability to make a living.
- ⇒ If you’re traveling on dirt and graveled roads adjacent to ranch lands, drive slowly and with care. An excess of dust can affect both the health of livestock and the quality of hay in the fields. Occasionally cattle may get out on the road; avoiding hitting an animal is healthy for both you and the animal. County Road Right-of-Way fences are not normally maintained by the county.
- ⇒ Ranchers often work around the clock, especially during birthing season in the spring and hay harvesting time in the middle to late summer. Occasionally, adjoining agricultural operations may disturb your otherwise quiet surroundings. Those times will pass.
- ⇒ Another consideration is companion animal pets. You are responsible for keeping your dog on your own property. Wyoming law allows the shooting of dogs when they are harassing people, wildlife or livestock. Avoid a real tragedy and do the neighborly thing at the same time; keep your best friend in his own yard.



Accessing Property

When you are looking to purchase a piece of Wyoming's open space, consider how to access the property: will you build a private road off a state highway, use a county road, use a neighbor's private road, or a subdivision road? Which ever route you choose, make sure you know the legal aspects of gaining access. A "road" to your property, may not be a legal access road.

If you plan to build a personal driveway off a county road, contact the County Planning & Zoning Division and County Road & Bridge. They will tell you who to obtain an approach permit from. If planning to build off a state road, you must apply for an approach license through the Wyoming Department of Transportation. If there is a homeowner's association in the subdivision, check with them to see if there are any regulations on personal driveways.



Road Maintenance

Also consider the maintenance... it is unlikely the county will plow the road or maintain it. Most roads in subdivisions are "dedicated to public use" ~ therefore, anyone can drive on the road; however, you or your homeowners association are responsible for the maintenance. To find out if your road will be maintained by the county, call the Road & Bridge Department at 682-4411. Campbell County also offers grants to subdivisions and neighborhoods who form Improvement and Service Districts, contact County Public Works for more information.

Every year there are many new subdivisions moving in next to established neighborhoods and using existing local roads. The Planning Commission recommends subdivisions using the same roads work together to provide road maintenance and upkeep for the benefit of all.

Emergency Response and Addressing



Emergency response times (fire department, ambulance, sheriff) cannot be guaranteed. Under some extreme circumstances, you may find response is extremely slow. You can help this to some degree by making sure your address plate, provided only by the County, is posted on a secure post at the end of your driveway. Make sure it is in a visible place. This will help emergency response personnel, as well as parcel delivery people and county building inspectors, find you.

Find Out About Easements

Easements may require you to allow construction of roads, power lines, water lines, sewer lines, or other infrastructure across your land. There may even be “easements” in the form of a gentleman’s agreement between neighbors that are not on record. Easement information can be obtained by taking a legal description of the property in question to the Campbell County Clerk’s Office.

Disclosure Statements and Covenants

Disclosure Statements: One of the most important documents to have regarding your property is the disclosure statement. All subdivisions should have one on file in the Land Vault, or you may visit the Planning & Zoning Division to receive a copy. This statement contains essential information such as how and if your property receives water/Water Well Agreement, the anticipated emergency response time, who is responsible for road maintenance, whether there are mineral exploration/facilities, and if there is a homeowner’s association or covenants on the land.

A plat can also be obtained at the Planning & Zoning Division. This will show easements you may not be aware of.

Covenants: Another important document you should have for land you are purchasing is a copy of covenants. Covenants are legal restriction that limit the use of the land. These restrictions are transferred with the property and are binding on all future buyers of the property. Covenants can specify anything from the number of animals you can have on your property to what color your house can be! They can also limit the size and types of modular or manufactured homes or whether land can be subdivided in the future.

When buying property, you should make sure you can live with the covenants. A lack of covenants may also create disputes between neighbors about what types of uses are allowed in the neighborhood.

Enforcement of covenants is the homeowner’s responsibility, not the county’s. Any disputes over covenants must be settled privately or in the courts.

What About Utilities?

Don’t forget about power! Be sure to ask about utility lines for electricity, gas, and phone before you buy land. If there is not a tie-in near, you may end up spending much more than anticipated. Also, contact your local garbage service to find out if they pick up trash in the area; you may have to work with a private disposal company.

Keep in mind, power outages can occur in outlying areas more frequently and last longer than in more developed areas. A lack of electricity not only interferes with luxuries such as television, but can also prevent an electric pump from drawing water... or an electric heat source from heating your home.

School Bus Routes and Postal Delivery

For those with children, considering transportation to and from school is important. Many towns and counties in Wyoming are experiencing a demand for rural bus routes. For information, contact the Campbell County School District Bus Barn or Wright Bus Barn.

To find out if there is postal delivery to the area you are in or if you would prefer a post office box, call the Gillette Post Office.



You Finally Bought a Piece of Wyoming



Surveying the Land

Just because there is a fence surrounding your property does not necessarily mean it follows the true property lines. Having a professional licensed land surveyor mark the boundaries can relieve any future problems with neighbors and boundary disputes; they can also survey for well locations. For local surveyors, look in your phone book's yellow pages.

Building your Home

A majority of newly subdivided small acreage parcels have no buildings or roads on the land, which leaves all the planning up to you. When planning your home site, corrals, animal shelters, and roads, take into consideration what will have the least impact on the land. To prevent future problems, build on stable soils away from streams or any other water bodies, away from areas where snow will drift, and not on steep slopes. Also, be cautious about placing improvements on north facing slopes. These areas receive less direct sunlight in the winter and tend to accumulate more snow that will not melt off for several months.



Every landowner needs a comprehensive management plan. Before developing your plan, look around, make a sketch, and take notes about your property. Note where utility lines are, the property boundaries, fences or corrals, any structures, wells, septic system (if present), streams or ponds, bare ground, weedy areas, and trees. Knowing the characteristics of the property will make for easier planning and better land management. While the underground utilities are important for future planning, so are any overhead utility lines, especially if you're considering planting trees.

There are minimum building standards for all new residential homes within the county. This requires permits and inspections for wastewater, electric, mechanical and plumbing systems. To obtain these permits, contact the County Public Works.

Site Plan: A site plan is the first step in obtaining your building permits. By having your site plan ready when you visit the County Public Works, the process will be sped up considerably. Your detailed site plan should include:

- The location of any structures, including your home, shop, garage or outbuildings, septic tank, leach field, water well, and any overhead or underground utilities;
- The set backs of the structures from the property lines and easements. If your property is zoned, it must conform with any applicable zoning requirements.

Water Supplies

If your acreage is not in an area where city water tie-ins are available, then you may have to consider drilling a private water well. The State Engineer grants permits for wells, and the cost for drilling can be significant. The quality and quantity of well water can vary considerably from location to location and from season to season. Check into this carefully.

The construction of a private well is based on establishing the right location for the well, sizing the system correctly, and choosing the proper construction techniques. Only a professional water well contractor should install a well. They know the hydrogeology in your area and all the local codes and regulations for wells. They also have the modern equipment and expertise needed to make sure your well is properly constructed to meet your water needs.

