



October 2023



# UINTA COUNTY *Connection*



## UCCD Now Accepting Seedling Tree Orders

UCCD is excited to begin another seedling tree season! We have started taking orders and will continue taking them through April of 2024. We are currently working with a couple of different nurseries and hope to coordinate a delivery date in early May.

There will be several deciduous and evergreen species available in either bare root or large tube options. Bareroot seedlings will be available in bundles of 25 only and the large tube trees will only be available in lots of 30. All of the species offered are known to grow in our area and climate, however, it is still important to consider site specific conditions. Things like soil type, water availability, and space are all important factors in making sure you plant the right tree in the right place.

In order to help you choose the right tree or shrub for your planting area, we have put together detailed descriptions of each of the species offered. You can go to our website, find the Programs tab then scroll down to the Seedling Trees page and scroll down again until you find the “detailed descriptions of trees/shrubs” section and click on the species you want to know more about.

On the order form, you will also notice a list of planting supplies that we offer and have available here at our office. If there is something you need that isn't listed, please give us a call and we can see what we can do. If you have any technical questions about planting your seedlings or designing a tree planting such as a windbreak or living snow fence, please give us a call and we are happy to assist you.

Order forms will be on our website at [www.uintacountycd.com](http://www.uintacountycd.com), or you can call or stop by the office to pick one up. Check back often for species availability and any changes to the order form. Payment for seedlings must be received *before* they will be ordered from the nursery. We encourage you to place your order early! As always, give us a call if you have any questions about our seedling tree program and how you can participate.



Mature Laurel Willows located in a local yard in Lyman, Wyoming. Laurel Willow is a bareroot species offered this year.

### Ways to Prepare Your Trees for Winter

1. **Prune**—remove dead, diseased and damaged branches to promote tree growth and health. Pruning in the fall can allow wounds to seal before growth stops for the season.
2. **Water**—Water trees well throughout the fall before the ground freezes, especially newly planted ones. Water acts as an insulator and plant cells that are swollen with water will be stronger against cold damage.
3. **Add Mulch**—adding 2-3 inches of mulch around the base of the tree in late fall or early winter will help maintain a more constant soil temperature, insulate roots, and slow moisture loss. Do not pile mulch directly against the trunk. Rather than applying in a volcano shape, you want your mulch to more closely resemble a donut. Wait until the ground is frozen to apply mulch, otherwise mice will take up residence there.
4. **Wrap the trunk**—use burlap or a white commercial tree wrap to shield tree trunks during winter. Sunlight will warm the bark of the dormant trees and trigger growth of new cells. These delicate cells then suffer sunscald when exposed to freezing overnight temperatures. Wrap to just above the bottom set of branches. Remove when winter is over!

# Conservation Easements – Are they right for you?

Conservation Easements were a topic presented at the Southwest Wyoming Ranch Day in September. The following information was shared with those in attendance.

Agriculture is a way of life here in Wyoming and is one of the top three industries in the state. Working lands for agriculture provide many public benefits, from food and fiber production to environmental benefits such as open spaces and wildlife habitat. Unfortunately, America's farms and ranches are losing ground to development pressures. Agricultural conservation easements provide a voluntary, perpetual mechanism for landowners to permanently restrict certain uses while meeting objectives for their land and livelihoods.

## What is a Conservation Easement?

A voluntary, perpetual, individually tailored agreement that limits the amount and type of development on a property.

The Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust (WSGLT) conserves working ranches for ranching families in order to also conserve Wyoming's wide-open spaces, natural resources and their ability to produce food and fiber. WSGLT is the only land trust in the state whose primary focus is to keep ag lands intact and productive for future generations. Conserving Wyoming's working landscapes also conserves its history, culture, and economy. The WSGLT partners with private landowners to permanently conserve Wyoming's working landscapes.



WSGLT has provided UCCD with some informational packets that are available at our office. If you are interested in learning more about how to protect and preserve your land through conservation easements with WSGLT, please stop by our office and pick up a packet to learn more. You can also visit their website at

[Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust | Conserving Wyoming's Land \(wsglt.org\)](http://Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust | Conserving Wyoming's Land (wsglt.org))

## Educational Displays

UCCD has 4 table-top, interactive, educational displays. These displays contain basic and in-depth information and are designed to reach a wide age range of learners from readers down to non-readers with adult help. Displays are used at educational events and are often set up at local libraries for a month at a time.

