

Quarterly
Newsletter
May
2024



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Interested in becoming a CCCD Supervisor?

There are two rural positions that will be up for election in the 2024 election.

If interested, please file an "Application of Election" with the Campbell County Courthouse - Elections Office.
Filing period is August 7 - 26, 2024.

Anyone that is a registered voter and resident of Campbell County is eligible to serve as a Conservation District Supervisor. Once elected, Supervisors serve four year terms. Prospective candidates must meet the residency requirements for their position for the duration of the term;

Rural → Must reside within Campbell County and outside of an incorporated area

Mission Statement

To provide leadership for the conservation of Campbell County's soils and water, protect the agriculture resource base, promote the control of soil erosion, promote and protect the quality and quantity of Campbell County's water and all other natural resources, preserve and enhance wildlife habitat, protect the tax base and promote the health, safety, and general welfare of the citizens of this county through a "responsible conservation ethic."

Board Member Duties

- ◆ Attend 12 regularly scheduled Board Meetings per year, attend special meetings as needed
- ◆ Attend the annual Area I Meeting and Wyoming Association of Conservation Districts Conference
- ◆ Participate in other functions as needed to develop an effective natural resource conservation program
- ◆ Coordinate with local organizations, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and other State and Federal agencies to develop and implement local Conservation District programs
- ◆ Provide guidance to District Staff to promote efforts towards responsible natural resource management

Compensation

- ◆ District Supervisors are volunteers

Please call CCCD at (307) 682-1824 with any questions!

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BRANDON PRICE (307) 257-0740
 Chairman, Urban Member

RICHARD HAUBER (307) 682-5995
 Vice Chair, Rural Member

KIM KRETSCHMAN (307) 736-2415
 Secretary/Treasurer, At-Large Member

JEFFREY BOARDMAN (307) 669-1196
 Supervisor, Rural Member

JOHN DALY (307) 682-5141
 Supervisor, Rural Member

BRENDA SCHLADWEILER (307) 682-3810
 Associate Board Member

JAIME TARVER (307) 680-9715
 Associate Board Member

OFFICE STAFF

CHEYENNE LOVE District Manager

CRYSTAL KELLEBREW Education Coordinator

Phone: 682-1824 Fax: 682-3813

E-mail: clove.cccd@gmail.com

Website: www.cccdwy.net

Hours: 7:30 AM—4:00 PM

Monday—Friday

The USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

NRCS FIELD OFFICE

Phone: (307) 682-8843 Ext. 3
 601 4J Court, Suite C

DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST:

Tim Kellogg

RANGELAND MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST:

Brandon Elkins

SOIL CONSERVATION TECHNICIAN:

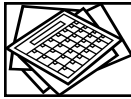
Rainn Lewis

PRIVATE LANDS WILDLIFE BIOLOGIST:

Harold Campbell

FARM BILL SPECIALIST:

Jessica Van Woerkom



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

May 14, 2024	CCCD Board Meeting
May 27, 2024	Holiday, Office Closed
June 5-7, 2024	BHNRYS
June 11, 2024	CCCD Board Meeting
June 23-25, 2024	PLT Facilitator Training
July 4 & 5, 2024	Holiday, Office Closed



Steering Committees

CCCD will be hosting two Watershed focused steering committees this Summer. Currently, the Little Powder River Watershed Steering Committee is planned to meet on July 23rd at the District office, while the Belle Fourche Watershed Committee is currently being scheduled with Crook County Natural Resource District (CCNRD).

Steering Committees allow residents who have interest in the future of watershed-planning efforts to provide their insight to District Staff.

Please reach out if you are interested in attending!



February

- Cheyenne attended the WSFD V Plan Meeting and Bowman Hill Tour on February 5.
- February 6, Crystal attended a WCDEA Training Committee Conference Call.
- February 7 & 8, Cheyenne attended SCP Annual Meeting.
- CCCD Staff attended the CCCD Board of Supervisors February Meeting on February 13.
- February 13-15, Cheyenne attended the TBGPEA-TBRI Symposium.
- February 19, Holiday, office closed.
- Crystal attended a WCDEA Training Conference Call on February 20.
- February 20, Cheyenne attended the USFS Soda Wells Meeting.
- Cheyenne attended the STAC Meeting on February 22.
- February 27, Crystal attended a WCDEA Training Conference Call on February 27.

