

CONSERVATION NEWS

McCONE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

VOLUME 16, ISSUE 7: JULY 2016

Inside this issue

NRCS News	2
FSA News	3
Invasive Mollusks: Quagga & Zebra mussels	4
Clean, Drain, Dry	5
Featured Noxious Weeds: Yellow & Dalmation Toadflax	6
Straw Bale Gardening Project June 2016	7
Events in July	8

Prairie Rattlesnake (*Crotalus viridis*)



Photo: www.denverpost.com

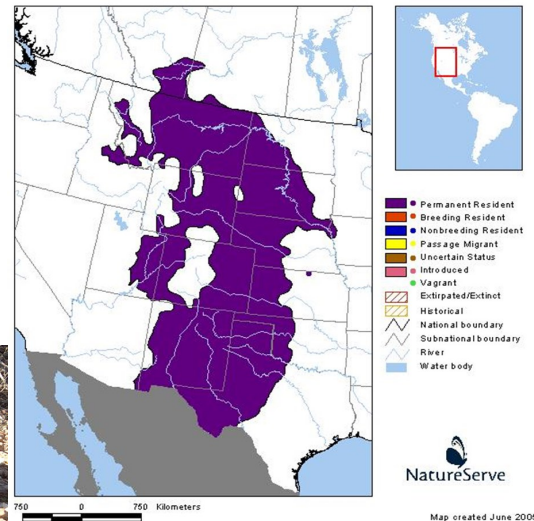
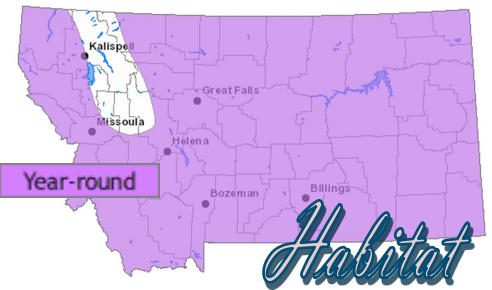
General Description: Adults have a triangular head, blunt nose, narrow neck, and stout body; they range in length from 15 to 60 inches. The background color varies from pale green to brown; a series of brown or black blotches edged with a dark and a light line extends the length of the body. The blotches often merge into rings on the tail.

There are also blotches on the sides. The belly is pale yellow to white and lacks blotches. All rattlesnakes have a heat-sensing pit located between the nostril and the eye. The fangs are hollow and hinged, allowing them to be folded back against the roof of the mouth. The tail ends in a rattle that helps warn potential predators of the snake's presence.

Diagnostic Characteristics: No other snake in Montana has rattles.

Habitat: Prairie Rattlesnakes favor open and arid country but are also found in ponderosa pine stands and mixed grass-coniferous forests. They are more likely to be encountered on south-facing slopes and in areas with rock outcrops. Prairie Rattlesnakes den communally, but range up to 7 miles from the dens during the summer. Females give birth to 4 to 21 young in late summer; the young are marked similarly to adults, but colors are brighter. Prairie rattlesnakes prey on a variety of animals, including mice, ground squirrels, and rabbits.

Article source: <http://fieldguide.mt.gov/speciesDetail.aspx?elcode=ARADE02120>



Who Invited the Snake to the River Rendezvous?

As told to me by Rachel Frost; recreated and written with some poetic license...

This year's River Rendezvous was held June 9th. There were nearly 50 people embarking on a river tour leaving Ft Benton and traveling 15 miles downstream to see some of the riparian restoration efforts on the Missouri River.



Photo source: www.hikingguy.com

At the designated departure time, the group gathered and walked the short distance to the launch site and boats. The group chattered as they walked down a path that was overgrown with the recent rains. Unbeknownst to them, a rattlesnake was warming itself on the path. As it heard the group approach, it signaled its presence by rattling its many coils.