Water Well Maintenance

Keeping your water clean and pure is important, as is keeping your system working efficiently. Keep a well log to make sure you perform regular maintenance on your well system to prevent any expensive problems or contaminated water. The well log will include a reference number for the well, original site owner (if other than yourself), location of the well, construction and contractor details, as well as the results from any water tests. The well log should help establish the location, age, and condition of the well. This information will provide the basis on which to schedule regular tests of water quality and inspections of the well equipment, as well as regular maintenance and repairs.

Well Inspection

- ◆ Inspect your wellhead several times a year. Check the condition of the well covering, casing, and well cap to make sure all are in good repair, leaving no cracks or other entry points for potential pollutants.
- ◆ Have the well system, including the pump, storage tank, pipes and valves, and water flow, inspected every 10 years by a qualified well driller or pump installer.
- ◆ If you have no inspection record and cannot determine the age of the well, have it inspected immediately by a water well professional.
- ◆ Test more than once a year in special situations: someone in the household is pregnant or nursing; there are unexplained illnesses in the family; your neighbors find a dangerous contaminant in their water; or there is a spill of chemicals or fuels into or near your well.
- ◆ Test after disinfection, within one or two weeks, to make sure the water is pure.
- ◆ Test after any flooding in or near the well to determine if flood water carried bacteria or other contaminants into the well system.

Water Testing

- ◆ Test drinking water immediately if you have no recent test results or any record of previous tests.
- ◆ Test drinking water for bacteria every year. Also test annually for nitrates if you live in an agricultural area or have an on-site small wastewater (septic) system. The best time to perform the annual tests are in the spring.
- ◆ Test if you notice any change in the taste, color, or odor of your water.
- ◆ Test drinking water before installing any water treatment device.
- ◆ Test water every year to make sure the device is working properly.
- ◆ Follow the inspection and maintenance schedule provided by your water treatment device manufacturer or water well professional.

Water Treatment System

Water Rights

One of the most important utilities may be access to water. Although there may be water running across the property, it may not belong to you but instead be a neighboring ranch's irrigation water. Any questions regarding water rights can be answered by the State Board of Control or State Engineer.

Water Quality and Wetlands

If you rely on groundwater for your drinking water, then water quality will be very important to you. Did you know the ways in which you manage your land can directly impact your water quality? Erosion from overgrazing, improper small wastewater (septic) system design/use, and decreased ground cover can all lead to contamination of groundwater supplies.

You also have to take into consideration whether there are riparian areas on your land. The riparian area is the interface between uplands and a river or stream and can include wetlands, trees, shrubs, and hydrophilic plants. Having a healthy riparian area ensures a healthy stream system. Permits to fill, drain, dredge, or alter any waters of the U.S. including wetlands, are mandatory. Contact the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at (307) 772-2301.

A healthy riparian area will slow floodwater, reduce erosion, and property loss; secure food and cover for aquatic wildlife; keep water cooler in summer; reduce water pollution by filtering out sediment, chemicals, and nutrients from runoff; provides breeding habitat for birds; and holds more water in the soil, slowly releasing it for longer season stream flows and groundwater recharge. Stream bank stability is critical to maintain or improve riparian conditions. The importance of stream bank stability relates to the existing and future condition of the watershed. You can obtain recommendations for improving stream banks and information on how sensitive your area is to disturbance from your local NRCS or Conservation District.



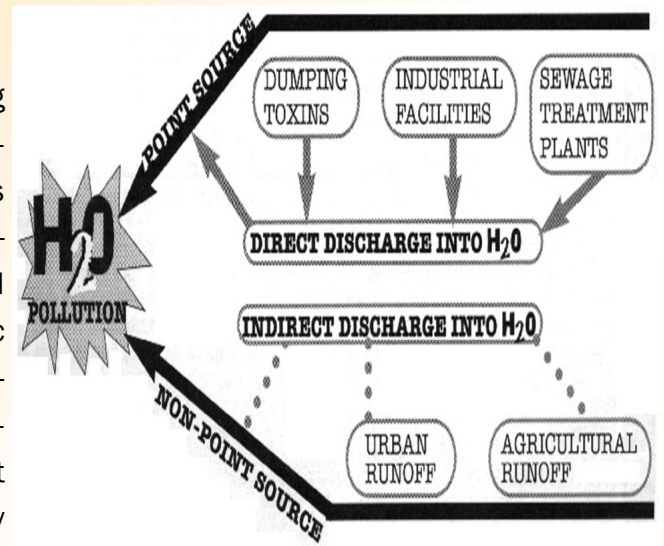
Water Quality Update

A recently completed 2010-2013 Data Analysis Report of the Donkey/Stonepile Creek Sub-Watersheds, Little Powder River Sub-Watershed, and Upper/Middle Powder River Watershed for the Campbell County Conservation District indicates that bacteria concentrations in the impaired streams remain above the WDEQ standards. Overall Donkey and Stonepile Creeks measure the highest bacteria concentrations, while the Little Powder River indicated a decrease in bacteria. In addition, a review of chloride and relative nutri-

ent data from Donkey and Stonepile creeks indicated exceedances of the WDEQ standards. Although the monitoring project results indicated that bacteria concentrations in excess of the WDEQ primary contact recreation standards remain present in the streams, the data provided valuable insight into trends and potential source contributors. Additionally, the Little Powder River indicated an improvement in both *E. coli* and chloride loading following the implementation of many Best Management Practices (small wastewater systems and animal feeding operations).

Non-Point Source Pollution

The EPA describes non-point source (NPS) pollution as having many diffuse sources. It is caused by rainfall or snowmelt moving over and through the ground. As the runoff moves, it picks up and carries away natural and human-made pollutants, finally, depositing them into lakes, rivers, wetlands, oceans, and ground water. Fertilizers, herbicides, insecticides, oils, toxic chemicals, sediment erosion, salt from irrigation practices, bacteria from livestock, wildlife, pet waste, and atmospheric deposits are all non-point source pollution contributors. Throughout this publication, you will find tips on planning for your property that will reduce how much NPS pollution is released into the water source where you live.



Ways to Prevent NPS Pollution

- Have your small wastewater (septic) system inspected and pumped, at a minimum every three to five years;
- Purchase household cleaners and detergents low in phosphorus;
- Manage animal waste to minimize contamination of surface and ground water;
- Protect drinking water by using less pesticides and fertilizers;
- Dispose of used oil, antifreeze, paints, or other chemicals properly; and cleanup any spills;
- Reduce soil erosion by using conservation practices and other applicable best management practices;
- Use planned grazing systems on pasture and rangeland.



