## Laramie County Conservation District 1923 Whitney Road Cheyenne, WY 82007

# 2023 HIGHLIGHTS CONSERVATION TAX DOLLARS AT WORK



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### **SPECIAL PROJECTS**

Completed six LCCD Community Enhancement projects



Provided the Saddle Ridge community with 427 pollinator plants, planted in a natural area adjacent to the Saddle Ridge Park.

Provided 1,277 seedling Ponderosa pine evergreen trees to every 2nd grader in Laramie County.

Installed shrub row at Archer Event Center for dust and snow control.

Supported Rooted in Cheyenne in reestablishing over 260 street trees in the city of Cheyenne.



#### MILL LEVY

The average property owner pays \$1.47 per month to continue supporting conservation practices in Laramie County.

The voter approved 1/2 mill levy allows the LCCD to apply for conservation grant opportunitities. This year the LCCD was awarded \$1,601,883.15 in conservation grants for Laramie County.

Thank you for supporting YOUR Laramie County Conservation District for the last 35 years.

## LEADS CBP NATURAL AREA



The LCCD manages 101.5 acres of undeveloped riparian and upland habitat within LEADS Cheyenne Business Parkway. Management focus is on Dry Creek function, floodplain connection, waterfowl and wildlife habitat, weed management and outdoor education.

#### **SEEDLING TREES**

#### PROVIDING SEEDLING TREES FOR WIND/SNOW MANAGEMENT AND **COMMUNITY OUTREACH FOR A** HEALTHY TREE CANOPY.

- Sold 49,090 seedling shrubs, trees and evergreens to Laramie County residents.
- Installed 31 miles of windbreak/snow control tree rows in Laramie County.
- Assisted 165 Laramie County residents with onsite tree related issues including insect and disease management, wildlife control, and overall tree maintenance.
- The LCCD Tree Specialist and Tree Technician hosted one hands on tree planting class and two structure tree pruning classes aimed at the do-ityourself landscaper. Classes identified proper techniques in obtaining the best long-term gains.

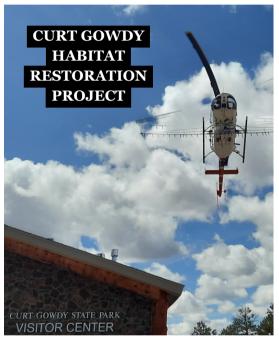


- Longevity of tree rows is a must. 5,900 feet of livestock exclusion fence was rebuilt this past year.
- Two Living Snow Fence sites were established. 1,593 shrub and evergreen trees were planted, totaling 9,471 feet of tree row.

#### WILDLIFE & RANGE

#### ASSISTING LANDOWNERS IN WILDLIFE HABITAT AND RANGE MANAGEMENT.

• In cooperation with Curt Gowdy State Park, the Wyoming Game and Fish Department and the LCCD, aerial spraying of 7,500 acres of cheatgrass in Curt Gowdy State Park was completed.



- · Assisted 85 landowners with weed, seed and pasture management recommendations.
- Cooperated with the Chevenne-High Plains Audubon Society on the Native Pollinator Island Program (NPIP). This program was funded by a ChangeX (Microsoft) Grant to provide native pollinator seed to landowners for leach field plantings in Laramie County. Wildflowers will benefit pollinators and wildlife alike.

#### WATER

#### **CONSERVING THE QUALITY AND OUANTITY OF GROUNDWATER** AND SURFACE WATER IN LARAMIE COUNTY.

- Implemented ten Wyoming "Small Water" Development Program projects which help improve range condition, and environmental purposes.
- Established two riparian pasture projects along Lodge Pole Creek to ensure proper grazing management.



- Secured funding to establish a fishing wetland complex in the Chevenne Business Park Natural Area.
- Restored Dry Creek within the LEADS Natural Area, to improve floodplain connectivity and sediment load downstream.
- Continued water quality sampling within the Chevenne city limits.

## **PUBLIC OUTREACH**

#### **COMMUNITY CONSERVATION** AND PUBLIC OUTREACH

- The LCCD presented a variety of educational programs on natural resource conservation, and related topics. This year the LCCD presented 45 programs to 896 Laramie County students. Presentations consisted of classroom visits, along with presentations at the Cowbelles AG Expo.
- The LCCD assisted with judging the FFA-ENR competition and 7 Science Fair events throughout LCSD #1.



- Public outreach events:
  - \*Laramie County Fair
  - \*Audubon cleanup along Dry Creek
  - \* Rooted in Chevenne planting days
  - \* Home and Garden show
  - \* Southeast Wyoming Farm Expo
  - \* Sportsman's Expo