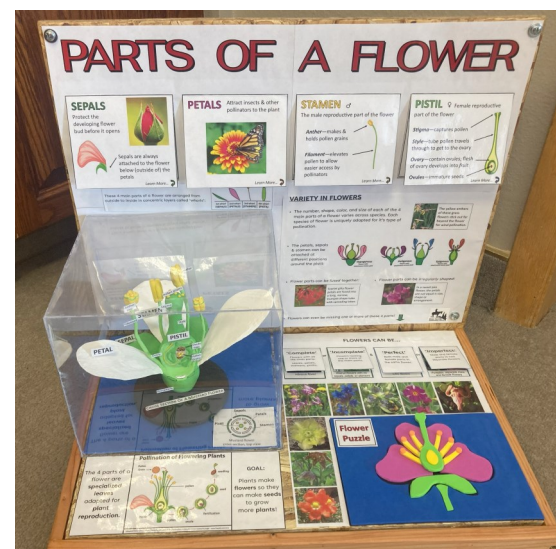
**Animal Tracks:** The purpose of this display is to allow viewers to identify and interact with the tracks of some of Wyoming's wildlife. This display has 8 animal track flaps that lift up to show which animal the track belongs to. The display contains a small sandbox and several 3-D stamps for making animal tracks in the sand.

**Tree Rings:** The purpose of this display is to educate about the cross section of a tree; how tree rings are formed, causes of irregularities in formation, and determining the age of a tree. This display gives information on the anatomy of a cross section of a tree. A real tree stump is provided for counting rings. An interactive circuit board quiz allows for more learning.

**Parts of A Flower:** The purpose of this display is to encourage interest and enhance the understanding of the parts of a flower using visual displays. Informational flaps give general as well as more detailed information about each part of a flower. A 3-D model of a flower gives a magnified view of the parts, and a puzzle allows for hands-on learning and knowledge checking. Information on pollination is provided to show how the parts of a flower contribute to pollination.

**Fall Leaves:** The purpose of this display is to provide education on why leaves change colors in the fall. A general explanation is followed by a brief description of the pigments involved. An overview of the process of photosynthesis is also shown. A leaf wooden puzzle challenges young children and quizzes older children on the leaf shapes of common trees in our area. A leaf rubbing activity is provided to introduce children to nature art activities. And a take home pigment painting activity is also provided to promote continued nature and fall leaf exploration.

Look for these displays in the children's section of your local libraries.





# Annual Bridger Lake Field Trip

Each September, UCCD organizes an outdoor field trip for Lyman Intermediate School 5th graders. Students spend a day rotating through learning stations at Bridger Lake in the Uinta Mountains south of Mountain View. This year, the weather was nothing short of perfect for a high elevation fall day.



Fifty-seven fifth graders showed up to learn about Tie Hacks, bark beetles, Wyoming wildlife, and aquatic insects from experts who were equally enthusiastic.

US Forest Service Rec Specialist and Forester discussed the history of tie hacking in the area as well as the characteristics of coniferous trees/forests before taking the student on an educational bike ride around the campground to observe the forest and enjoy the fresh mountain air.

Barry Tye, District Forester for the Wyoming State Forestry Division, taught the students about the lifecycle of the mountain pine beetle and the natural succession of a forest. The students got an up-close look at beetle killed trees and discussed forest management practices.

Students learned about predator/prey interactions between Wyoming wildlife species as they played a game of 'Quick Frozen Critters' and examined fur specimens of Wyoming mammals with Wyoming Game and Fish Education Specialist, Regina Dickson.

Lyman Intermediate School Science Teacher, Cody Eardley discussed the importance of benthic species as an indicator of water-quality. The students collected visible and microscopic macroinvertebrate specimens among the rocks and moss on the edge of Bridger Lake. At the lake, the students used magnifying glasses and field guides to identify their specimens. Specimens were taken back to their classrooms for further study with microscopes.

This field trip is a great opportunity for students to get outside and learn about our natural environment!