Recycling trailers available at:

Don's Supermarket on

West 2nd Street

&

Wal-Mart on

South Douglas Highway

Call 307 682-9499 for more information

Campbell County Recycling Guidelines

Do

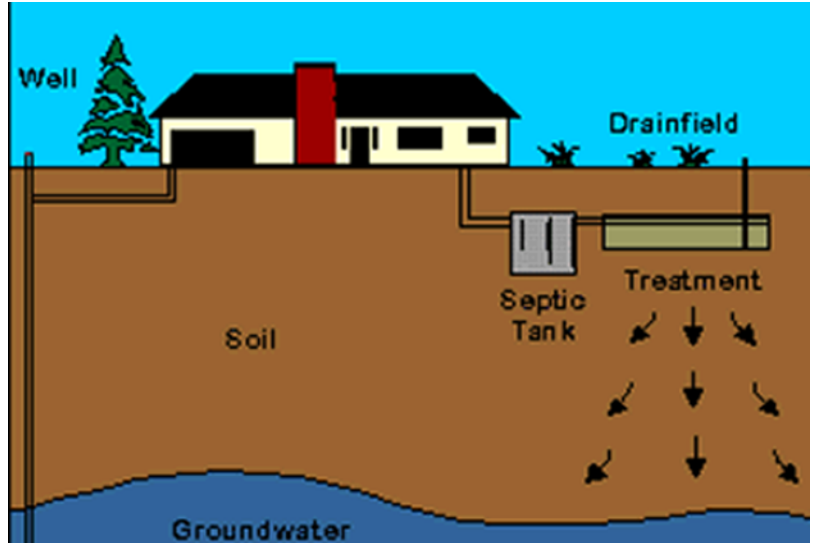
- ⇒ Aluminum Cans
- ⇒ Newspapers
- ⇒ Steel Cans (please rinse)
- ⇒ Plastic Containers (1's and 2's)
- ⇒ Magazines (slick paper ok)
- ⇒ Phone Books
- ⇒ Corrugated Cardboard
- ⇒ Glass Bottles (must be delivered to recycle center)

Don't

- ⇒ NO Styrofoam or packing peanuts
- ⇒ NO plastic shopping bags
- ⇒ NO hard cover books
- ⇒ NO pasteboard (cereal boxes, egg cartons, pop can boxes)
- ⇒ NO oil containers

Small Wastewater (Septic) Systems

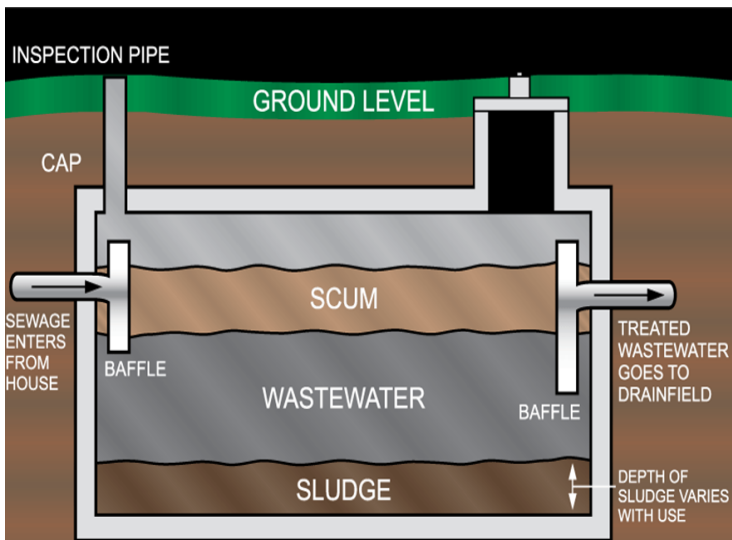
Selecting a small wastewater (septic) system is a consideration people do not have to worry about when they live in town. But if you are one of the 25% of rural homeowners who have a small wastewater system, then understanding the process, and maintenance may prevent the occasional - but very exasperating - problem with a small wastewater system.



In Campbell County, you will need to obtain a permit for a small wastewater system by contacting the Planning and Zoning Department. If you have never had experience planning a small wastewater system, it would be in your best interest to consult a contractor who has experience with the process. It is also necessary to have a percolation test done. This determines the soil filtering capacity or permeability. You can visit the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality website for more details on small wastewater systems.

How a Small Wastewater System Works...

Everything that goes down any of the drains in your house (sink, toilet, shower, and washing machine) travels first to the septic tank. The septic tank is a large-volume, watertight tank that provides the primary



SINGLE COMPARTMENT

treatment of the household wastewater by intercepting solids and 'sinkable' organic matter before disposal of the wastewater (effluent) to the drain field.

The construction and operation of a septic tank is fairly simple but provides numerous important functions through a complex interaction of physical and biological processes. The essential functions of the septic tank are to receive all wastewater from the house, separate solids from the wastewater flow, cause reduction and decomposition of accumulated solids, provide storage for the separated solids (sludge and scum), and pass the clarified wastewater out to the drain field for final treatment and disposal.

This process is often called primary treatment and results in three products: scum, sludge, and effluent.

More on Small Wastewater Systems.....

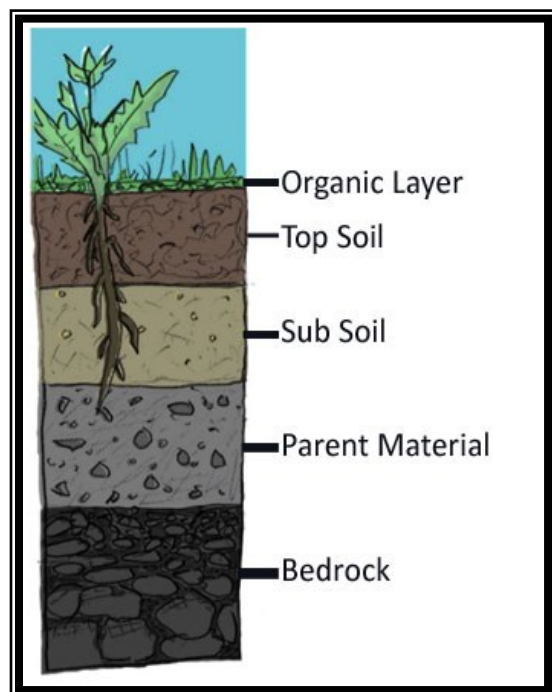
A small wastewater system is normally powered by nothing but gravity. Water flows down from the house to the tank and down from the tank to the drain field. As new water enters the tank, it displaces the water that is already there. This water flows out of the septic tank and into a drain field. A drain field is made of perforated pipes buried in trenches filled with gravel. A typical drain field pipe is 4 inches in diameter and is buried in a trench that is 4 to 6 feet deep and 2 feet wide. The gravel fills the bottom 2 to 3 feet of the trench and dirt covers the gravel. The water is slowly absorbed and filtered by the ground in the drain field. The size of the drain field is determined by how well the ground absorbs water, the number of bedrooms in your home, and the depth to groundwater.

Maintenance

Since small wastewater systems are designed to break down and discharge household wastewater so it does not impact surface or groundwater, it is important to maintain the system to prevent failure. Neglecting to have your septic tank pumped on the recommended schedule, excessive household chemical use, or sending excessive water to a septic tank at one time, can shorten the life of the leach field. Also, the use of a garbage disposal can complicate the function of the septic tank by creating suspended solids that do not drop out in the retention cycle.

