The Clear Creek Conservation District (CCCD) includes the northern half of Johnson County, Wyoming and is funded mainly by a mill levy approved by the voters. Board meetings are held the third Tuesday of the month at 6:00 pm and are open to the public. Our budget is presented to the county commissioners before approval and is published annually in the Buffalo Bulletin and is also available on the Johnson County website.

All fiscal procedures and records are in accordance with the Johnson County Commissioners under Special Districts, Wyoming Association of Conservation Districts and the Wyoming Department of Agriculture.

CCCD continues to be in compliance with the Wyoming Department of Agriculture, Wyoming Association of Conservation Districts, Wyoming Department of Audit, Internal Revenue Service, Wyoming Retirement System and the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services. An annual audit is conducted pursuant to W.S. 9-1-507

CCCD strives to serve the entire community of Northern Johnson County including rural, urban and small acreage owners providing cost-share projects, materials, education and conservation items such as rain barrels and composters. Trees and related materials are sold at cost and CCCD covers the shipping charges. Educational workshops are held free of charge when possible and speakers from other organizations are brought in to give the best information on the topic.

This annual report meets the requirements of the Department of Agriculture and the Wyoming Association of Conservation Districts. Copies are distributed to elected officials in our district and to our many partners.

CLEAR CREEK
CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Helping People Help the Land

© Jim Kelly
The District operates within the guiding principles of their Mission Statement:

"The Clear Creek Conservation District is dedicated to the development and implementation of programs to provide leadership and technical assistance for the conservation of Johnson County’s natural resources, agricultural heritage and resource base, to promote the control of soil erosion, to promote and protect the quality and quantity of Wyoming's waters and all other natural resources, to preserve and enhance wildlife habitat, to protect the tax base and to promote the health, safety and general welfare of the residents of this County through responsible conservation planning".

HISTORY

The Clear Creek Conservation District (CCCD) was formed in 1946. The CCCD is located in the northern portion of Johnson County and encompasses approximately 1,450,067 acres. The District is a legal sub-division of the State of Wyoming and was organized to serve the best interests of its people. The CCCD is governed by a five member Board of Supervisors. The five elected officials offer representation for three rural positions, one urban position and one at-large position. The District’s focus remains the concerns identified by the people of Johnson County.

District Programs and services provide conservation planning and implementation to the residents and producers within the CCCD.

The Clear Creek Conservation District and USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) work cooperatively to implement the priorities set forth by the District Board and the local community.

THE DISTRICT APPRECIATES THE OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE THE RESIDENTS OF JOHNSON COUNTY
WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT.
Financial Statement for the:

Clear Creek Conservation District
2018/2019 Budget

BALANCE ON HAND JULY 1, 2018 $4,657,354.10

INCOME:

INTEREST (incl) ........................................... $ 47,649.19
MILL LEVY ................................................. $ 218,445.00
SPECIAL PROJECTS ........................................... $ 21,421.17
TREE/RAIN BARREL/COMPOSTER PROGRAM ............. $ 37,666.19

TOTAL INCOME ........................................... $ 4,982,585.65

EXPENSES:

PAYROLL .................................................. $ 66,883.30
TAXES AND BENEFITS ......................................... $ 31,210.32
SUPPLIES AND POSTAGE ..................................... $ 4,261.39
MEETINGS .................................................. $ 4,591.02
AUDIT .................................................... $ 10,500.00
DUES ...................................................... $ 13,356.62
INFORMATION/EDUCATION ................................... $ 7,835.85
SPECIAL PROJECTS ......................................... $ 218,527.98
BOND ...................................................... $ 1,634.00
SALES TAX ................................................ $ 1,575.27
LICENSE .................................................... $ 25.00
LIABILITY INSURANCE ..................................... $ 929.30

