

2026 Fall Newsletter

625 E. Madison Avenue Suite # 1 • Riverton, WY 82501

307-463-0636 • www.lowerwindrivercd.com

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**Hard copy and digital version! Want to go paperless?
Sign up on our website to get the LWRCD newsletter by email!**



Dates To Remember:

September 15 - Area IV meeting, Elk Mountain

September 26 - Public Lands Day

October 8 - Board of Supervisors monthly meeting 12 p.m. LWRCD Conference Room

October 12 - Columbus Day - Office Closed

October 17 - Aerator Demonstration, Fair Annex
9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

October 21 - Fall Well Water Testing Day
9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

November 3 - Election Day - Go Vote!

November 11 - Veterans' Day - Office Closed

November 12 - Board of Supervisors monthly meeting, 12 p.m. LWRCD Conference Room

November 18-20 - WACD Convention, Laramie

November 26 - Thanksgiving - Office Closed

***Tree/Shrub sales - open late fall - TBD**

****If you are considering a large tree order for next spring, contact our office soon to discuss your windbreak and erosion control needs!***

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Rod Rivers - Chairman

Richard Denke - Vice Chairman

Ron Lucas - Secretary/Treasurer

Nick Biltoft - At-Large Supervisor

Scott Pettit - Urban Supervisor

Meetings are held on the 2nd THURSDAY of every month at 12:00 pm and are open to the public

OFFICE STAFF

Cathy Rosenthal - District Manager

Amanda Ablard - Administrative &
Outreach Coordinator

Rodney Carter - Conservation Programs Coordinator

Bobby Thoman - District Engineer

Natural Resource Conservation Service

Jake Hogan - Acting District Conservationist

The Area NRCS, Farm Service Agency (FSA) and Rural Development offices are located in the USDA Service Center
508 N. Broadway in Riverton. 307-856-7524

Welcome Bethany! Fall Internship with the LWRCD



The LWRCD is excited to welcome Bethany Heward to our team! Bethany joined the LWRCD on September 9 and will be working as an intern until December 11.

Bethany is currently enrolled at Brigham Young University-Idaho (BYU-Idaho), where she is studying animal

science. She has interests in agriculture, specifically livestock and horticulture. During her time with the LWRCD, she will have the opportunity to gain hands-on experience in a variety of conservation activities and projects throughout the District. We're excited to have her on the team and look forward to all she will contribute during her time with us!

What's Been Happening



It's hard to believe our long summer days are quickly coming to an end, that we've about made it through another irrigation season, and that fall is upon us! Even though the days were long, summer sure seemed to fly by with various projects and Fiscal Year planning, field visits and tours, sampling, and meetings.

One of our favorite highlights from early in the summer was providing a Bat Presentation to Shoshoni Elementary's summer enrichment camp. We had a fun morning learning about different types of Bats in Wyoming and their habitats, reading *Stellaluna*, building bat ears, and playing an echolocation bat game! Thank you, Shoshoni Elementary staff, for the invite!

Some other highlights from the summer include:

- Lower Wind River Weed Management Area Meeting
- Muddy Creek Partners Meeting and site visits
- Muddy Creek water quality sampling
- Range Monitoring and Wetland Tour with partners
- Project coordination within the Ocean Lake watershed
- Approval of the Fiscal Year 26-27 Budget
- Project Field Tour (recap below)

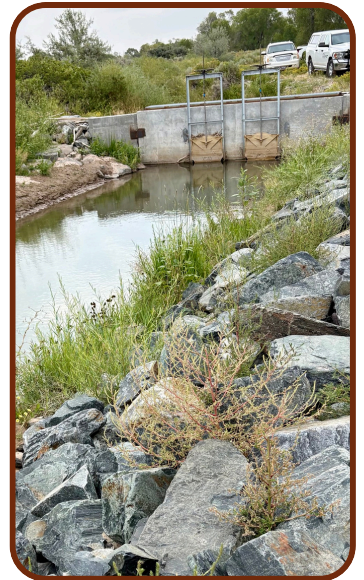
• Support of the Fremont County Fair and Hazardous Waste Day
We also enjoyed working with many of you to help improve your garden and field soils, irrigation conveyance, and seeding areas for erosion control and better production. As we shift into fall, we're grateful for another busy and productive summer and look forward to our fall projects and events, including our **Aerator Demonstration Day outlined on Page 4!** We hope you can join us!

