

# 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.*

Next week, USDA is delighted to be rolling out a new tool in our internship toolkit!

The OneUSDA Internship program will pair with USDA's existing internship opportunities to make sure YOU have lots of paths to exploring agriculture with USDA.

- Applicants will be able to select their specialty area of interest and desired locations (up to three).
- Job opening: Monday, January 22, 2018. Job closing: Friday, January 26, 2018.
- You will need to submit a resume, cover letter, and informal transcript – in addition to responding to the questionnaires contained in the job application.
- Candidates for the internship must meet the qualification requirements described below for the occupational series of the position to be filled:
  - o GS-2: High school diploma or equivalent
  - o GS-3: Completion of 1 academic year of post-high school study
  - o GS-4: Completion of 2 academic years of post-high school study or associate's degree
  - o GS-5: Completion of 4 academic years of post-high school study leading to a bachelor's degree

Visit us next week at <https://www.usajobs.gov/> (Announcement number: AG-01-2018-0023) to check out this exciting new opportunity!

## *Gardens and landscapes:*

### Early Spring:

Start warm-season vegetables and flower seeds inside so they are ready to transplant when warmer weather arrives (check the packet and last frost dates to determine when to start). Read Starting plants from seed indoors: The Basics from Barnyards and Backyards.

Before adding fertilizer or manure to the garden, test the soil for nutrients and salts. Watch the From the Ground Up video How to Take a Soil Test

Complete tree, vine, and bramble pruning, and fruit tree grafting prior to bud break in your area. Start grape vine cuttings in containers inside.

Fertilize indoor plants as day length increases and bursts of growth occur; nitrogen for green plant growth, phosphorus for root development, and blossoms, *and potassium for overall good health.*

## *Seasonal To Do's: Early & Later Spring*

### Later spring

#### Trees and shrubs

Remove tree wrap from thin-barked trees that were protected in the fall.

Remove wind and wildlife protection barriers.

Prune any dead or winter-damaged branches from trees, shrubs, and vines.

Fertilize trees and shrubs based on soil test results.

Plant bare-root trees that arrive from wholesalers.

*Continued on next page*

(Continued from Page 1)

Treat fruit trees for codling moths and other pests after the correct amount of blossom drop.

As fruit begins to develop, thin apples and other spur fruit to increase individual fruit size and quality.

#### Perennials

Remove insulating mulches from roses, strawberries, or other tender perennials.

Begin dividing and planting hardy perennial plants.

#### Vegetables and other edibles

Begin planting out seeds for cool-season garden crops.

Plant asparagus and rhubarb crowns. Be prepared to wait three years before harvesting from young crowns and two years for older crowns.

Plant raspberry and strawberry plants. Allow these plants to establish a good root system prior to harvesting from these plants, at least the next growing season.

Plant a successional round of cool-season crops (lettuce, carrots, radishes, spinach, and other favorites) to extend the harvest season.

Begin to harden off warm season crops to be transplanted out later.

#### Lawns

Start up the lawn mower and add first grass clippings to the compost pile and turn it for added warmth and decomposition.

Apply herbicides to control broadleaf weeds in lawns and other areas only on calm days. Be sure to read, even if you have read them before, and follow label instructions.

Apply a spring fertilizer if needed. Read Landscaping: Turf in Wyoming UW Extension Bulletin #1129

As soil and air temperatures really begin to warm:

Get your hummingbird feeder out and ready for the returning birds

Plant seeds for beans, sweet corn, cucumbers, and other warm season crops.

Plant annual blooming flowers and container gardens.

Begin cutting fresh flowers for use at home or for sharing around the community with senior citizens or family friends.

Article from Barnyards & Backyards: <http://www.uwyo.edu/barnbackyard/resources/seasonal-calendar/>

THE JOHNSON COUNTY LANDFILL IS NOW ACCEPTING CARD BOARD

THE BUFFALO RECYCLING CENTER ACCEPTS THE FOLLOWING: PLASTICS,  
ALUMINUM & STEEL CANS, GLASS, CARDBOARD, PAPER, BOOKS, STYROFOAM,  
TEXTILES & CLOTHING, BATTERIES, INK CARTRIDGES, CAR SEATS.

## 2018 Conservation Tree, Shrub and Perennial Order Forms Now Available

Although tree planting for next spring may be far from your thoughts, now is the time to begin planning. All too often, landowners wait until March or April to begin the planning process. This late planning generally results in numerous problems encountered by the prospective tree planter.

Poorly planned planting sites often result in excessive tree loss, poor species selection, improper placement, lack of desired function and unhappy landowners.

These conservation trees and shrubs can be used for snow fences, shelter belts, wildlife habitat improvement, wetland restoration, noise barriers, or for improving aesthetics around your property.