March

- Staff attended the CCCD Board of Supervisors Meeting on March 5.
- Cheyenne attended the SAIT Meeting on March 7.
- Crystal had an educational hands-on booth at the Children's Festival on March 9.
- March 11-14, Crystal attended WCDEA Training in Casper.
- March 15, staff attended a Social Media BMP webinar.
- Cheyenne attended the Soil Health Webinar March 19.
- Crystal presented the Tops & Bottoms Program with Kindergartners at Pronghorn School on March 19-21.
- March 27, Cheyenne attended the CCCD-NRCS Coordination Meeting.

April

- April 3, Cheyenne attended Invasive Grass Workshop.
- April 4, Crystal and Brandon conducted an ecology lesson with 8th graders at Twin Spruce Junior High.
- Staff attended the CCCD Board of Supervisors Meeting on April 9.
- Crystal presented at the Elementary Principals Meeting on April 11, regarding upcoming district events.
- April 11, Cheyenne attended an NACD Call.
- April 15, Crystal presented the Tops & Bottoms Program with 1st graders from Meadowlark School.
- Crystal attended a Wonders of Water Education Zoom Call on April 16.
- April 18, Crystal attended the WCDEA Conference Call.
- Crystal conducted a tree activity lesson with a homeschool group on April 22.
- April 23, Crystal attended an Invasive Species Education Zoom call on April 23.
- Crystal conducted a soils activity lesson with a homeschool group on April 24.
- April 29, Crystal attended the Arbor Day Celebration in Cheyenne, WY and attended a Wyoming PLT Steering Committee Meeting.

The Campbell County Conservation District (CCCD), located in Gillette and serving Campbell County, is hiring a Conservation & Natural Resources Intern to assist the District with natural resource activities during the 2024 primary recreation season (May – August*). This is a **part-time (not to exceed 30 hrs./week), seasonal position** with a pay rate of \$18/hr.

*Start and end dates flexible dependent on the chosen applicant's needs

For more information contact Cheyenne Love at (307) 682-1824
Submit a resume to clove.cccd@gmail.com

APPLICATION DEADLINE IS MAY 12, 2024

*Please see full job description and further details on our website.



Campbell County Weed & Pest District

P.O. Box 191 * Phone 307-682-4369 * Fax 307-686-8167

Gillette, Wyoming 82717-0191

Spring has sprung and it is a great time to start looking for and treating those early emerging weeds. One of the main weeds we look to treat early in the season is Whitetop. Whitetop is perennial species growing to about two feet tall. It primarily spreads by seeds but can spread through its adventurous roots (along with root segments). Its leaves are alternate, lance shaped with lobbed margins (especially at maturity) and clasp the stem. The entire plant is hairless, with a greenish grey appearance. The plant has small white flowers at the top of the plant in an umbel shape. The plant flowers usually in May, while going to seed shortly after, in some cases before June. Within the District our biggest problem areas are East of Gillette along the Donkey Creek drainage area, and North of Gillette along the Little Powder and Spring Creek drainage areas. To have effective control on Whitetop, it needs to be treated before going to seed. This is usually from May to June but can vary depending on the weather. Field pennycress is an annual plant in the mustard family that looks very similar to Whitetop if you need help identifying which species you have, please contact our office. To treat Whitetop or other noxious weeds on your property, we offer a cost share on chemicals for treating noxious weeds and have sprayers available to rent.

The District is still planning for a possible outbreak of grasshoppers near the Montana State line. The pest species of grasshoppers typically begin to hatch in May, so if you start to see large number of grasshoppers, please contact the office.

If you have any questions about our programs, please stop by the office or call the District at 682-4369 .

