

# LARAMIE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## 2020-2021

### WILDLIFE AND RANGE PROGRAM

- ② The Laramie County Conservation District completed six small water projects this past year with funding from the Wyoming Water Development Commission/Small Water Project Program. Projects utilized existing wells to increase water distribution to other pasture locations, evening out pasture use and added grazing possibilities.
- ② The Laramie County Conservation District assisted 77 Laramie County residents living on small and large acreage in identifying proper acreage and pasture management. Recommendations and education consists of regional seeding recommendations, noxious weed control, grazing management, pasture health and grazing utilization.

### WATER PROGRAM

- ② The Laramie County Conservation District coordinated with U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Game and Fish Department to focus on rehabilitating the central segment of Lodgepole Creek that remains perennial in Laramie County. The overall goal is to restore riparian and stream health on this segment of Lodgepole Creek through the creation of a riparian pasture, demonstrating the benefits of a healthy channel to county residents.
- ② The Laramie County Conservation District implemented a bioretention basin at the Laramie County Library. Funding of \$24,500.00 was awarded from the WDA/Specialty Crop Block Grant Program to convert the Laramie County library infiltration basin into a bioretention basin. Improvement will aid in water quality discharge into Crow Creek, reduction of water needs through selection of drought species which provide diverse habitat for multiple species leading to educational purposes. Matching funds for the project were through LCCD time and labor, along with volunteers from the Master Gardeners group of Cheyenne.

### LIVING SNOW FENCE PROGRAM

- ② The Laramie County Conservation District planted three new Living Snow Fence sites this year. Sites were funded through the Laramie County Public Works Department. In Laramie County, 282 state and locally funded LSF sites exist. Laramie County's Living Snow Fence program protects 34.74 miles of public roads.

### SEEDLING TREE PROGRAM

- ② The Laramie County Conservation District sold 39,380 seedling shrub, tree and evergreen species. Private landowners utilized the LCCD planting services and 21,787 trees and 31 miles of fabric mulch was installed to control drifting snow, and buffer Wyoming winds for economic and agricultural stability.
- ② The Laramie County Conservation District tree program assisted 326 Laramie County residents with on-site tree diagnosis assistance addressing insect control, disease management, wildlife control, watering guidance, and other tree health concerns.
- ② The LCCD conducted four educational outreach classes addressing proper tree pruning/maintenance along with proper tree planting of containerized and wrapped trees.

### EDUCATION PROGRAM

- ② The Laramie County Conservation District presented a variety of educational programs on natural resources and conservation to 879 students in person and virtually throughout Laramie County.

### SPECIAL PROJECTS

- ② The Laramie County Conservation District broke ground in April 2021 for its new headquarters building. Design and construction oversight is by the architect team of Plan One and construction will be completed by Five-R General Contractor. Completion and move in slated for May of 2022.
- ② The Laramie County Conservation District has continued management of the Cheyenne Business Parkway Natural Area. This is roughly 101 acres along Dry Creek in the LEADS property east of Cheyenne. Management this year included public use and education of the area, mowing of 3.1 miles of walking trails, waste management and property boundary identification and designation.