Testing

Inspect the septic tank each year for functional operation and leaks. Many sanitation companies that work on septic systems will be able to provide this service. Pump out the tank as needed, usually every three to five years, based on the number of people in the household and the size of the tank.

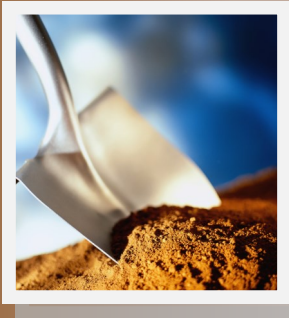


WEB SOIL SURVEY

Do you want to know what type of tree will grow best on your property? Or where the best location would be for the leach field of your septic system? Then you need to research the web soil survey at <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov>! The site provides agricultural producers, agencies, Technical Service Providers, and others electronic access to relevant soil and related information needed to make land-use and management decisions.

KNOWING YOUR SOILS

There is a great diversity of soils that may vary in a short distance, such as the distance across your back yard. These differences will account for changes in forage production, plant health, septic system function, and building requirements. Knowing your soil type (clay, loam or sand) will help determine the layout of your property, where to build new buildings, where to plant windbreaks, and which types of trees, landscape plants or forages to plant.



Most soils have a top layer where most nutrient (organic material) and plant activity take place. Protecting this layer from erosion, compaction, nutrient loss, and other disruption maintains a strong growth medium for plants. In Campbell County, this layer is very thin compared to many other areas of the state. Adding organic material to the topsoil layer will improve plantings, soil water retention, modify pH, and nutrient exchange.

Determining whether soils are acidic, neutral or alkaline will help you choose the right plants for your landscaping and maintain them in good health. A simple pH-testing kit can be purchased from many garden retailers, which will confirm the acidity or alkalinity of your soil. Horticulturally, "neutral" soils are pH6.5, which many plants enjoy; any soil pH less than 5.5 or above pH 7.5 can be problematic, with certain pests, disease, and nutritional disorders in your plants. Acidifying soil is difficult and expensive; using garden lime is a cheap alternative to raise pH where necessary, though this is rarely needed in Campbell County.

SOIL AND WATER RELATIONS

Clay: Water goes in slowly; held tightly

Loam: Water goes in at an average rate; held with medium strength

Sand: Water goes in quickly; held poorly

For more information concerning soil, call the NRCS or Campbell County Conservation District. The UW Extension Service provides kits to mail soil samples to test your soil.



IMPROVING SOILS

Any soil type can be productive if handled appropriately. **Organic matter improves all soils.** Any organic substance - compost, leaf mold, well-rotted manure, wood and bark chippings, feathers-will in time turn your basic soil type into a darker, crumbly soil. This is known as the soil structure, and it is under your control. You can dig in organic matter or lay it on top as mulch. Rich organic matter (such as manure) is ideal for dry, "hungry" soils like sand. Dry, fibrous organic matter (composted bark) might be better on clay, which is already rich and wet. Whatever you use, it is best applied when well rotted and added at least twice a year for maximum benefit. Organic matter improves the drainage and workability of clay, and the water and nutrient holding capacity of sands, silts and chalky soils.

Backyard Composting

Many of the things we dispose of every day go to landfills and will eventually decompose, but we could use some of these materials to turn household and livestock waste into valuable fertilizer and soil organic matter. Composting can be fairly simple to more involved, depending on how much waste you have and how fast you want results. There are many types of bins sold commercially for composting, but you can also skip a bin all together, or build one of your own. If you prefer to build your own, there are plenty of simple bin designs available online.

There are several factors to consider when beginning a composting project: location of the pile or bin, size, water access, micro-organisms, and air. The location is important to consider for many reasons, including how your neighbors may feel about the view or the smell. The ideal placement for a compost pile is in the shade, but in Campbell County, that is not always possible, so you can cover the pile with a layer of straw, hay, or a sheet of black plastic. This keeps the sun from drying the pile out too much and protects it from the wind. You will need to be near a water source to maintain the moisture content. The ideal size for a compost pile is approximately one cubic yard (3 feet wide x 3 feet long x 3 feet tall); this is important because, if the pile is too small it will not heat up enough to kill weed seeds or work efficiently; however, if it is too tall, the weight will compact the pile pushing the air out. For different methods on composting, read the cold and hot composting sections below.

Cold/Slow Composting

This method of composting requires very little maintenance; you can just pile grass clippings, leaves, plant waste from gardens, kitchen waste (not including meat or bones), and livestock manure (not pet waste). While it requires little to no maintenance, cold composting is also a fairly slow process that could take from several months to a year. It is important to keep weeds and diseased plants out of the mix because cold composting does not get hot enough to kill seeds or disease-causing organisms.

Occasionally “chopping” or turning the pile will help the decomposition by allowing more air to enter the pile. Unlike hot composting, there is no necessary amount to start; as household and animal waste accumulate, they can be added to the pile. It is important to remember to use a cover of some type to reduce drying out from wind and sun; using a black plastic sheet in Wyoming will also increase the heat and in turn, the decomposition will be faster.

Cold composting can leave more undecomposed bits of material, which can be screened out if desired but is not necessary.

Hot Composting

The hot composting method requires more work, but it also allows you to have finished compost within several weeks (depending on the weather conditions). With this method, it is vital to have the recommended size of pile (3’x3’x3’) or to stockpile the “ingredients” until there is enough. Hot piles reach 110 to 160 degrees Fahrenheit, which kills most weed seeds and plant diseases. A downfall of hot composting is the finding that the product is less able to suppress diseases in the soil since the high temperatures may kill good bacteria.

1. Choose a level, well drained site;
2. Bins are not necessary, although they will help contain your pile; you can also place woody material beneath a pile to help with aeration;
3. You can mix or layer the carbon and nitrogen materials either way has worked;
4. Water periodically so the pile is moist but not saturated (extreme odors may indicate the pile is oversaturated);
5. Punch holes for aeration;
6. The pile will heat up and then begin to cool. Start turning when the pile’s internal temperature peaks at about 130-140 degrees Fahrenheit (you can check this with a compost thermometer, or reach into the pile to determine if it is uncomfortably hot to the touch);
7. Move materials from the center to the outside and vice versa. Do this every day or two and you should get compost in less than four weeks. Turning every other week will make compost in one to three months.