Resource Enhancement Project Tour

On August 13th, the LWRCD hosted a project tour with Board members, staff, partners, and landowners to showcase four irrigation and bank stabilization projects supported through LWRCD cost-share funding and technical assistance.

The tour highlighted:

1. Aragon Ditch Headgate & Bank Stabilization (pictured right): A 2025 Emergency Watershed Protection project with NRCS on the Big Wind River west of Kinnear that addressed flooding concerns, erosion, and streambank stabilization.
2. Gated Pipeline Conversion: A 2,000-foot pipeline project improving irrigation efficiency, water delivery, and time savings.
3. Sprinkler Irrigation: A project supporting improved pasture management while providing an additional tool for fire suppression.
4. Little Wind River Bank Stabilization: More than 700 feet of rock riprap and willow plantings were installed to stabilize the riverbank and help protect property from erosion.



More than \$275,000 has been invested in these four projects, providing benefits including property protection, erosion control, improved irrigation efficiency, and better water distribution. All four projects are functioning as intended through the 2026 irrigation season. Since 2018, the LWRCD Resource Enhancement Program, along with the recent Emergency Watershed Protection project, has helped landowners, the LWRCD, NRCS, and other partners invest more than **\$1.14 million** in on-the-ground projects. If you have a project idea and need Technical Assistance / Engineering, call our office. Applications for cost-share projects are due May 1st. For more information about the tour and the Resource and Community Enhancement Program, please visit our website.

Ongoing and Happening this Fall!

Weed Management

The Lower Wind River Weed Management Area (LWRWMA) group met over the summer, with participating entities providing updates on weed management projects and discussing weed issues and priorities within our area. Russian olive has been a top priority of the group, and the group is exploring ways to map larger areas of Russian olive encroachment and provide additional resources on control.

If your property is inundated with Russian olive and you would like to discuss your issues, please let us know. The LWRWMA hopes to share more resources in the near future. In the meantime, please see the important reminder about fall Russian olive treatment, especially with the abundance of seedlings that have popped up this year!

Don't forget!!

Fall is a great time to treat Russian olive.

As temperatures cool, Russian olive moves stored energy back into its root system, making fall herbicide treatments particularly effective.



For larger trees, cutting followed by immediate treatment of the fresh stump can help prevent resprouting.



Smaller trees and regrowth may be treated while actively growing.



Always follow the herbicide label and contact the Fremont County Weed & Pest District for treatment recommendations.



RECYCLE MADE EASY!

STACK IT. SORT IT. SMALL STEP. BIG IMPACT.

Make recycling & transporting easier with LWRCD's new stackable recycling bin cost-share program.

Recycling helps reduce landfill waste, conserve natural resources, and is an easy practice anyone can do!

16
GALLONS
PER BIN

\$18
EACH

OR

\$50
FOR A SET
OF THREE



STACKABLE
to save space
at home, ranch
or office



DURABLE
built tough for
everyday
use



EASY TO TRANSPORT
perfect for hauling
to recycling
centers



GIVE US A CALL OR EMAIL IF INTERESTED!



VISIT OUR WEBSITE
lowerwindrivercd.com



CALL US
307-463-0636



EMAIL US
info@lowerwindrivercd.com

Soil Testing

LWRCD continues to offer soil testing cost-share to constituents within the District for \$10.00. The majority of the tests we received this summer were for gardens, which is a great reminder that before adding fertilizer, manure, or other amendments to your garden, consider testing your soil first. If you're not sure if what soil testing is needed, or if you have questions about soil testing in general please visit our website or the University of Wyoming Extension, Soil & Fertilization Resources website for helpful information on soil testing.

Well Water Testing

Our last well water testing event of 2026 is coming up **October 21, 2026, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.**

Test kits, which includes instructions on how to take your samples, are available for pickup at our office anytime before the event. The associated table lists the test offered, what's tested for, and the associated costs. For more information on testing options and stipulations, please visit our website or call the office.

