



Laramie Rivers Conservation District

Rural Cost Share Program

General Program Objectives

The Rural Cost Share Program funds projects that apply conservation practices that make a positive difference on the land. Eligible projects can be on private land as well as adjacent public lands with grazing rights.

Who is Eligible:

Albany County residents with agricultural land or land with important/significant wildlife habitat

Specific Goals of Program

- Improve wildlife habitat in upland, riparian, and wetland areas
- Improve water quality through stream/streambank restoration
- Improve Rangeland health
- Reduce and mitigate noxious weeds
- Improve water conservation
- Stabilization of tax base

Examples of Eligible Practices

Fencing for implementing rotational grazing systems

Fencing riparian areas to reduce impacts of livestock grazing

Solar stock pumps to improve livestock distribution in remote areas

Spring developments to enhance wildlife and/or improve livestock distribution

Projects requiring completion to meet prerequisites of Federal or State Programs

Funding

The Cost Share program matches up to 50% of project costs. This is a reimbursement of cost paid to the applicant after the project is complete.

- Before work begins, the application will require board review and approval*
- Maximum match is 50% of project cost, up to \$7,500.
- Cannot be used to fund landowner labor costs.
- LRCD encourages making purchases within Albany County, when possible.
- If the applicant is participating in other grant/cost sharing opportunities for the same project, those funding amounts will need to be disclosed to LRCD to determine the landowner's out-of-pocket cost.
- Applicants can apply once per calendar year (January 1st to December 31st)

Selection Process

The Laramie Rivers Conservation District Board of Supervisors makes all grant authorizations and payment decisions. When necessary, they will suggest or require project plan changes based on their experience and knowledge of best practices.

The Laramie Rivers Conservation District offers all programs and services on a non-discriminatory basis, without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, or marital and familial status.

Laramie Rivers Conservation District, 5015 Stone Rd, Laramie, WY 82070 Phone (307) 721-0072

Email: holly.dyer@lrcd.net

Criteria for Cost Share

For a project to be eligible for LRCD cost share funds, a project must:

- Clearly meet objectives of this program.
- Allow LRCD staff to take before/after photographs.
- Meet all applicable standards and codes of federal, state, city and/or county government, and be agreeable with grant recipient's neighbors.
- Have complete list of vegetation to be planted, authorized by LRCD Resource Specialist or NRCS District Conservationist, and include no more than ten different species.
- Be fully completed within one year of approval.
- Be approved on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Be approved by LRCD Board of Supervisors before work commences or material is purchased.*

***Approval for projects already in progress will be at the discretion of the Board of Supervisors. Projects already completed will not be eligible.**

Application and Program Procedure

1. Self-assessment: does your proposed project meet the objectives of this program?
2. **Arrange for LRCD staff on-site visit to determine if project meets the criteria.**
3. LRCD Board of Supervisors reviews and authorizes Application/Agreement during the monthly meeting, typically the third week of each month.
4. Upon approval, complete the project as described in application.
5. When project is finished, arrange for LRCD staff to inspect work, take photographs, and sign Agreement Completion Certification.
6. Turn in: 1) receipts; 2) reimbursement worksheet; 3) tax form, if required; 4) and signed Agreement Completion Certification.
7. LRCD Board of Supervisors reviews completed project and authorizes reimbursement.
8. You should receive reimbursement check by mail within 15 days of monthly board meeting.
9. After project has been finalized, applicant is encouraged to attend a Board of Supervisors meeting and present their project.

THE LRCD BOARD OF SUPERVISORS RESERVES THE RIGHT TO DECIDE WHETHER PROPOSED COSTS ARE REASONABLE AND WHETHER A PROJECT DESIGN IS APPROPRIATE.

Laramie Rivers Conservation District
Rural Cost Share
Application and Agreement Form

Cooperator Name: _____ Date: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Project Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Project description (please attach design and technical plans if you have any):

Estimated acreage/miles of benefited area: _____

Estimated project total: \$

50% cost share request: \$

***Attach detailed budget-LRCD does NOT cost share on sales tax**

(Below is for Office-Use Only)

Staff comments:

- Public benefit: conservation of natural resources protection or enhancement of wildlife habitat
 beautification of public space promotion of health/safety of citizens
 protection of the tax base

The Laramie Rivers Conservation District offers all programs and services on a non-discriminatory basis, without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, or marital and familial status.

Laramie Rivers Conservation District, 5015 Stone Rd, Laramie, WY 82070 Phone (307) 721-0072

Email: holly.dyer@lrcd.net

- I request cost-share assistance under the Laramie Rivers Conservation District’s Cost-Share Program to implement the conservation practices described in the above sections.
- If approved, I agree to meet Program Objectives, adhere to Cost-Share Criteria, follow the Program Process, and follow the Project Description and Budget proposed in this document. I agree to ensure that all applicable local, state, and federal permits are obtained, and guidelines followed in implementing the practices described herein. I also agree to complete the project within one year of authorization.
- I understand that the Laramie Rivers Conservation District may not be held liable for any personal or property damage incurred while implementing the conservation practices described in this agreement.
- No waiver of any immunity or limitation afforded by the Wyoming Governmental Claims Act is intended by the parties, and the County retains all such immunities and limitations of liability.
- I hereby affirm that the information I provided in this application is true to the best of my knowledge as any misrepresentation will result in the revocation of the application.

 Signature of Applicant Date: _____

 Signature of Landowner (if Applicant is Lessee) Date: _____

 Signature of LRCD staff preparing application

Date Approved by Board: _____

PURCHASES MADE BEFORE APPROVAL MAY NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR COST SHARE!
PLEASE NOTE THAT COST SHARE FUNDS MAY BE SUBJECT TO FEDERAL INCOME TAX!

Agreement Completion Certificate (must be signed prior to payment)

I hereby certify that implementation of the conservation practices proposed in the Application/Agreement have been completed according to the Objectives and Criteria of this program as of the date shown below. The receipts I provided reflect the true cost of implementing the project authorized.

 Signature of Applicant Date

 Project checked by LRCD staff Date Reimbursement Approved: _____