Piney Island Native Plants, LLC is a greenhouse and nursery producing locally-sourced, local adapted, containerized native plants for restoration, reclamation, and conservation-focused projects.

Based in Sheridan, PINP works to produce high-quality native plants for establishment into the Wyoming landscape. CCCD has partnered with PINP for the last two years to offer their species in our yearly Tree Sale.

If you are interested in ordering any individual perennial species from PINP, please contact them directly for offerings at (307) 752-0506 or pineyislandnativeplants@gmail.com.



2024 Water Sampling Season

From May until the water freezes back over, CCCD staff will conduct their annual sampling efforts on the Little Powder River, Antelope Creek, Donkey Creek, and Stonepile Creek.

Data collected during the sampling season will be submitted to the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality’s QA/QC department for review under the Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 319 grant opportunity. District Staff collect results on a wide variety of water quality parameters, including *E. coli*, nitrates, and pH.

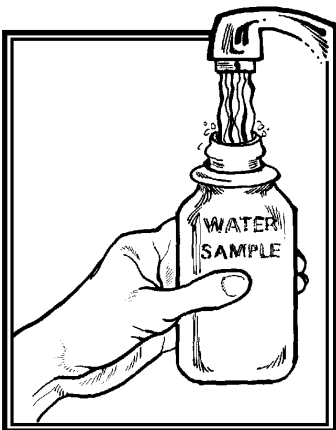
Keep an eye on the water, and our social media pages, for updates!

10/27/2022

Well Water Testing Day

CCCD held its second Well Water Testing Day in March. Working with Energy Laboratories, CCCD distributed **21 well water testing kits** to Campbell County residents, free of charge.

Landowners who participated in the Well Water Testing Day received insight into the quality of their well water systems, including values on bacteria, salinity, and other common drinking water standards.



Due to an increased interest in this program, CCCD anticipates purchasing additional kits for distribution at the next testing day.

Keep an eye on our newsletter and social media pages for additional information!

WY NRCS Campbell County Local Working Group

CCCD hosted the annual WY NRCS Local Working Group (LWG) on April 16th.

Prior to 2024, the LWG was held between “Division V” Counties, which included Crook, Campbell, and Weston. Beginning this year, NRCS made changes to how funds are allocated in the State, which has resulted in local funding pools, allocated by individual County.

The LWG serves in an advisory capacity to NRCS for Farm Bill implementation, setting Division priorities, and providing recommendations on the allocation of NRCS funds.

This year, the LWG ranked the following NRCS conservation practices as the highest priority;

- 1) Livestock Production
- 2) Plant Condition
- 3) Water Quality

The LWG is held annually and is invaluable for keeping conservation local.



CCCD Cost-Share Opportunities

Beginning in FY24, CCCD has begun to provide funds from its Optional 1% Sales Tax funding allocation to assist landowners, particularly those who may not be selected for Federal Farm Bill programs, in implementing natural resource conservation practices that address soil erosion, water quality and quantity, or the improvement of wildlife habitat.

CCCD offers two pathways for funding;

- ◆ Rural Enhancement Program - Tailored to rural landowners/homeowners within Campbell County. Projects must be completed within the County by private owners only. Program provides up to 50% reimbursement of the actual project costs up to \$15,000.
- ◆ Urban Improvement Program - Tailored to residents, businesses, schools, etc. within the City of Gillette or Town of Wright. Program provides up to 50% reimbursement of the actual project costs up to \$2,500.

The CCCD Board of Supervisors will be finalizing application details and opening the application period following their May Board Meeting (May 14th 2024). CCCD anticipates collecting applications through June, with selected landowners beginning work in July.

Applications will be posted to the District webpage (cccdwy.net). Please contact the office with any questions!

REGISTRATION

The cost of camp is \$70.00 per participant if they register by May 12th and \$85.00 per person after that until registration closes June 1st. Camp registration is limited to 100 youth on a first come-first serve basis.

Campers Name: _____ Sex: _____
Age: _____
Parents Name: _____
Mailing Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone #: _____
Emergency Contact Phone #: _____
Please list all medical problems, allergies, prescriptions or restrictions on physical activity.