TOTAL EXPENSES ......................................... $ 361,330.05

BALANCE ON HAND JUNE 30, 2017 $ 4,450,472.11

** BALANCE INCLUDES CASH-CARRYOVER, COMMITTED PROJECT FUNDS,

EMERGENCY RESERVE AND FUTURE PROJECT RESERVES
Board of Supervisors

Chairman: Ryan Fieldgrove—Rural Representative
Vice Chairman: Luke Todd—Urban Representative
Treasurer: Travis Rule—Rural Representative
Member: Virginia Watt—Rural Representative
Member: Jay Foss—At Large Representative

District Personnel

District Manager: Zach Byram
District Clerk: Amanda Hulct
Tree Program

- The CCCD tree program was developed to provide landowners with an affordable and convenient way to purchase trees, shrubs, and seedlings for conservation practices such as windbreaks, shelter-belts, living snow fences, wildlife habitat enhancement and aesthetic value. In 2019, 1055 seedlings were sold and 950 mature trees were purchased and planted around northern Johnson County!

- Buffalo is a proud Tree City USA member

* As part of the Russian Olive Removal Project, we also planted a number of “deep root” seedlings as part of the restoration portion of the project. The high schoolers helped with planting.
• CCCD partnered with Clear Creek Middle School to do a science day where 8th grade science students had the opportunity to visit a number of stations which included our soils and soil testing station.

• CCCD provided a free routine soil test for urban and rural landowners. Participants received results and valuable recommendations on how to improve their soil from a soils lab at Colorado State University.

• CCCD continues to promote it’s 50% rain barrel and composter cost-share program. It enables users to collect and store storm water runoff to use in watering of plants and trees.

• CCCD also offers conservation weed barrier in it’s cost-share to northern Johnson County residents as well.

• CCCD offered a soil health workshop with NRCS’s Marlon Winger that was well attended

• CCCD offered water well testing cost share to residents of northern Johnson County
CCCDD is finishing work on a Russian Olive Removal Project that was started in FY15/16. Seventeen (17) acres of the invasive tree were removed and over 250 native tree and shrub species have been planted back into the project as the restoration continues. An interpretive trail with signs is planned to be completed in 2020.

An ongoing FWP project to repair 3 irrigation diversions in Clear Creek washed out due to historic high run-off was initiated in 2017.

- Facilitated a group to begin to restore the Buffalo Wetlands;
- Funded geomorphology/hydrology designs for I-25 fish barrier removal project;
- Assisted in establishing Johnson County Weed Bounty Program.
CCCD held its 16th annual Pesticide and Home Hazardous Waste Day on June 1, 2019. During this years successful event the 275 participants dropped off the following for proper disposal:

- 500 gallons of motor oil
- 550 gallons of latex paint
- 450 gallons of oil based paint/stains
- 300 gallons of flammable liquids (gasoline, acetone, etc.)
- 1450 gallons of pesticides
- 1,200 car tires
- 25 car batteries

CCCD continues to provide composters at a 50% cost-share. The composters are made from recycled, black material in order to expedite the composition process to create compost for home and garden use.
- CCCD sponsored and hosted its 3rd Annual Garden Expo/Rural Living Expo. It included a number of speakers discussing topics ranging from starting seeds to season extension to issues related to living on small acreage.

- Our Education Coordinator spent time in the classroom helping with composting and water studies. She also worked in a number of outdoor education days.

- Marlon Winger with NRCS gave a soil health workshop that was well attended.
Clear Creek Conservation District
Annual Plan of Work
FY 2019-2020
Clear Creek Conservation District

Mission Statement

The Clear Creek Conservation District is dedicated to the development and implementation of programs to provide leadership and technical assistance for the conservation of Johnson County's natural resources, agricultural heritage and resource base, to promote the control of soil erosion, to promote and protect the quality and quantity of Wyoming's water and all other natural resources, to preserve and enhance wildlife habitat, to protect the tax base and to promote the health, safety and general welfare of the residents of this County through responsible conservation planning.