## New Irrigation Association Formed in Wyoming

In the fall of 2022, several irrigation board members and irrigation district staff members joined together to create the Wyoming Association of Irrigation Districts (WAID) dedicated to advancing the interests of irrigation districts across the state. With a vision to foster effective water resource management at the local level, WAID stands as a collective voice for Wyoming's emerging network of irrigation districts. These districts, operating under state guidelines, play a vital role in sustaining water-related initiatives that contribute to the well-being of our communities.

The purpose of the Association is to share information for the betterment of our Districts, share solutions to common issues, lobby our State and Federal governments as well as the following:

- Promote Irrigation with the State.
- Update State Statutes and Wyoming Water Laws.
- Request more funding for rehabilitation.
- Promote saving irrigated farmland.
- Protect water rights in the State.
- Protect storage, natural flow, and underground water rights.
- Encourage the State Engineers office to do more digital mapping.

WAID plans to add more objectives to this list as time goes on.

The first meeting of the WAID was held in March of 2023 with the organization receiving its approval as a 501(C)5, non-profit entity with the IRS a few months later, in July of 2023. The Association is welcoming all districts, entities, and individuals to join and support the mission of WAID. If you are interested in becoming a member, please contact WAID at [waid.wyoming@gmail.com](mailto:waid.wyoming@gmail.com), call 307-439-3597 or visit their website [Wyoming Association of Irrigation Districts \(waidwy.org\)](http://Wyoming Association of Irrigation Districts (waidwy.org))

### **1st Annual WAID Conference**

November 8-9, 2023

Ramkota Hotel and Conference Center

Casper, Wyoming

# Uinta County Conservation District

P.O. Box 370, 204 East Sage Street  
Lyman, WY 82937  
(307) 288-0214

CHANGE OF SERVICE REQUESTED



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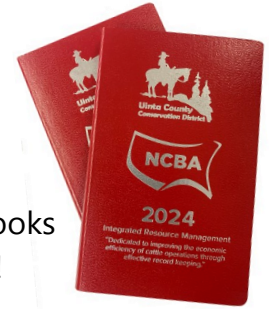
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U.S. Postage Paid

Lyman, WY

Permit No. 11

2024  
Redbooks  
are in!



## ATTEND A BOARD MEETING

Board meetings are scheduled for the third Thursday of each month.

8:00 p.m. March through October  
7:00 p.m. November through February  
UCCD Office Building  
204 E Sage St, Lyman

## UINTA COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Kelly Guild, Chairman  
Dennis Cornelison, Vice Chairman  
Spencer Eyre, Secretary / Treasurer  
Kevin Condos, Member  
Ty Lester, Member  
Carol Hamilton — Associate Member

## Did You Know.....

**86,000 Wyoming residents struggle with food insecurity?**



The Wyoming Hunger Initiative (WHI) was launched in 2019 to increase awareness and support for the work of local anti-hunger organizations statewide. Through the relationships that have been developed across the state specific to food insecurity, Wyoming Hunger Initiative has identified partners in every community, including communities in Uinta County!

WHI has a simple mission: to end hunger in Wyoming. Their goal is nourished kids, healthy families, and thriving communities.

You can be involved too! The Wyoming Hunger Initiative has several programs you can be involved in, or you can simply donate to their General Fund.



## Beef for Backpacks

**Wyoming's BEEF Needs**

5,485 TOTAL KIDS SERVED\*

205,467 PACKAGES\*\*

= 62.5 beef

\* Number of kids per week  
\*\* One package contains one beef snack stick, total weight 1 lb.

**1 beef**

YIELDS  
**2,880**  
beef snack stick packages  
SERVING  
**80** kids  
for **36** weeks

## DISTRICT STAFF

Kerri Sabey  
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Katie Lott  
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klott.uccd@gmail.com

204 East Sage St.  
Lyman WY 82937

www.uintacountycd.com  
307-288-0214

## Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Staff

Jeff Lewis; District Conservationist  
Kevin Fackrell; Soil Conservation Technician  
NRCS phone: (307) 787-3211

Visit the WHI website at:  
[Wyoming Hunger Initiative | Ending Hunger in Wyoming \(nohungerwyo.org\)](http://WyomingHungerInitiative.org) to find out more.