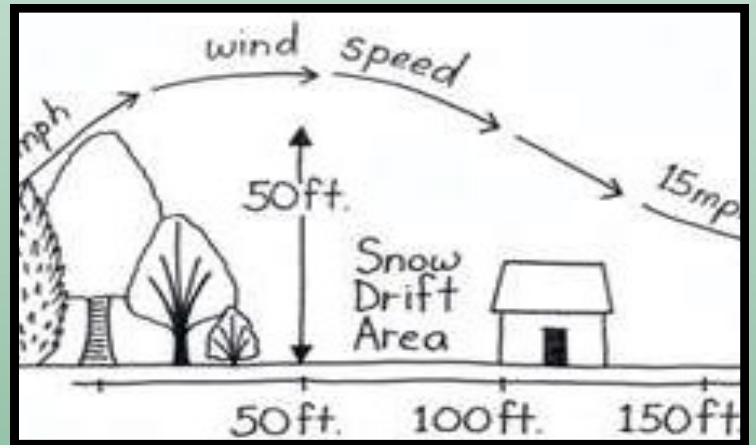


Dealing with Wyoming Wind

For homeowners in rural areas, well-designed windbreaks can cut home heating costs by 10-25%. Home heating savings are not the only energy benefit from windbreaks. Windbreaks are very effective in controlling drifting snow. By strategically locating windbreaks upwind of roads and highways, blowing snow can be reduced, resulting in less snow accumulation and ice development on roads.

Windbreaks also:

- Protect livestock-increase feed efficiency, increase weight gains, increase survival of newborns, improve animal health and ultimately profits;
- Reduce wind erosion;
- Increase crop yields by 5-20%, and increase crop quality;
- Reduce pesticide drift;
- Improve irrigation efficiency;
- Filter dust and other air pollutants;
- Provide wildlife travel corridors and habitat;
- Store carbon;
- And reduce noise!



Planning and Planting

Important considerations are soil type, wind speed, wind direction, where roads and other facilities are located, varieties of trees and shrubs to use, and what the ultimate goal of the tree row will be. It may be wise to consider a fence windbreak for your windbreak if planting small trees or seedlings as wind may damage them before they are established. The Campbell County Conservation District can help you with your concerns on planting a windbreak.

Each fall the Campbell County Conservation District and Master Gardeners take orders for seedling trees and shrubs to be delivered in the spring.

Living Snow Fence Program

The Wyoming Living Snow Fence Program is a cooperative effort between the Wyoming Department of Transportation, Wyoming State Forestry Division, local Conservation Districts and private landowners to implement windbreak plantings for the purpose of snow catchment along State highways. Living Snow Fence plantings enhance state and county efforts to keep roads safe and open during periods of adverse winter weather while reducing highway maintenance expenditures.

If you own property along a State highway and are interested in learning more about a Living Snow Fence, please contact the Campbell County Conservation District at 682-1824.

Landscaping and Gardening Ideas

Most landscapes contain high-water demand plants. Many of our existing trees need a streamside environment, and the expansive lawns require 36 inches of supplemental water every year. Consider this - 50 to 70% of your annual household water use goes to maintaining landscapes. There are ways to have attractive landscapes and still conserve water.

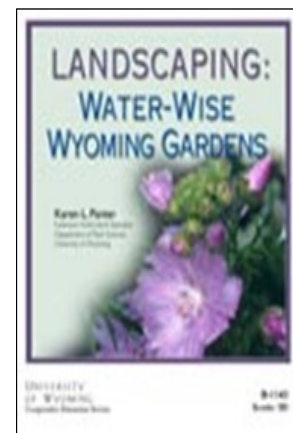
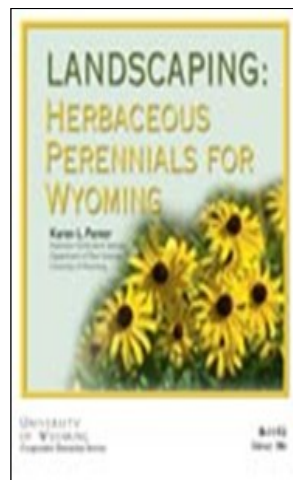
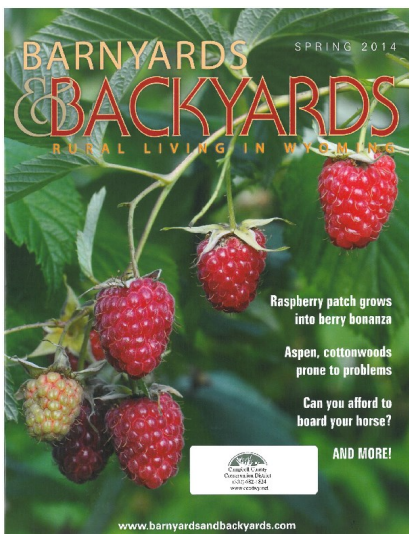
Simple ways of reducing the amount of water used for irrigation include growing xeriphytic species (plants that are adapted to dry conditions), mulching, adding water retaining organic matter to the soil, and installing windbreaks and fences to slow winds and reduce evapotranspiration. Watering in the early morning before the sun is intense helps water lost from evaporation. Installing rain gutters and collecting water from downspouts to use in gardens can also reduce water use.



Landscaping is not always easy in Wyoming's arid climate and, oftentimes, landscaping efforts require large amounts of water. There is also wildlife to consider when landscaping. While attracting certain types of wildlife is often desired, that does not mean we want our newly planted poplars munched on by the local antelope. When it comes to native landscaping in Wyoming, we are also faced with often difficult weather patterns, which means hardier plants that need less water are better choices.

The majority of Campbell County falls in Zone 3 for plant hardiness. The zones are based on annual average low temperatures. Consult the extension office, a local nursery, or landscaper for suggestions based on the specific soil you will be dealing with. Also, refer to back issues of Barnyards & Backyards at www.barnyardsandbackyards.com for more suggestions on species, planting techniques, and protecting your landscapes from wildlife.

Here are a few resources
you may want to research.



TREES TOLERABLE OF WYOMING

The following trees have shown to thrive in Wyoming; however this is not an all-inclusive list. An evaluation of your individual planting location should be done and local experts should be consulted to recommend a tree species suitable to your landscape. Many factors will determine whether a tree thrives, including hardiness zone, planting site conditions and limitations, tree planting technique, tree maintenance, insect and disease susceptibility, tree protection and nursery stock quality. To ensure tree survivability, each of these factors should be considered when purchasing and planting trees.