Do it right the first time! If you are going to invest your time and money on a tree planting project, call the District and we can provide you with all the information you need.

The order forms can be located on our website ([www.clearcreekcd.org](http://www.clearcreekcd.org)) or here at the office. We are excited to be offering many tree and shrub varieties as well as perennial plant species including several new additions. Several species are expected to sell out quickly so you are encouraged to order as early as possible. If you are looking for something that you don't see on the order form, give us a call and we will try to find what you are looking for!

### Also Available For Sale

- Composters \$80.00 + tax
- Rain Barrels \$45.00 + tax
- Weed barrier (6 ft x 300 ft) \$80.00 + tax



---

## CLEAR CREEK CONSERVATION DISTRICT AWARDED GRANT

Clear Creek Conservation District (CCCD) is pleased to announce that we recently were awarded a grant from the Wyoming Wildlife and Natural Resource Trust (WWNRT) to continue our Buffalo High School Russian Olive Removal project! The grant will allow CCCD to contract with the University of Wyoming to bring in two separate Wyoming Conservation Crews during the summer of 2018 to continue removing Russian Olive trees from Buffalo High School. The project, initiated in the summer of 2016, is focused on mechanical removal of the invasive Russian Olive trees as well as reestablishing a variety of trees and shrubs back into areas where the Russian Olives had have been removed. As part of the grant once the Russian Olives have been removed the existing walking path will be updated with interpretive signage placed along the path describing the tree/shrub species that have been plated as well as a kiosk that will describe the importance of invasive weed management to conservation of natural resources and vegetative restoration. This project has been made possible by the collaboration of the City of Buffalo, Johnson County Road and Bridge, Buffalo High School, and of course the WWNRT.



## Rural Living & Garden Expo 2018

Just a nibbler for you!

Last year's Garden Expo was a huge success and this year we are adding to it!

We will have garden classes like we did last year but this year we are adding some rural living classes as well as tree classes. They will be offered every hour, just like last year so you will be able to attend one or all!

This event will take place April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at the Bomber Mountain Civic Center. Please watch your email for more information!

---



Our education coordinator, Amanda, had the opportunity to visit the 5<sup>th</sup> science classes and help educate them on composting. She, along with teacher Becky Qualm, assisted the kids in making composting towers to better understand how composting happens.

*Winter 2017*



# Marlon Winger Brings Soil Health to Life! “Is dirt the same thing as soil?”

Marlon Winger would reply,  
“Soil contains life and is abundant of living  
organisms, Dirt is simply neglected soil.”



Natural Resources  
Conservation Service

**Tuesday, January 30, 2018 / 10:00 - 2:00 pm**

**Red Wall Community Center**

**Lunch Provided**

R.S.V.P. to the Powder River Conservation District: 307.738.2321 ext. 3 by Jan. 25th.

“If you need an accommodation to participate in this activity or event, please contact Anita Bartlett at 307-738-2321 ext. 3, or by e-mail at [Anita.Bartlett@wy.nacdn.net](mailto:Anita.Bartlett@wy.nacdn.net) by January 19, 2018. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- January 27 – 31 – NACD Convention - Nashville
- February 20 – Board of Supervisors Meeting, 6 pm, 621 W Fetterman
  - March 16 – last day to order balled & burlapped trees
- March 20 – Board of Supervisors Meeting, 6 pm, 621 W Fetterman
- April 7 – Rural Living & Garden Expo, Bomber Mountain Civic Center
  - April 9 – last day to order seedlings
  - April 13 – last day to order container grown trees
- April 17 – Board of Supervisors Meeting, 6 pm, 621 W Fetterman



5<sup>th</sup> grade science kids building a worm composting jar. They were able to build towers to show how microorganisms work as well the worm jars to see how larger organisms work too!



Clear Creek Conservation District  
621 West Fetterman  
Buffalo, WY 82834-2340



Phone: (307) 684-2526

E-Mail: [zach.byram@clearcreekcd.org](mailto:zach.byram@clearcreekcd.org) or [amanda.hulet@clearcreekcd.org](mailto:amanda.hulet@clearcreekcd.org)

### *Meet the Board and Staff*

#### **Clear Creek Conservation District**

##### **Board of Supervisors**

**Ryan Fieldgrove: Chair**

**Luke Todd: Vice Chair**

**Priscilla Welles: Secretary/Treasurer**

**Virgie Watt: Member**

**Travis Rule: Member**

#### **District Staff**

**Zach Byram: District Manager**

**Amanda Hulet: District Clerk**

##### **Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Staff**

**Allison McKenzie: District Conservationist**

**Kassie Camino: Range Conservationist**