Test Option	Description	# of Bottles	Lab Cost (Full Price)	Your Cost to LWRCD
Total Coliform Bacteria Test	Bacteria - Presence / Absence	1	\$35.00	FREE
Family Water Test	Chloride, Fluoride, Sulfate, Iron, Potassium, Lead, Calcium, Magnesium, Sodium, Bacteria, Nitrogen, Nitrate, pH, TDS, Hardness	4	\$241.60	\$25.00
Livestock Suitability Test	Alkalinity, Livestock Suitability; Irrigation Classification, pH, Total Dissolved Solids, Nitrogen, Nitrate + Nitrite	2	\$87.20	\$25.00

No-Till Drills; Reserve for Fall Planting

Fall and dormant seeding can be a useful option for establishing perennial grasses and other vegetation. Proper seeding depth, timing, and good seed-to-soil contact are important factors for successful establishment. The LWRCD has continued to see success with No-till drill plantings during the fall and winter, even during our recent drought conditions. Is fall or dormant seeding right for your needs? If considering, give us a call or check out the many resources available from the University of Wyoming, including [Barnyards and Backyards](#) articles (Search "seeding"). Copies of the current edition are also available at our office!

- The LWRCD 6-foot and 10-foot No-till drills are available for \$15 per acre
- \$100 minimum for the 6-foot drill and a \$200 minimum for the 10-foot.
- Additional acreage and mileage fees apply for out of District use.



Barnyards and Backyards Article
Summer 2012 Edition



Sticker Burr Roller

Reminder! The LWRCD has added a Sticker Burr Roller to our equipment rental program to assist with the removal of Puncturevine (Goatheads).

The Sticker Burr Roller is available to rent. For how-to videos and details of the rental agreement, visit the Weeds page on our website!

2026 Wyoming Natural Resource Foundation

POLARIS RANGER SIDE X SIDE RAFFLE!



2026 Polaris Ranger 570 SP - Green
in partnership with Brown, Co in Wheatland, WY

**TWO
Chances
to WIN!**

WIN BIG. SUPPORT CONSERVATION.

Enter to win while making a difference for Wyoming conservation! Raffle proceeds help make on the ground conservation projects happen by supporting locally led efforts that protect Wyoming's lands, waters, and wildlife. Projects include stream restoration, forest health, tree planting, watershed protection, and conservation education.

SECOND PRIZE

COOLER
DONATED BY
WYLD GEAR



**\$20 PER TICKET
or 6 FOR \$100**

Drawing takes place Nov. 19th during our Annual Convention. You do not need to be present to win.



AERATOR DEMONSTRATION FIELD DAY



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17TH, 2026



YOU'LL LEARN ABOUT:

- ✓ The benefits of pasture aeration
- ✓ RanchWorx aerators
- ✓ Compaction, aeration, and water infiltration
- ✓ Hands-on field demonstration



SCHEDULE

9:00 AM	Donuts, Coffee & Networking
9:30 - 10:00 AM	Discussion about the benefits of aeration
10:00 - 10:30 AM	Q/A
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Compaction, Aeration, Water Infiltration (Field Demo)
12:00 PM	Lunch & Wrap Up



LOCATIONS



START HERE:
FREMONT COUNTY FAIR ANNEX
875 Gasser Rd.
Fremont County, WY

We will begin the morning at the Fremont County Fair Annex.



FIELD DEMONSTRATION:
76 COUNTRY ACRES RD.
Across from Brown Company

We will travel to this location for the field demonstration.



LUNCH & WRAP UP:
FREMONT COUNTY FAIR ANNEX
875 Gasser Rd.
Fremont County, WY

We will return to the Fremont County Fair Annex for wrap up and lunch.



PLEASE RSVP
so we can plan for lunch!
CHOOSE ONE OF THE 3 WAYS:



1
CALL THE OFFICE
307-463-0636



2
SCAN THE CODE



3
VISIT OUR WEBSITE
lowerwindrivercd.com

COFFEE AND DONUTS PROVIDED IN MORNING | LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED.

Come see us for tickets!