CONIFER TREES:

COMMON NAME	Scientific Name	ZONE
Douglas-fir	<i>Pseudotsuga merziesii</i>	3
Fir, White	<i>Abies concolor</i>	4
Juniper, Rocky Mountain	<i>Juniperus scopulorum</i>	3
Juniper, Utah	<i>Juniperus osteosperma</i>	4
Larch, European	<i>Larix decidua</i>	2
Larch, Siberian	<i>Larix siberica</i>	2
Larch, Western	<i>Larix occidentalis</i>	4
Pine, Austrian	<i>Pinus nigra</i>	3
Pine, Bristlecone	<i>Pinus aristata</i>	4
Pine, Limber	<i>Pinus flexilis</i>	3
Pine, Lodgepole	<i>Pinus contorta</i>	2
Pine, Piñon	<i>Pinus edulis</i>	3
Pine, Ponderosa	<i>Pinus ponderosa</i>	3
Pine, Scotch	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	3
Pine, Southwestern White	<i>Pinus strobiformis</i>	5
Redcedar, Eastern	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	2
Spruce, Black Hills	<i>Picea glauca var. densata</i>	2
Spruce, Colorado Blue	<i>Picea pungens</i>	2
Spruce, Engelmann	<i>Picea engelmannii</i>	2
Spruce, Norway	<i>Picea abies</i>	3

SHADE TREES:

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	VARIETY	ZONE
Ash, Green	<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>	Patmore, Marshall's Seedless, Summit, Cimmaron®	2
Ash, Manchurian	<i>Fraxinus mandshurica</i>	Mancana	3
Ash, White	<i>Fraxinus Americana</i>	Autumn Purple®, Autumn Blaze, Northern Blaze	3-4
Aspen, Quaking	<i>Populus tremuloides</i>	Swedish Columnar, Prairie Gold®	
Birch, European	<i>Betula pendula</i>	Cutleaf Weeping	2
Birch, Paper	<i>Betula papyrifera</i>		2
Boxelder	<i>Acer nigrundo</i>	Sensation	4
Buckeye, Ohio	<i>Aesculus glabra</i>		4
Buckeye, Yellow	<i>Aesculus flava</i>		4
Catalpa, Western/Northern	<i>Catalpa speciosa</i>		4
Coffeetree, Kentucky	<i>Gymnocladus dioica</i>		4
Cottonwood, Highland	<i>Populus x acuminata x sargentii</i>		3
Cottonwood, Lanceleaf	<i>Populus x acuminata</i>		3
Cottonwood, Narrowleaf	<i>Populus angustifolia</i>		3
Cottonwood, Plains	<i>Populus sargentii</i>	Sargent Straight	3
Elm, American	<i>Ulmus americana</i>	Princeton, Prairie Expedition™	4
Elm, Hybrids	<i>Ulmus x</i>	Accolade®, Triumph™	4
Hackberry	<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	Prairie Pride	3
Honeylocust	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos v. inermis</i>	Syline®, Shademaster®, Imperial®, Sunburst®	4
Horsechestnut	<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>		3
Linden, American	<i>Tilia americana</i>	American Sentry®, Legend®, Boulevard, Redmond	3-4
Linden, Littleleaf	<i>Tilia cordata</i>	Greenspire®, Glenleven	4
Locust, Black	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	Purple Robe	4
Maple, Freeman	<i>Acer x freemanii</i>	Autumn Blaze®, Sierra Glen®	3
Maple, Miyabe	<i>Acer miyabei</i>	State Street®	4
Maple, Norway	<i>Acer platanoides</i>	Emerald Queen, Emerald Lustre®, Deborah, Fairview™	4
Maple, Silver	<i>Acer saccharinum</i>		3
Oak, Bur	<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>		2
Oak, Chinkapin	<i>Quercus muehlenbergii</i>		5
Oak, Red	<i>Quercus rubra</i>		4
Oak, Swamp White	<i>Quercus bicolor</i>		4
Walnut, Black	<i>Juglans nigra</i>		4

ORNAMENTAL & FRUIT TREES:

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	VARIETY	ZONE
Apple	<i>Malus x</i>	Several varieties	3-5
Apricot	<i>Prunus armeniaca</i>	Manchurian, Siberian	3
Birch, Western Water	<i>Betula occidentalis</i>		3
Cherry, Sour	<i>Prunus cerasus</i>	Montmorency, North Star	4
Chokecherry	<i>Prunus virginiana</i>	Canada Red	2
Crabapple	<i>Malus x</i>	Several varieties	3-4
Hawthorn, Downy	<i>Crataegus mollis</i>		4
Hawthorn, Russian	<i>Crataegus ambigua</i>		4
Hawthorn, Thornless Cockspur	<i>Crataegus crus-galli</i>		4
Hawthorn, Toba	<i>Crataegus mordenensis</i>		4
Ironwood (American Hop-hornbeam)	<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>		3
Maple, Amur	<i>Acer ginnala</i>		2
Maple, Bigtooth (Canyon Maple)	<i>Acer graddentatum</i>		3
Maple, Shantung	<i>Acer truncatum</i>		4
Maple, Tatarian	<i>Acer tataricum</i>	Hot Wings®	2
Mayday Tree	<i>Prunus padus</i>		3
Mountain Ash, European	<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>		3
Mountain Ash, Oakleaf	<i>Sorbus x hybrida</i>		3
Mountain Ash, Showy	<i>Sorbus decora</i>		2
Oak, Gambel	<i>Quercus gambelii</i>		3
Pear, Callery	<i>Pyrus calleryana</i>	Autumn Blaze, Chanticleer	5
Pear, Ussurian	<i>Pyrus ussuriensis</i>	Burgundy, Prairie Gem	3
Plum, American	<i>Prunus americana</i>		2
Plum, Canadian	<i>Prunus nigra</i>	Princess Kay	2
Plum, European	<i>Prunus domestica</i>	Stanley	4
Tree Lilac, Japanese	<i>Syringa reticulata</i>		4

Weed Management

What is a weed? A weed is any plant growing where it is not wanted. The most troublesome weeds are those that rapidly multiply to take over a site and are extremely difficult to control. These are referred to as invasive weeds.

Weeds steal moisture and nutrients from new seedlings, shade out older plants, decrease the nutritional value of the forage, and can kill or injure livestock and people. There are three key steps to managing weeds: 1) correctly identify the weeds that you have, 2) understand how they grow and reproduce, and 3) select the appropriate combination of methods for control.

Noxious Weed Identification

Noxious weeds are weeds that landowners are required by law to control. Noxious weeds are often the weeds that spread the easiest and the fastest, allowing them to take over an area in a short time. There are 24 designated noxious weeds in Wyoming; many of these are of concern in Campbell County.

Correctly identifying the weeds you have is very important. Correct identification allows you to choose the correct control methods for those weeds. There are many herbicides on the market, each suited to specific environmental conditions and weed types. Call Campbell County Weed and Pest at 682-4369 with any questions.

The noxious weeds of highest concern in 2014 for Campbell County are:



Common cocklebur



Dalmatian Toadflax



Buffalo bur

Remember:

Before transporting a weed to have it identified,
place it in a plastic bag to avoid spreading the seeds.

MONITOR YOUR LAND FOR WEEDS

Continually monitor your property for weeds. Weeds can be spread to your property in many ways, including from neighbor's property, through hay or other feed purchased, wildlife, livestock, vehicles, and even you.

Certain areas of land are more susceptible to weed infestation. Monitor these areas first. Land disturbance will expose previously buried weed seeds, encouraging them to sprout. Removal of the native vegetation also provides an opportune spot for weeds to take hold. Heavy livestock or pedestrian traffic can lead to bare, compacted soil, which may encourage weed growth. Weeds are often found where soil has been exposed or disturbed by compaction, planting activities, or maintenance activities.