The group discovered that there was no way around the reptile nor did they deem it safe to just leave it there. Remember, the River Rendezvous is a tour and many travelers do not sightsee with shotguns, tire irons or any other snake dispatching tools on their person or at least we hope they don't. So they needed to consider their limited options. Fortunately, there was riparian fencing close-by.

Rachel said that a hero emerged from the group and it was our very own Board Chairman, Steve Wanderaas. He pulled up a fence post and proceeded to give the snake a few whacks and slew it.

The group then proceeded to tour the riparian restoration projects along the river to include fencing and off-site water development projects, cottonwood plantings, and habitat for songbirds.



Photo: www.etsy.com



FARMERS GOING UNDER 'COVER'

A new, seven-part video series explores how an increasing number of farmers throughout the country are creating a new hope in healthy soil by regenerating our nation's living and life-giving soil. Combined chapters: The hope in healthy soil Youtube video

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TucmtBLmeyU&index=8&list=PL4J8PxoprGaCb1k93_Y5pOm9b-9V1pMX)

[v=TucmtBLmeyU&index=8&list=PL4J8PxoprGaCb1k93_Y5pOm9b-9V1pMX](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TucmtBLmeyU&index=8&list=PL4J8PxoprGaCb1k93_Y5pOm9b-9V1pMX)

Conservation Easement Workshop Miles City

Date: July 19, 2016

Location: Fort Keogh

243 Keogh Road, Miles City, Montana

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.



Conservation Easements

Conservation Easement Workshop Culbertson

Date: July 20, 2016

Location: Culbertson County Building

307 Broadway Street, Culbertson, Montana

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

NRCS and other conservation organizations offer different easement options that agricultural landowners can use to protect and/or restore wetlands, wildlife habitat, and agricultural resources. Workshop speakers will explain different easement options and how those can be tailored to meet the long-term conservation goals of landowners. "The goal for these workshops is to give landowners access to information that could benefit their operations, either now or even in the future," said Lisa Coverdale, NRCS state conservationist for Montana. "We want to arm producers with as much information as possible, giving them one more conservation tool to meet varied resource needs."

If you have questions about the workshops or require special accommodation, contact Abby Dresser at 406-544-6445 or abby.dresser@mt.usda.gov

NRCS HELPS FORT PECK RESERVATION WITH GRAZING MANAGEMENT PROJECT

Published June 22, 2016:

The tribes and NRCS developed a plan to implement proper grazing management on its vast rangeland resource of over 364,000 acres. The tribes identified their resource concerns through the development of their Agricultural Resource Management Plan (ARMP). Through the planning process, the tribes identified infrastructure problems that would hinder them in reaching their goals. They were mainly facing poor condition or missing fences and the lack of adequate livestock water in many parts of the reservation.

The tribes' strategy was simple: prove that they can do the work on their own, then apply for federal funding from NRCS. The council pulled together about \$300,000 to start the program—allowing the Tribes' Natural Resources office to purchase building materials and to hire 15 tribal members to build the new fences. Initially, they built 50 miles of fence. NRCS provided nearly \$511,000 in cost-share to fund four additional projects, which included prescribed grazing, wildlife-friendly fencing, and noxious weed control.

In an effort to continue the fencing and grazing project, the tribes recently applied for and were approved to receive Strike Force funding. Three contracts have been approved, totaling more than \$900,000. The funding supports replacing fences and implementing prescribed grazing plans on more than 22,000 acres on the reservation. The prescribed grazing plans will last for three years.



FSA County Committee Nomination Period Began June 15

The nomination period for the FSA county committees across Montana begins on June 15, 2016. Nomination forms must be postmarked or received in FSA Offices by close of business on Aug. 1, 2016. In McCone County, local administrative area (LAA) 3 will be holding an election this year. Michael Thoeny currently represents LAA 3 on the county committee.