District Operations

GOAL: Be accountable for public funds. Ensure all District programs are carried out in a responsible manner.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives:</th>
<th>Responsibility:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meet the objectives, goals, and workload of the district.</td>
<td>Board/Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop and maintain an accurate district budget.</td>
<td>District Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complete financial reviews/audits as required by law.</td>
<td>District Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complete subdivision reviews according to district policy.</td>
<td>District Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participate in area meetings and state conventions to stay abreast of local, state and federal conservation efforts.</td>
<td>District Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foster partnerships developed between NRCS, Wyoming Extension Service, WG&amp;F, USF&amp;WS, DEQ, NESGLWG, USFS, BLM, JCW&amp;P and other agencies/entities that provide technical and financial assistance necessary to the operation of the district.</td>
<td>Board/Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continue to seek alternative funding for district programs.</td>
<td>Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publish Annual Report and Annual Plan of Work</td>
<td>Staff</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Objectives:

| Maintain an outreach program to educate the public on district programs. |
| Board/Staff |
| Sponsor and assist in educational workshops including small acreages and trees that heighten awareness of natural resource issues |
| Board/Staff |
| Continue the participation of Buffalo Ag Day and other events to provide students educational materials and instruction in tree planting. |
| Staff |
| Support the 4-H awards program and continue sponsorship of conservation programs and activities |
| Board/Staff |
| Utilize local newspapers, radio, newsletter and the website to provide information to the community on conservation programs and activities. |
| Staff |
| Inform landowners of the value of integrated pest management plans for addressing invasive/noxious weeds, both urban and rural related. |
| Staff |

## Information and Education

**Goal:** Expand and strengthen the District's Information and Education program to enhance natural resource conservation through youth and adult education via workshops,

| Objectives: |
| Responsibility: |
| Maintain an outreach program to educate the public on district programs. |
| Board/Staff |
| Sponsor and assist in educational workshops including small acreages and trees that heighten awareness of natural resource issues |
| Board/Staff |
| Continue the participation of Buffalo Ag Day and other events to provide students educational materials and instruction in tree planting. |
| Staff |
| Support the 4-H awards program and continue sponsorship of conservation programs and activities |
| Board/Staff |
| Utilize local newspapers, radio, newsletter and the website to provide information to the community on conservation programs and activities. |
| Staff |
| Inform landowners of the value of integrated pest management plans for addressing invasive/noxious weeds, both urban and rural related. |
| Staff |
### Objectives:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Continue outreach efforts by providing educational presentations on District projects and activities to various natural resource managers/agencies and civic organizations.</th>
<th>Staff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Continue to disseminate information on reclamation and restoration opportunities identified by the JCRHRT specific to critical habitat areas for sage grouse and other wildlife.</td>
<td>Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continue to offer cost share on items such as recycling bins, composters and rain barrels. Also provide for free or reduced costs of soil testing.</td>
<td>Board/Staff</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Objectives:

| Provide a variety of trees, shrubs and seedlings for windbreaks, shelterbelts, wildlife and aesthetic value for community use in conservation planting. | Staff |
| Prepare and offer applications for tree orders to applicants online and in the office. | Staff |
| Assist customers with species selection, planting concerns, technical design and informational materials. | Staff |
| Prepare a listing of local tree resources and assistance for distribution to customers utilizing the tree program. | Staff |
| Continue to offer seedling stock from CSU to producers for windbreaks, living snow fences and shelterbelts. | Staff |
| Continue to hold the annual tree workshop, inviting speakers to address topical issues and concerns to local tree owners. | Staff |
| Assist customers with soil identification and suitable trees/shrubs from information gathered on the Web Soil Survey. Also offer free or reduced cost soil testing. | Staff |
| Make available the District's "A Guide to the Trees in Buffalo" to aid customers in determining preferred species for conservation purposes | Staff |