By signing this agreement, camper agrees to follow all camp rules.

Campers Signature: _____
Our Child has permission to take part in all camp activities including off-site activities under supervision. We agree to execute and deliver the "GENERAL RELEASE" provided with this registration to the camp staff prior to any participation.

I also authorize the Conservation Districts or their agents, successors, and assigns to use and reproduce photograph(s) in which my child appears in for official publications, and I waive any right that I may have to inspect and approve said photograph (or any copy that may be used in connection therewith) or to receive compensation for the use of said photograph.
Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

GENERAL RELEASE

The undersigned, _____ (parent/guardian), of _____ (City), Wyoming being the parents and/or legal guardians of _____ (child), a minor, hereby advise the Black Hills Natural Resources Youth Camp (hereinafter referred to as "Camp"), its sponsors, officers, board members, employees, and agents, that I and we do hereby consent and authorize _____ (child) to participate and continue to participate in the Black Hills Natural Resources Youth Camp under all the following terms and conditions.

We acknowledge for ourselves and said _____ (child), that we have had the opportunity to consult with and receive the approval of a physician of our choice to determine if _____ (child) may participate and continue to participate in the Black Hills Natural Resources Youth Camp, and the undersigned hereby acknowledged that participation could result in injury or death to said _____ (child) but that, in spite of said risk we hereby freely consent to said participation in the program and, further, agree and covenant not to sue and do fully release said Black Hills Natural Resources Youth Camp, its sponsors, officer, board members, employees, and agents from any and all known and unknown claims, complaints, causes of actions or demands ("Actions") of whatever kind or nature arise out of any actions, conduct, decisions, behavior or events occurring prior or subsequent to the effective date of this release, including without limitations, any other theory under the common law, and actions for uncompensated expenses, or any other form of compensations.

We further specifically acknowledge for ourselves and the above child that, that we agree to hold Black Hills Natural Resources Youth Camp, its sponsors, officers, board members, employees, and agents harmless should the child contract, suffer or incur, any illness, disease, or injury, as a result of the child's attendance at the Camp.

The existence and execution of this General Release shall not be considered, and shall not be admissible in any proceeding, as an admission by the Black Hills Natural Resources Youth Camp, its sponsors, its officers, board members, employees, and agents of any liability, error, violation or omission.

I acknowledge that before signing this General Release, I had time to consider the terms of this General Release, was advised to consult any attorney, had an adequate opportunity to review it with persons of my choosing, including an attorney, that I fully understand its terms, and that I have signed it knowingly and voluntarily.

Date: _____
Participant _____ Parent or legal guardian _____

Conservation Camp Summary

WHO: Any boy or girl age 9 to 13 may attend camp***

WHAT: A camp emphasizing the importance of our natural resources through fun learning activities, group sessions and games.

WHERE: Mallo Camp, located in Weston County, Wyoming

WHEN: Camp will begin at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, June 3, Camp will end at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, June 7. Please be there to pick up your child at 9:00am.

COST: The cost of camp is \$70.00 per participant for those registered by May 12th and \$85.00 until registration closes on June 1st. This fee includes meals, snacks, lodging and insurance. \$20.00 will be refunded for registration cancellations after June 1st.

STAFF: Education sessions will be conducted by professionals trained and working in natural resources careers. There will also be a number of volunteer leaders helping with the workshops, supervising activities, and cabin chaperones.

MORE: Cystal: 307-682-1824 (Camp Director)
Caleb: 307-246-3264 (Weston)



BLACK HILLS NATURAL RESOURCES YOUTH CAMP

Conservation: We're All In!

JUNE 5-7, 2024

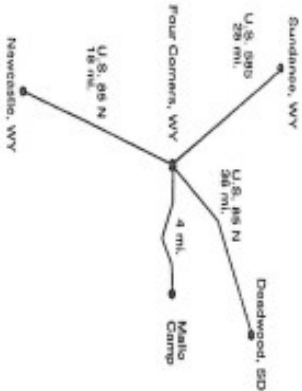


DESCRIPTION OF SITE

Mallo Camp located in the Black Hills, is in a scenic canyon with Stockade Beaver Creek flowing through it. The camp facilities are owned and maintained by Weston County, Wyoming. The main lodge is relatively new and has a very modern kitchen, large dining/recreational area and meeting rooms. The campers will stay in cabins with chaparrons. There are shower facilities located near separated groupings of cabins to allow for easy access. There are excellent places for fun and learning including a well-stocked trout pond.

Directions to Camp:

The easiest access to camp is to take US HWY 85 or WY HWY 583 to Four Corners. Then follow Mallo County Road (gravel) east for four miles until the Mallo sign indicates the right hand turn which takes you past an upper facility and down into the canyon to Mallo Camp.



SPONSORS AND RESOURCES
Campbell County Conservation District
Weston County Natural Resource District
Campbell County Community Public
Recreation District

The Campbell County Conservation District will have a bus available for the first 45 campers that sign up for the bus. The bus leaves/arrives in Gillette. Parents please call the number below to secure a spot on the bus.
Call (307) 683-1834 and talk with Crystal

OBJECTIVES:

The Black Hills Natural Resources Youth Camp has been designed to give young people the opportunity to experience the natural world and its resources through hands-on activities.

- We wish our participants to:
 - Understand natural resources, their use and conservation.
 - Gain more knowledge about the relationship between all the natural resources.
 - Learn some outdoor living skills.
 - Gain appreciation for the beauty and diversity of the natural world.
 - Have lots of fun and meet new friends.

What to Bring

- Clothes: 3 days worth of informal school appropriate clothes, suitable for field trips and weather that varies from cold to warm, wet to dry. Bring a jacket, rain jacket, cap, jeans, "layers" of outer clothes that can be removed or added as weather dictates
- Sleeping bag and pillow.
- 2 pairs of shoes incl. hiking boots and/or sneakers
- Personal items: towels, soap, toothbrush and paste, prescriptions, etc.
- Flashlight
- Fishing gear: rod, pocket knife, barbless hooks (camp does have gear to be used if you don't want to bring your own)

Due to the West Nile Virus, sun exposure, poison ivy, etc., please bring appropriate clothing.

Food: Meals & Snacks are provided. Campers are discouraged from bringing extra food/snacks to camp. Having food in the cabins encourages rodents to come into the cabins.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Conservation: We're All In!

- "Target Practice"
- "Casting For Food"
- "Solls"
- "Tremendous Trees"
- "Gold Panning"
- "Wilderness Scavenger Hunt"

SPECIAL EVENTS

- Wildman Hike Fishing
- Talent Show Karaoke Camp Fire

***This program is available to all children regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, or religion. However, because of the location, the camp does not have facilities for handicapped or disabled participants or for those campers who, in the sole judgment and discretion of the camp staff, have special needs that cannot be met at the facility or by the available staff. We reserve the right to refuse the participation to any child. ***

Make Checks Payable to:

Campbell County Conservation District
(CCCD)

Return registrations and fee to:

Campbell County Conservation District
c/o Youth Camp
P.O. Box 2577
Gillette, WY 82717

**Card payments are accepted with a 3.5% processing fee.



WHAT USDA PROGRAMS ARE AVAILABLE AND WHEN SHOULD WE APPLY?

There are several USDA Farm Bill and Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) programs available to residents of Campbell County through the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the Farm Services Agency (FSA) to make environmental improvements on your property. These all have different sign-up deadlines and funding cycles. Below is a summary of conservation programs that are currently available.

The Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) is the main financial assistance program for both Farm Bill and IRA funding. Under this program we can help fund projects such as livestock water development, fencing, invasive grass treatment, high tunnels, pollinator seedings and many more things. IRA funding is limited to projects that will sequester carbon in the soils. EQIP has a continuous sign-up period which means you can sign an application anytime of the year. EQIP funding is limited to \$450,000 per person or entity during each Farm Bill. The actual funding of projects only happens once or twice a year depending on when we receive funding from Congress, usually late winter, or early spring.

The Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) is a five-year program that compensates agricultural producers to increase their level of environmental management on their land through certain enhancements. CSP is funded through both Farm Bill and IRA allocations. Things that qualify for CSP include haying in a wildlife friendly manner, rangeland monitoring and pollinator seedings. This program pays an annual payment up to \$40,000 per year for five years. Like EQIP, CSP has a continuous application period with contract approval happening in late spring.

Agricultural Management Assistance is a Farm Bill program available to states with a lower-than-average participation in federal crop insurance. In Wyoming, AMA is used to fund high tunnel for vegetable crops and shelterbelts. Again, this program has a continuous sign-up period with contract approval in late spring to early summer.

Grasslands Conservation Reserve Program (GCRP) is a program that is administered by FSA that NRCS assists with. This program pays an annual rental for either 10 or 15 to follow a grazing plan that is developed by the producer and NRCS. The maximum payment for GCRP is \$50,000 per year. Unlike the other programs GCRP has specific application dates. The next sign up is April 26 to May 24, 2024.

In addition to the above program there are other local, state, and federal agencies that we work closely with that can provide financial assistance. These include the Campbell County Conservation District, Wyoming Game & Fish Department, Wyoming State Forestry, Bureau of Land Management, US Fish & Wildlife Service and US Forest Service. We also work closely with Non-Government Organizations (NGO) such as the Bird Conservancies of the Rockies and Wyoming Wildlife & Natural Resources Trust. If USDA can't help you directly, we will work with our partners to hopefully find funding.

USDA and its partners offer a variety of conservation programs through different funding sources. If you are interested in doing any sort of conservation projects on your property, please call the NRCS office at 307-682-8843 x3 or stop by our office at 601 4J Court, Suite C in Gillette.

Farm Service Agency **HIRING**



TEMPORARY COUNTY OFFICE PROGRAM TECHNICIAN

Location: Gillette, Campbell County, Wyoming

Annual Pay Range: \$35,373-\$44,117

This position is temporary, but likely will be extended.

GENERAL DUTIES

- Office activities
- Interpreting and explaining procedures
- Using web-based applications

SKILLS NECESSARY

- Computer skills
- Customer service
- Ag knowledge helpful, but not required

APPLY NOW

Contact: Pam Smith 307/696-4450

Or pamela.s.smith@usda.gov

Position available immediately. Open until filled.



46th Annual Children's Festival

CCCD Education Coordinator, Crystal Kellebrew, attended the 2024 Children's Festival and talked about camouflage and predator/prey. This year's theme was GO WILD!

This year's event educated 1,150 youth and 963 adults!



If you are interested in volunteering at the BHNRYC please contact

Crystal Kellebrew, Camp Director with the CCCD at (307) 682-1824 or kellebrew.cccd@gmail.com

The Campbell County Conservation District is seeking volunteers for the Black Hills Natural Resource Youth Camp (BHNRYC). The Black Hills Natural Resource Youth Camp is cooperatively hosted by the Campbell County Conservation District, and the Weston County Natural Resource District. BHNRYC will be held June 5 -7, 2024 at the Mallo Camp facility located in the Black Hills of Weston County for 9-13 year olds. This camp provides the youth of Wyoming with an opportunity to learn about natural resources and careers in related fields in an outdoor classroom setting. The camp focuses on hands on lessons designed to explore soil, water, plants, animals, air, and human influences on the environment. Volunteers will receive a mandatory background check that is to be completed ASAP!

Campbell County Conservation District
601 4J Court, Suite D
P.O. Box 2577
Gillette, WY 82717 - 2577



NP MKT ML
PERMIT NO. 70
Gillette, WY 82716

Phone: (307) 682-1824 Fax: (307) 682-3813 E-Mail: clove.cccd@gmail.com

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



As CCCD enters the busy Summer season, we are encouraging individuals who have business with the District to contact the office and schedule an appointment.

This will ensure Staff are readily available and prepared to help you meet your conservation needs!