County Committees are unique to FSA and allow producers to have a voice on federal farm program implementation at the local level. To be eligible to serve on the FSA county committee, a person must participate or cooperate in an agency administered program, be eligible to vote in a county committee election, reside in the county and have an agricultural operation in the local administrative area (LAA) in which the person is a candidate. All producers, including women, minority and beginning farmers and ranchers are encouraged to participate in the nomination and election process. Producers may nominate themselves or others as candidates. Organizations representing minority and women farmers and ranchers may also nominate candidates. To become a nominee, eligible individuals must sign form FSA-669A. The form and more information about county committee elections is available online at: www.fsa.usda.gov/elections.

Elected county committee members serve a three-year term and are responsible for making decisions on FSA disaster, conservation, commodity and price support programs, as well as other important federal farm program issues. County committees consist of three to 11 members.

FSA will mail election ballots to eligible voters beginning Nov. 7. Ballots are due back in the County Office by mail or in person no later than Dec. 5, 2016. All newly elected county committee members and alternates will take office Jan. 1, 2017. For more information about county committees, please contact your local FSA office and visit www.fsa.usda.gov/elections and www.fsa.usda.gov/mt.

ARC-PLC: Aug. 1st Enrollment Deadline for 2016 USDA Safety Net Coverage

FSA has announced that Aug. 1, 2016 is the deadline for producers to complete the annual enrollment process for the Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) or the Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs. Producers previously made a program election of ARC or PLC for their eligible farms; the program election remains in effect through 2018. However, producers must still enroll their farm by signing a contract each year to be eligible for potential payments.

Producers are encouraged to contact their local FSA office to schedule an appointment to enroll. If a farm is not enrolled during the 2016 enrollment period, producers on that farm will not be eligible for financial assistance from the ARC or PLC programs should crop prices or farm revenues fall below the historical price or revenue benchmarks established by the program.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339 (Local or Federal relay), (866) 377-8642 (Relay voice).



Upcoming FSA Deadlines in Montana

July 1: Deadline to record farm structure changes for 2016

July 15: 2016 Acreage Reporting Deadline for Spring Seeded Alfalfa Seed, Forage Seeding, Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Fruit (except cherries), Vegetables, Christmas Trees, and all Spring-Seeded Crops and any other crops not required to be reported by previously announced deadlines.

July 15: 2015 Final Production Reports are due to certain NAP crops

July 15: 2015 ARC-IC Farm Benchmark and Actual Yield Certification due

July 16: CRP 2016 Summer/Fall Managed Haying and Grazing Begins (with prior County Committee Written Approval of Request)

Aug. 1: Deadline for 2016 ARC and PLC Enrollment

Aug. 1: Last day to file nomination forms at the USDA Service Center for County Committee Elections

Aug. 1: Deadline to request farm transfers and farm reconstitutions for 2016

Importance of Timely Crop Certification/Acreage Reporting

In order to comply with FSA program eligibility requirements, all producers, including livestock producers, are encouraged to visit their local FSA office to file an accurate crop certification report by the applicable deadline.

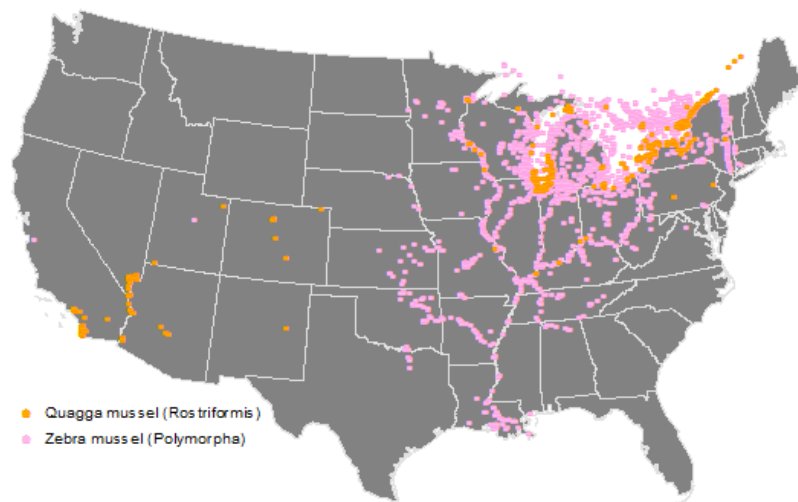
The 2016 Acreage Reporting/Crop Certification Deadline is July 15, 2016 for Spring Seeded Alfalfa Seed, Forage Seeding, Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Fruit (except cherries), Vegetables, Christmas Trees, and all Spring-Seeded Crops and any other crops not required to be reported by previously announced deadlines.