Your long-term goal when managing property should be to keep new weeds out and control the weeds already there. Control does not necessarily mean the weeds will completely disappear. It does mean you know what weeds you have, where they are located, and you are making an effort through management and control practices to keep those weeds from becoming a bigger problem for you and your neighbors.

INTEGRATED WEED MANAGEMENT

There are many different methods used for weed control. The most successful land managers use a combination of these methods. Please consult Campbell County Weed & Pest or the NRCS for help in creating a comprehensive control plan, as these may vary depending on property size, weeds present, resources available, and extent of infestation.

Cultural control - this is identified as modifying behaviors to prevent noxious weeds from being introduced and includes, education, prevention, early detection of new invasions, modifying grazing habits, replanting disturbed or previously infested areas with native species, and monitoring successes and failures.

Biological control - this is the use of introduced competition or predation. Often, introduced noxious weeds are problems because they have been removed from their natural enemies. Biological control includes introducing insects, predators, and pathogens to control weeds as well as correctly timed grazing by species that will eat the weeds.

Physical control - this is the use of physical or mechanical methods to control weed infestations. Physical control can be mowing, chopping, pulling, cutting, burning, and tilling. These control options, especially the ones that focus on the roots, are very effective for removing tap-rooted plants. Remember to identify what weeds are to be controlled, as some physical control methods can aggravate root-spreading perennial weeds!

Chemical control - is the use of herbicides to control weeds. This is often the most effective control technique and, if used correctly, can greatly reduce infestations.

Grazing Management

Grazing Management, like many other land practices, is a balancing act between what the animals need for forage and what the plant needs to maintain itself. When it comes to understanding stocking rates and animal unit equivalents, you must first understand what your land produces as well as what the animals require. When estimating forage production, you need to know three things: the ecological site or precipitation zone, soil type, and plant community for your area.

Overgrazing is a term used to indicate poor rangeland or pasture land condition. Overgrazing happens when a grazing animal is left to graze too long in a particular area on the same plants. When livestock eat all of the regrowth of a plant multiple times in the growing season, needed energy cannot be transferred to the root of the plant (for normal plant growth). Repeated overgrazing kills the plant. Signs of overgrazing include: weeds, bare ground, erosion, compaction of the soil surface and a noticeable reduction in desirable plants over time.

Successful grazing principles

- * Check your animals and pastures frequently. This allows you to notice the health and condition of both. When pasture health suffers, eventually animal health will as well.
- * Avoid continuous season-long grazing.
- * Set up several pastures and rotate animals through them to distribute manure, uneaten hay stems, and trampling evenly across your pastures.
- * On a limited acreage, you may have only enough pasture to exercise your animals and will need to feed year-round.
- * Have a water source for each pasture.
- * Do not allow livestock to graze frequently/repeatedly on wet soils, due to potential soil compaction and erosion.
- * Horses and other livestock do not necessarily need 24-hour access to feed or forage. Corral animals and feed a substitute forage if needed to prevent over-grazing.
- * Grazing capacity varies from area to area. Within Campbell County there are places that produce enough forage to sustain one horse per 20-acres per year, and there are place where it will take 5 times that amount of land to produce the same amount of forage. This will also vary with environmental conditions such as drought.

Contact the University of Wyoming Campbell County Cooperative Extension Office, NRCS, or the CCCD for information specific to your land's grazing capacity or correcting overgrazed pastures.

What is an AUM?

AUM stands for animal unit month. An animal unit month is the forage required to feed a 1000 pound cow with a calf for one month. This number is then converted to other forms of livestock so they may be compared. Livestock will eat approximately 2-3% of their body weight daily. This varies slightly based on the types of forages and is generally a bit higher for horses than cows but it is a good place to start when estimating an animal's forage requirements.

<u>Kinds/Classes of Animals</u>	<u>AU Equivalent</u>	<u>lbs Forage/month</u>
Cow (1,000 lb) with calf	1.00	790
Bull (mature)	1.35	1,067
Horse (mature)	1.25	988
Sheep (mature)	0.20	158
Goat (mature)	0.15	118



Stocking Rate Calculations

Once you can estimate your animal's requirements, and your land's production, it is easy to determine how much forage you have available for your livestock.

You will need the following numbers:

Pasture size _____ acres

Pasture production _____ lbs/acre

Animal requirements _____ lbs/day

EXAMPLE

Assumptions:

- ◆ 5 acres Northern Great Plains native range
- ◆ 10-14 inch precipitation zone
- ◆ Clayey range site
- ◆ Low-Good range condition
- ◆ Predicted plant production - mixed sagebrush/grass
- ◆ Favorable precipitation year = 1,200 lbs/acre
- ◆ Average precipitation year = 900 lbs/acre
- ◆ Poor precipitation year = 600 lbs/acre
- ◆ 1,200 lb horse will eat approximately 36 lbs of dry matter/day

EXAMPLE:	
Pasture size	5 acres
Pasture production	900 lbs/ac/yr
Animal requirements	36 lbs/day
A 1,200 lb horse	44 days

In an average year, this pasture will produce:

4,500 lbs forage (900 lbs/ac x 5 acres)

Half of this must be left to keep the plants healthy, and 15% will be lost to other grazers (deer, rabbits, mice). So only 35% of this is available to domestic animals. (4,500 lbs x .35) This pasture has 1,575 lbs of available forage.

(1,575 lbs/36lbs/day) and can support one 1,200 lb horse for 44 days without additional feed.

Estimating Forage Production

Northeast Area Wyoming (Campbell-Crook-Weston Cntys)

Northern Rolling High Plains - 10 to 14" Precipitation Zone

Range Site	Plant Community	Unfavorable Year	Average Year	Favorable Year	Average Year	
					AUM's/ac	ac/AUM
Clayey (CY)	Rhiz. Wheatgrass-Green Needlegrass	600	1,100	1,400	0.40	2.50
	Heavy sagebrush	600	900	1,200	0.30	3.33
	Greasewood-Wheatgrass	500	700	900	0.20	5.00
	Mixed sagebrush-Grass	600	900	1,200	0.33	3.03
	Blue grama-Pricklypear cactus	400	650	900	0.20	5.00
	Go-back	500	700	900	0.20	5.00
	Introduced grasses	800	1,600	1,200	0.75	1.33

Grazing

Managing land can be a daunting task in itself, but, in Wyoming, we also have the weather to factor into the equation. Drought is the common state for Wyoming, and land managers must factor that in when it comes to pasture grazing management. A primary concern of pasture management during drought conditions is forage production. To avoid overgrazing, this reduction in supply must be followed by a reduction in demand. The simplest answer is to remove the animals from the pasture, place them in a corral, and substitute the missing forage.

The most common mistake is allowing animals to access the entire acreage around the clock every day of the year. Dividing your pastures into small paddocks and implementing a rotational grazing system will allow for more efficient use of forage and lengthens the grazing season. Also, changing the rotation from year to year is important. Different species of plants grow at different times of year. Changing the order of rotation ensures the same plants are not being grazed during their crucial growth phases each year.