**GOAL:** Encourage the planting of trees to aid in the conservation of natural resources.
## Objectives:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Responsibility</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Continue to offer shipping costs for tree program.</td>
<td>Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Watershed Planning</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GOAL:</strong> Work cooperatively with local landowners, resource agencies and groups to address water quality issues and concerns through watershed planning efforts.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voluntarily address water quality issues for streams listed on the 303(d) Threatened &amp; Impaired Water Body list.</td>
<td>Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilize the District's 1998 watershed inventory document in determining District direction.</td>
<td>Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continue active participation in the Double Crossing, Crazy Woman, French Creek, Shell Creek and Clear Creek Watersheds.</td>
<td>Board/Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continue to work with producers, voluntarily, in addressing water quality issues with removal and relocations of livestock working facilities.</td>
<td>Board/Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintain the partnerships with landowners, groups and agencies to enhance, improve, and complete the District's water quality efforts.</td>
<td>Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administer District programs, as needed, to implement land use planning.</td>
<td>Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work cooperatively with NRCS to provide landowners with recommended BMP's to help reduce non-point source pollution.</td>
<td>Board/Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilize the CCCD cost-share program, USDA incentive programs and alternative funding sources for new projects and continued water conservation projects.</td>
<td>Board/Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop and maintain water systems for improvement, storage and conservation.</td>
<td>Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilize the District’s Watershed Assessments to provide landowners leverage in addressing natural resource issues through USDA incentive programs.</td>
<td>Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continue the partnership with Johnson County schools to monitor for water quality on National Water Monitoring Day.</td>
<td>Staff</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Objectives:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Responsibility</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maintain partnerships for opportunities to address water storage, water availability, and irrigation infrastructure identified within the Clear Creek Level II Watershed Storage Study.</td>
<td>Board/Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Explore opportunities for water owners/users in the formation of irrigation districts to address irrigation management.</td>
<td>Staff</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Special Projects

**GOAL:** Provide information and technical assistance to northern Johnson County residents who have resource concerns not addressed through other District programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Responsibility</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Provide financial assistance to urban and rural residents for implementation of conservation efforts through the CCCD Natural Resource Cost-Share Program.</td>
<td>Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sponsor a Pesticide and Hazardous Waste Disposal day by working with the City, County, Weed &amp; Pest and the Buffalo Recycle-Center.</td>
<td>Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide assistance to the Buffalo/Johnson County Recycle Center and local residents for expansion of storage, recycling equipment and future recyclables.</td>
<td>Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooperate with the City and NRCS in weed management and native restoration of the City Green Belt area, Eva Knepper Trail and Cemetery Creek.</td>
<td>Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support a cooperative effort with the City, USFWS, NRCS, WG&amp;F, and private landowners for implementation of fish barrier removal and stream restoration projects.</td>
<td>Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continue to provide sage grouse fence markers and escape ramps for participants in the District Sage Grouse Program and SGI.</td>
<td>Staff</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Objectives:**

Identify and prioritize programs and projects which need special emphasis with the local work group:

- CCCD Cost-Share Program
- USDA Farm Bill Programs
- Wyoming Wildlife Natural Resource Trust
- Potential EQIP, CRP, AMAs,ACEP SG/ and EWP
- Wyoming Water Development Commission
- Watershed studies
- 205-j and 319 watershed projects
- Rangeland improvement and irrigation management practices
- WACD supplemental/competitive grants
- Watershed inventory priorities

Remain actively involved in providing technical assistance for land use planning:

- Review proposed subdivisions with strong recommendations.
- Provide assistance to residents on land use planning
- Be pro-active in working to maintain agricultural lands while improving agricultural production
- Provide assistance, as requested, in the County Planning & Zoning efforts and future development
- Provide assistance in air quality issues for the County
- Provide soils information for land use planning.

- Be an active member of the USFS & BLM Steering Committees as well as keeping abreast of all proposed regulation changes that could have an impact to agriculture and our community tax base.

**Responsibility:**

- Board/Staff
All photos are property of Jim Kelly, Amanda Hulet, Zach Byram. They may not be copied or reproduced without written consent.
We, the Supervisors of the Clear Creek Conservation District, as duly authorized by the Wyoming Conservation District Law, hereby adopt this 2018-2019 Annual Plan of Work as the guide for work priorities for this conservation district.

Ryan Fieldgrove – Chairman
12/17/19
Date

Luke Todd – Vice-Chairman
12/17/19
Date

Jay Foss – Member
12/17/19
Date

Virginia Watt – Member
12/19/19
Date

Travis Rule – Member
12/17/19
Date
Helping People Help the Land