FEATURED INVASIVE MOLLUSKS: QUAGGA & ZEBRA MUSSEL

ZEBRA MUSSEL



QUAGGA MUSSEL



Mollusks (mussels, clams, and snails) are small organisms capable of creating enormous economic and ecological damage in the regions they invade. Most larvae are microscopic; immature organisms may be as small as a grain of sand. They hitchhike on recreational boats, field equipment, and anything that travels with humans from one body of water to another. Mollusks may survive outside of water for multiple days or weeks. Rapid reproducers, they form large colonies that overwhelm beaches, devastate the food chain, and clog water intake and transport systems. Some mollusks act as vectors for parasites and disease.

If Introduced: Mollusks consume plankton, destroying the base of the food web that supports fish and waterfowl. Snails and mussels also disrupt the base of the food chain, competing with macroinvertebrates and reducing food for fish. Invasive mollusk colonies overrun breeding habitat for fish and wildlife. Costs of the invasion are enormous; the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service estimated the potential economic impacts of quagga and zebra mussels to water users in the Great Lakes region to be \$5 billion from 2000 to 2010.

“Once introduced, there is no known way to eradicate these organisms”.

Quagga mussel (*Dreissena rostriformis bugensis*)

Size: Adults are up to 4cm long (about 1 1/2 inches). Young mussels may be as small as a grain of sand; larvae are microscopic.

Color: Varies. Bands range from black to brown to cream with few to no zigzag patterns. Colors fade near the hinge.

Shape: Shell is curved at the outer margin and tapered near the hinge.

Found in: Lakes and reservoirs. Attaches by threads to any hard surface (native mussels do not attach). May also partially bury in sediment.

Native to: Europe and Asia



Stop the spread: Quagga mussels are easily spread by people and are prolific reproducers. Invasive populations cost millions per year to manage, deplete fish populations, close recreational areas, and disrupt municipal and irrigation systems.

Zebra mussel (*Dreissena polymorpha*)

Size: Adults are approximately 2.5cm long (almost an inch). Young mussels can be as small as a grain of sand; larvae are microscopic.

Color: Varies. Black-brown to white-yellow, with zigzagged patterns.

Shape: Triangular with a curved outer margin. Small striped ridges cross the shell.

Found in: Lakes, reservoirs, and slow-moving rivers. Attaches to rocks, wood, cement, watercraft, or any other hard surfaces with its threads (native mussels do not attach to surfaces).

Native to: Europe and Asia



Stop the spread: Zebra mussels travel easily undetected—on clothing, in plants, in mud, and on equipment. Invasive populations costs millions per year to manage, deplete fish populations, close recreational areas, and disrupt municipal and irrigation systems.

Article source: Aquatic Invasive Species Threatening the Crown of the Continent

Author: Jennifer McBride, MS candidate in Environmental Studies, University of Montana