Tips for Maintaining Healthy Pastures:

- ◆ Avoid overgrazing.
- ◆ Graze pastures when forages have adequate growth (typically at 6 to 8 inches tall) and rest pastures before forages are grazed too heavily to maintain plant health (typically at 3 to 4 inches tall).
- ◆ Restrict turnout time - Horses do not need to graze 24 hrs/day. They can be turned out in the morning and brought into the corral at night when forages are plentiful. Or kept in the corral for feeding and turned out for exercise an hour or two a day.
- ◆ Give pastures adequate rest to re-grow to a height of 6 to 8 inches tall.
- ◆ Create a sacrifice area to confine animals away from pasture, such as a corral.
- ◆ Apply fertilizer when necessary.
- ◆ Control weeds.



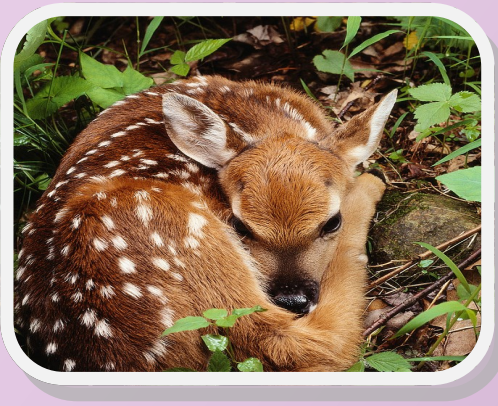
Rotational Grazing

Rotational grazing makes use of a number of paddocks. Animals rotate from paddock to paddock so each pasture undergoes a short grazing period, followed by a longer rest period. Deciding on the number and size of paddocks to be grazed are key factors in creating a grazing plan. Paddock layout will vary from acreage to acreage because of topography, water resources, animal traffic and individual management concerns.

When considering a rotational grazing system, it is best to consult someone who is familiar with paddock layouts and different fencing options.

Damage, Nuisance or Injured Wildlife -

Who to Call?



Most of the time people can co-exist with many wildlife species without any problems. You may even have a bluebird house, or bird feeder to attract birds for the enjoyment that can be gained by watching them.

Sometimes however, they can cause problems and be a nuisance. Other times unfortunately, you may come across one that is injured and may not be sure how to handle this. Maybe you are unaware, but there are several local points of contact that may be helpful to you.

- Campbell County Weed and Pest (682-4369) ONLY deals with prairie dogs, Mormon crickets, grasshoppers and weeds, no other “pests”.
- For damage, nuisance or injured wildlife that is a game species, please contact the following local Wyoming Game and Fish Personnel. Game species are those that are hunted, trapped or fished and may include deer, pronghorn antelope, bear, mountain lion, game birds and also hawks and eagles, although these are not game species. Below is contact information for local Game and Fish employees:

South Gillette Warden: 687-7157

North Gillette Warden: 682-4353

Wildlife Biologist: 670-8164

- This website is a GREAT resource and full of information if you have internet access. It is research-based and affiliated with several universities and experts concerning nuisance wildlife. You can search by species of wildlife that is causing you problems and there are even tools to help you figure out what it may be, if you don't already know.

Internet Center for Wildlife Damage Management: www.icwdm.org

- The City of Gillette Animal Control is another good resource. They can assist with domestic animals running at large, but employees can also handle bite cases, calls concerned with impoundments, destruction of animals infected with rabies, and related calls dealing with nuisance animals. After hours phone calls are directed to the Police or Sheriff's Office.

Business Hours: 686-5249

After Hours: In town = 682-5155 Out of Town = 682-7271

WILDFIRE PREVENTION

Living on a few acres means there probably is no fire hydrant 200 feet from your home and emergency services will need more than 10 minutes to respond to a fire in your area. Be firewise about your home and property.

- * Have your address clearly visible on the road.
- * Use 1/2 inch mesh screen on chimney openings.
- * Locate propane tanks 50 feet from structures, on the level or downhill.
- * Keep combustible vegetation mowed around vehicles and equipment, and for 50 feet surrounding structures.
- * Use fire resistant plants for landscaping.
- * Relocate woodpiles at least 30 feet away from your home.
- * Keep gutters clear of leaves and other debris.
- * Operate barbeque grills in areas away from combustible materials.
- * Maintain non-flammable skirting around mobile homes.
- * Do not store combustible materials under decks. Store gas, oil and other chemicals away from the home.
- * Establish an emergency water supply such as a pond or 1000 gallon tank uphill from your home with a hose for fire-fighters to use. A couple of stock tanks would work.
- * Roof materials should be a composite material such as metal, asphalt or fiber glass shingles. Concrete roofing is also available. Wood shake roofs may be attractive but are the most flammable.



More information can be found at www.firewise.org.



OPEN RANGE

Wyoming is an open range state. Adjacent landowners are equally responsible to maintain the fences between them. Fence your property to keep range livestock out and your animals in. It is unlawful for pets to harass, kill, or wound livestock and wildlife—you are responsible.

Emergency Management

Why Prepare for Disaster?

Disaster can strike without warning, forcing you to go for days without basic necessities or to evacuate your home. Relief workers will be on the scene following a disaster, but may not be able to reach you immediately.

You need to be prepared. Knowing the steps to take during a disaster - weather, flooding, tornados or other crisis - can greatly reduce the danger and distress your family may face. Being prepared can help you stay calm during a crisis and also recover afterward.

Contact the Emergency Management office at 686-7477 or American Red Cross to learn the different ways to prepare for each disaster.

Creating a Basic Emergency Plan

Having a plan is one of the most important steps you can take in disaster preparedness. Knowing what to do and how to do it can help your family manage disasters with less worry, fear and uncertainty.

- Decide what you and your family would do in each potential emergency situation.
- Draw a floor plan of your home showing escape routes.
- Choose a place away from your neighborhood where family members can meet in case you are separated and cannot return home due to a disaster.
- Identify a friend or relative who lives out of the area for family members to contact if you are separated.
- Post emergency numbers by every phone and teach children how and when to dial 911.
- Know how to shut off the water, gas and electricity at the main switches and valves in your home.
- Plan how to help elderly or disabled neighbors in a disaster.
- Check that your insurance policies are up to date and provide good coverage.

In the event of a disaster there are warning sirens around the county that will sound in case of an emergency. If you hear sirens take shelter in a sturdy building away from any glass or windows. For more information you can tune into any of the following radio stations for updates and details as to where the emergency is taking place and the severity of the emergency.

Radio Stations:	KIML 1270 AM	KCOV 99.1 FM	KUWG 90.9 FM
	KXXL 103.9 FM	KAML 96.9 FM	KAXG 89.7 FM
	KGWY 100.7 FM	KLWD 91.9 FM	KYPR 88.9 FM

Campbell County Emergency Management Agency is the point of contact with the National Weather Service, and provides first-hand weather information to the community.



FREQUENTLY CALLED NUMBERS



Emergency 911

Poison Center 1-800-222-1222

Doctors:

Hospital:

Police:

Sheriff:

Others: