

Lake DeSmet Conservation District
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Lake DeSmet Conservation District Spring Quarterly Newsletter

MISSION STATEMENT

The Lake DeSmet 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.

**LDCD IS
NOW ON
FACEBOOK!!**

Like us on
Facebook and
stay updated
on upcoming
events and
activities!!



Meet the Board and Staff

Lake DeSmet Conservation District

Board of Supervisors

Ryan Fieldgrove: Chair

Luke Todd: Vice Chair

Travis Rule: Secretary/Treasurer

Virgie Watt: Member

Priscilla Welles: Member

District Staff

Zach Byram: District Manager

Amanda Hulet: District Clerk

Natural Resource Conservation Service

(NRCS) Staff

Allison McKenzie: District Conservationist

Kassie Bales: Range Conservationist

NRCS Phone: 684-2526 ext. 3

LDCD TO USE WYOMING CONSERVATION CORP FOR RUSSIAN OLIVE REMOVAL PROJECT

Through projects focused on improving Wyoming's public lands, the Wyoming Conservation Corps provides young adults important personal and technical skills and experience in natural resource and environmental career fields..

In addition, WCC collaborates with agencies and industry companies working on public lands in Wyoming. Through this partnership, WCC provides low-cost conservation crews who accomplish tens of thousands of hours of labor each summer. In return, WCC participants get one-on-one interactions with environmental and natural resources professionals working on the ground.

These partnerships support WCC in its efforts to advance understanding of complex environmental challenges, inspire young adults to become stewards of our natural resources, benefit Wyoming public lands and provide collaborative service learning opportunities.

Beginning this summer in mid-July a group of eight University of Wyoming students will begin to tackle a multi-year Russian Olive Removal project east of Buffalo High School. The project, funded by LDCD aims to remove the majority of the Russian Olives in the area and begin to re-establish native trees and shrubs including Cottonwoods, Golden willow, Native plum, and American Silverberry. In addition to removing the invasive Russian Olive, interpretive signs will be placed along the existing trail to highlight native vegetation and the importance of combating invasive species.

Welcome Amanda Hulet Lake DeSmet Conservation District's new District Clerk!!

I was born and raised on a ranch in Johnson County. My husband, Jason, and I have two boys, Paden and Zander, and are constantly chasing after them. I still work with my dad, mom and brother on our family ranch. I enjoy volunteering my time and serve on many local and state boards including the Board of Agriculture. I am excited to be a part of LDCD and look forward to working with you!



Why Hire an Arborist?

Arborists specialize in the care of individual trees. They are knowledgeable about the needs of trees, and are trained and equipped to provide proper care. Hiring an arborist is a decision that should not be taken lightly. Proper tree care is an investment that can lead to substantial returns. Well cared-for trees are attractive and can add considerable value to your property. Poorly maintained trees can be a significant liability. Pruning or removing trees, especially large trees, can be dangerous work. Tree work should be done only by those trained and equipped to work safely in trees.

What is an Arborist?

An arborist by definition is an individual who is trained in the art and science of planting, caring for, and maintaining individual trees. ISA arborist certification is a nongovernmental, voluntary process by which individuals can document their base of knowledge. Certified Arborists are individuals who have achieved a level of knowledge in the art and science of tree care through experience and by passing a comprehensive examination developed by some of the nation's leading experts on tree care.

Services an Arborist can Provide

- **Pruning.** An arborist can determine the type of pruning necessary to maintain or improve the health, appearance, and safety of trees.
- **Tree Removal.** Although tree removal is a last resort, there are circumstances when it is necessary. An arborist can help decide whether a tree should be removed.
- **Emergency Tree Care.** An arborist can assist in performing emergency tree care in a safe manner, while reducing further risk of damage to property.
- **Planting.** Some arborists plant trees, and most can recommend species that are appropriate for a particular location.
- **Plant Health Care.** Preventive maintenance helps keep trees in good health while reducing any insect, disease, or site problems.

Upcoming Events!!

Tree Workshop

When: Saturday, April 30th 8:30-12:00

Where: Johnson County Fire Hall Meeting Room - 790 Volunteer Lane

This workshop will focus on the diversity of trees that can survive and thrive in Buffalo as well how to properly plant and care for your new trees. A **hands-on planting demonstration** will be conducted by Wyoming State Forestry personnel to provide a "show me" experience!!

Please register for this free workshop by calling 307-684-2526 ext. 101 or e-mail zach.byram@ldcd.org.

FREE HHW / Pesticide Collection Day

When: Saturday, June 4th 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Where: Johnson County Fairgrounds (south side)

Look for more information on these events in the Buffalo Bulletin, on our website or visit our **NEW Facebook page!!**



Fishing and Boating: Aquatic Invasive Species Information

With boating and fishing season starting again it's important to remember a few things:

Watercraft Inspection Requirements

There are several regulations in place to protect Wyoming's resources. All boaters should be aware of these regulations. Any watercraft transported into Wyoming from *March 1 through November 30* must undergo a **mandatory inspection** by an authorized inspector prior to launching. Any watercraft that has been in a water infested with zebra/quagga mussels within the last 30 days, is required to undergo a **mandatory inspection** by an authorized inspector prior to launching *during ALL months of the year*.

Aquatic Invasive Species

Aquatic invasive species (AIS) are organisms that are not native and cause significant harm to an ecosystem when introduced. Harmful impacts can occur to municipal water supplies, recreation, agriculture, aquaculture, and other commercial activities.

Aquatic invasive species including amphibians, crustaceans, fish, plants, and mollusks are currently present in Wyoming, most notably the New Zealand mudsnail and Asian clam. While these species cause problems and need to be controlled, the most significant known threat to Wyoming is from zebra and quagga mussels based on their proximity and demonstrated impacts in neighboring states.

Drain, Clean, Dry

The Wyoming Game and Fish Department will conduct watercraft inspections at ports of entry, other border locations and major waters around the state. These watercraft inspections will be marked with signs and all persons transporting watercraft must stop at these check stations. Inspections will consist of an authorized inspector asking a few questions to determine the risk your watercraft poses of transporting AIS. If your watercraft is drained, cleaned and dried, you can expect your inspection to go quickly, an estimated 3 to 5 minutes at the most. The majority of Wyoming boaters can expect this low-risk inspection. If you are determined to be high-risk, the inspection is more thorough and may take 10 to 30 minutes depending on the type and size of watercraft. Thorough high-risk inspections are critical to keeping AIS out of Wyoming. Once your watercraft has passed inspection, you are free to launch your boat.

For more information visit Wyoming Game and Fish at <https://wgfd.wyo.gov/Fishing-and-Boating/Aquatic-Invasive-Species-Prevention>