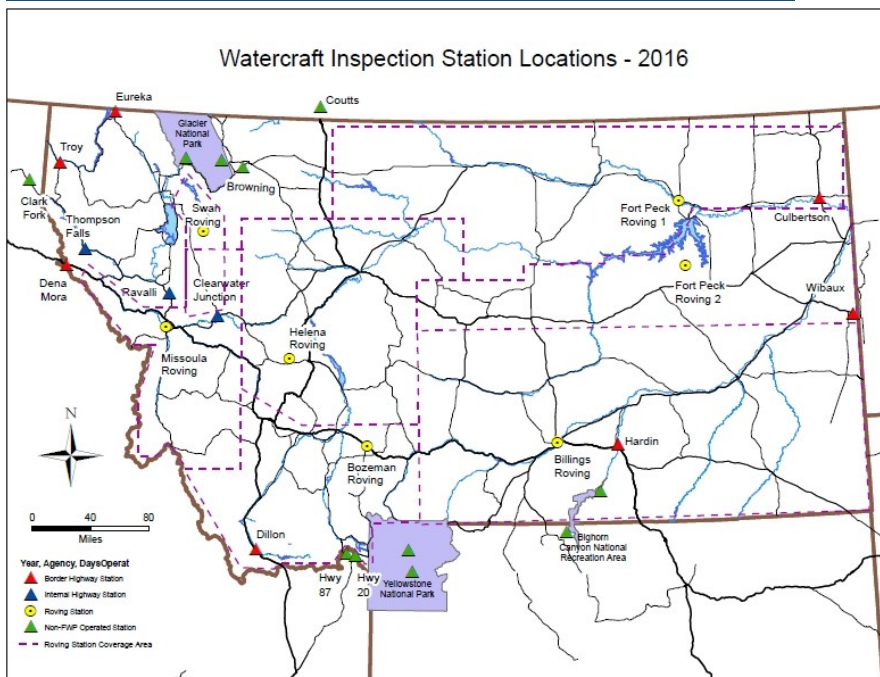
Photo source: www.ncrcd.org; Map source: www.desktop.arcgis.com

Report any attached mollusks.

CLEAN. DRAIN. DRY.

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Watercraft Inspection Program



What is Expected of You?

CLEAN, DRAIN, DRY your watercraft prior to arrival at a watercraft inspection station.

- Drain your bilge, ballast tanks, live wells, and any storage compartments.
- Dispose of all plants and animals away from lakes or rivers.
- If you have an outboard engine, lower the out-drive on the engine to release any residual water.
- Know your local fishing regulations. It is prohibited in some areas to be in possession of live fish/bait.

Failure to follow these steps will result in a longer inspection. If you arrive prepared, inspections should take only a few minutes.

Keep an eye out and report any attached mollusk. Report unclean watercraft, trailers, and other equipment on the roadway and at boat launches.

Why Do Inspections?

Watercraft inspections are a way of intercepting vessels and equipment that have the potential to spread aquatic invasive species (AIS), and to decontaminate them (if necessary) before launching into Montana waters. Data collected at watercraft inspection stations also provide valuable information on boater movement, cleaning habits, and bait use while providing information and education about invasive species to the public.

What to Expect at a Watercraft Inspection Station

Watercraft inspection stations serve to inform the public of the threat of AIS and to physically inspect vessels for aquatic invasive species. This includes watercraft that originate both in-state and out-of-state. These inspection stations are generally manned by two trained inspectors. The inspection consists of a boater interview, a watercraft inspection and decontamination (if necessary). The interview consists of questions relating to boater origin and movement, water user type, live bait usage, knowledge of AIS, cleaning methods, cleaning frequency, and number of launches per year.



Featured Noxious Weeds: Yellow & Dalmatian Toadflax

Yellow Toadflax (*Linaria vulgaris*)

Common Names: Butter and eggs, wild snapdragon, common toadflax, ramsted, flaxweed, Jacob's ladder

Description: Yellow toadflax is a perennial plant introduced to North America as an ornamental. Unlike Dalmatian toadflax, yellow toadflax only grows to a height of one to two feet and plants have multiple stems. Seedlings of yellow toadflax resemble leafy spurge at young stages, but do not produce a milky sap when broken. Leaves are numerous, pale green to gray green in color, narrow and pointed at both ends and have smooth margins. They are alternately arranged on the stem. The showy, snapdragon type flower grows on stalks in dense clusters of fifteen to twenty at the ends of the stems. Flowers are pale to bright yellow with orange throats and a downward pointing yellow spur that can be up to an inch long. Flowers bloom from June to July. Seeds are winged, brown, oval capsules with two chambers, each housing several seeds. Each toadflax plant can produce up to 30,000 seeds annually. Yellow toadflax has an extensive horizontal root system and it reproduces through creeping roots or by seed.



Photo source: www.texasinvasives.org

Key Features: Bright yellow and orange snapdragon-type flowers; grows in patches due to an extensive, connected root system.

Habitat: Yellow toadflax prefers sites with well-drained sandy or gravelly soils, but soils will likely be moist as the plant can become stunted in dry conditions. It can be found in a variety of areas including rangeland, pastures, forests, right-of-ways, cultivated fields, gardens and gravel pits.

Currently found in counties surrounding McCone: Daniels, Roosevelt and Valley

Interesting Facts: The term butter and eggs comes from the flowers of which yellow resembles butter and the orange resembles egg yolks. Yellow toadflax has been used for medicinal purposes with digestive and urinary tract disorders and used topically as an anti-inflammatory, diuretic, and to treat skin rashes.

Commonly Confused Plants: Dalmatian Toadflax, Snapdragons

Article source: Montana Weed Control Association



Photo source: www.plant-world-seeds.com

Dalmatian Toadflax (*Linaria dalmatica*)

Common Names: broadleaf toadflax, wild snapdragon, smooth toadflax

Description: Like its close cousin yellow toadflax, Dalmatian toadflax produces showy snapdragon-type yellow flowers, however, it is easier to identify due to its long, erect appearance and waxy coating. Dalmatian toadflax has a tap root that can go as deep as ten feet, but will also produce lateral roots that can extend out from the parent plant for ten to twelve feet. This plant can produce woody stems that are capable of reaching heights of four feet. They can be branched in the upper portions and are often a blue-green in color. Both stems and leaves have a waxy coating. Leaves are heart shaped and clasp the stem alternately. They have smooth margins. Blooms are nearly identical to yellow toadflax flowers: pale to bright yellow with orange throats and a spur extending from the bottom. Flowers are arranged in racemes on the stems and flowering occurs from mid summer to early fall. Seeds are ½ inch capsules that contain tiny dark seeds with papery wings. These seeds can remain viable for up to ten years and each plant can produce up to 500,000 seeds annually. Dalmatian toadflax reproduces by seed and by root.

Key Features: Tall, stalky plant with waxy, rubber-like leaves and stem; stem and leaves are a bluish-green in color and flowers are bright, showy, yellow and resemble snap dragons.

Habitat: Dalmatian toadflax grows best in full sun on dry sites with coarse textured, well-drained soils. Dalmatian toadflax is typically found along disturbed sites, roadsides, clear cuts, transitional forest-grassland, right-of-ways, fences, cultivated fields, pastures, and rangelands.

Currently found in counties surrounding McCone: Custer, Daniels, Dawson, Prairie, Richland, Roosevelt and Valley

Interesting Facts: Dalmatian toadflax flowers have both male and female organs (hermaphroditic) and can self pollinate. This plant was grown as an ornamental for many years in Europe before being introduced in the U.S. in 1874. Many folks will unknowingly pick both Dalmatian and yellow toadflax to take home and display in vases because of the showy blooms.

Commonly Confused Plants: Common Yellow Toadflax has similar flowers but no orange in the throat; Bastard toadflax has similarly blue green foliage

By Mary Hendrix

Garden reality #1: There is always the potential for threatening weather. On June 9th, the weather forecast called for strong thunderstorms and large size hail. Even a rotational echo (that's SCARY! a tornado) was observed.

Before the storm hit Circle, I grabbed an oversized tarp and a couple of bungee cords to cover my fledgling plants. Since the garden is enclosed by pallet fencing, attaching the tarp was quick and easy. Ten minutes later the storm hit. The wind blew a tempest, but luckily there wasn't any hail. The tarp flapped hard, but held; I'll need to secure it with more bungees. The plants were just fine. The forecast calls for more threatening weather in the days to come. We shall see how it goes.

Garden reality #2: There's mushrooms growing in one of the bales. Apparently, this is a good thing. That indicates that the bales are breaking down nicely. **WARNING:** Do not eat the mushrooms, unless you are an expert and can identify the poisonous from the innocuous.

Garden reality #3: There's something eating my seedlings. I've seen red ants crawling on the bales, but not sure if they are the culprits. I may try something organic like diatomaceous earth if it continues.

June 24th Garden update : The seedlings are struggling and sparse. The weeds on the ground are all tall around the bales, but the veggies have barely sprouted.

June 27th Garden update: Another major storm with heavy winds and rain hit Saturday, June 25. Trees in my neighborhood sustained losses of large limbs and many branches. Two of the re-enforced corners of the tarp ripped in the strong winds (I've heard upwards of 70mph). It flapped for hours, but did not blow away into the next county. We also did not have any hail, so the plants were fine. We in town were fortunate as others in the country experienced much worse. Highway 13 was closed for a time as many power poles came down. A lot of tin siding went flying and a few sheds and storage bins tipped over.

What I've learned so far:



Weather:

- Timing: I began planting on Mother's Day weekend when I thought that the freeze was behind us. There were a few nights when the temperatures dipped precariously low and even a couple of nights below 32°F.
- Summer heat produces strong thunderstorms, wind and hail. A cover for the garden is essential.

Bale:

- Mushrooms are a good indicator that the bale is decomposing well.

Soil:

- Once the seeds were planted, the soil should have had some cover. I noticed that the rain and daily watering produced topsoil compaction.

Plants:

- The seedlings that came up quickly fried in the hot sun or was eaten by an unseen creature.
- The two cherry tomatoes and basil plants are the only growing plants in the garden. All others planted by seed have not grown beyond the seedling stage.
- I will need to re-seed each bale, this time with cover (perhaps grass clippings) or purchase transplants from the garden center (if they still have any left).

Photo left: Looking SW towards the June 9th storm





Flag: www.pixelstalk.net

Events in July

Low-Stress Livestock Handling Workshop

Low stress handling can improve weight gain, conception rates, milk yield, immune function, carcass quality, efficiency, safety, animal welfare, range management, and quality of life and the only new input it requires is knowledge.



Whit Hibbard

Fourth generation Montana cattle and sheep rancher (Sieben Live Stock Co., Cascade); editor and publisher of *Stockmanship Journal*; Bud Williams' Low Stress Livestock Handling instructor

July 14-15, 2016 | 9:00 AM – 5:30 PM

Glasgow Stockyards, Inc. Sales Barn

East of Glasgow on Fort Peck Hwy 42

Pay at the door

ONLY \$20/day
includes lunch

catered by Doris Ozari

Brought to you by:
Ron and Rose Stoneberg
Glasgow Stockyards, Inc.
Valley County Grazing Districts
Valley County Conservation District
Farm Equipment Sales

Please RSVP (lunch head count) to Diane Dirksen (Valley County Grazing Districts) (406) 228-2961 OR Mandy Maldonado (Valley County Conservation District) (406) 228-4321x101



July 31 – August 4

MT Farmers Union ArrowPeak Lodge
Highwood Mountains

Campers age 12-18 will be introduced to 25 of Montana's important range plants, grasses, forbs and shrubs. These youth will learn about the interaction of soils, water, plants, wildlife and livestock on the range. The camp provides an excellent opportunity for youth of varying backgrounds to become more aware of the value and potential of Montana's rangelands. This well-organized and balanced educational program brings together range professionals and interested students to learn in the great outdoors. Evening programs and activities allow campers an opportunity to meet new friends and develop lasting friendships!

Classes:

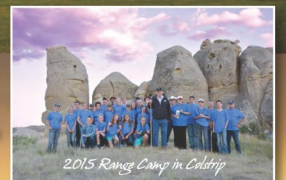
- Plant I.D. & Anatomy
- Soils/Geology
- Grazing Management
- Water/Riparian
- Range Monitoring

Sponsored by:

- Cascade Conservation District
- DNRC
- NRCS
- Mt Farmers Union
- Jennephyr Reiche-Sterling
- FWP
- Back Country Horsemen
- Elk Run Ranch
- Off Highway Vehicle Group

Fun activities:

- Hiking
- Fishing
- Swimming
- Survival Skills
- Campfires
- ATV Safety
- Horse packing
- Bat watch
- Star Party
- and more!



Camp registration is \$175

Conservation scholarships are available to help pay for part of the fee. Contact your local conservation district for more information.

All applications need to be sent to:
Cascade Conservation District
12 3rd St NW, Ste 300
Great Falls, MT 59404

<http://dnrc.mt.gov/divisions/cadd/camps/>
or Cascadedcd.com



Rangeland
MONTANA'S LARGEST ECOSYSTEM



For more Montana events, please visit: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/events/mt/newsroom/events/>



Then join hand in hand, brave Americans all!
By uniting we stand, by dividing we fall.
~John Dickinson

McCONE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

106 10th Street
P.O. Box 276
Circle, MT 59215
Phone: 406-485-2744 x100
Email: mcconecd@macdnet.org
Website: www.mcconecountycd.com
Like us on Facebook! McCone County Conservation District

Conservation District Board & Staff

Steve Wanderaas, Chairman
Casey Nay, Vice-Chairman
Larry Nagel, Urban Supervisor
Brant Quick, Rural Supervisor
Josh Murphy, Rural Supervisor
Greg Nagel, Rural Supervisor
** Opening **, Rural Supervisor
Kirk Haynie, Associate Supervisor
Mary Hendrix, Administrator & Editor

Partners in Conservation

Johnna Blankenship, DC, NRCS
Mandi Nay, Coordinator, DRWA
Sue Wittkopp, CED, FSA

Upcoming Events

July 2016

4 Independence Day: Office closed
6 Board Meeting, Circle
10-15 30th MT Natural Resources Youth Camp, Lubrecht Experimental Forest east of Missoula
14-15 Low-Stress Livestock Handling Workshop, Glasgow
19 Conservation Easement Workshop, Miles City
20 Conservation Easement Workshop, Culbertson
31-August 4 MT Youth Range Camp, Highwood

August 2016

3 Board Meeting, Circle
30-31 Soil Health Workshop, Baker

September 2016

5 Labor Day: Office closed
7 Board Meeting, Circle
7-8 MT Range Tour, Big Timber
21 Area 1 Meeting, Winnett

McCONE CONSERVATION DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT CONSERVATION DISTRICT AUTHORITY

Mission Statement—By performing a leadership role in conservation for McCone County, the District will develop a more sustainable and economic resource management plan for the community.

Conservation District Authority— MCA 76-15-102 Declaration of policy. It is hereby declared to be the policy of the legislature to provide for the conservation of soil and soil resources of this state, for the control and prevention of soil erosion, for the prevention of floodwater and sediment damages, and for furthering the conservation, development, utilization, and disposal of water and therefore to preserve natural resources, control floods, prevent impairment of dams and reservoirs, preserve wildlife, protect the tax base, protect public lands, and protect and promote the health, safety, and general welfare of the people of this state.

Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed on the Conservation News do not necessarily represent those of McCone Conservation District.

County Landownership Maps for Sale

Wall Map	\$30.00
Book Map	\$35.00
Color Book Map	\$45.00

Equipment Rental

Tree Planter	\$0.20 per tree
Fabric Layer	\$0.05 a foot
Post Pounder	\$95.00 day / \$550.00 week

Tree Supplies

Fabric Square 3' x 3'	\$0.75 each
Fabric Rectangle 4' x 3'	\$1.00 each
Fabric Staple	\$0.10 each
Fabric Staples	\$50.00 box
4' Plastic Tree Protector	\$2.00 each
Plantskydd 1 Quart	\$22.00
Plantskydd 1 Gallon	\$59.00