

2011-2012 Annual Report

Laramie Rivers Conservation District



Mission Statement

To provide leadership for the conservation of Albany County's soil and water, promote and protect the quality of Albany County's waters, and promote sustained use of Wyoming's water and all other natural resources. Preserve and enhance wildlife habitat, protect the tax base and promote the health, safety, and general welfare of the citizens of Albany County through a responsible conservation ethic.



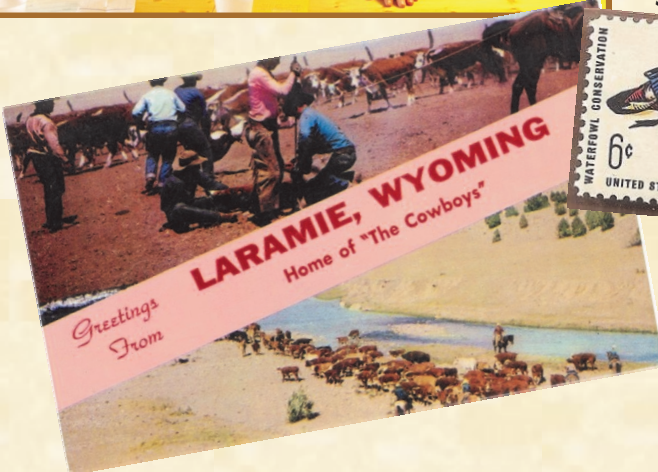
LRC Staff

From left to right: Martin Curry, Resource Specialist; Trish Penny, Education Coordinator; Laura McGinley, District Clerk and Tony Hoch, Director



LRC Board of Directors

Top: Carl Shaffer,
Urban Supervisor
Nancy Bath,
Rural Supervisor/Chairman
Larry Munn,
Rural Supervisor/Vice-Chair
Bottom: Kelly Kennedy,
Rural Supervisor
Jim Rogers,
At-large Supervisor
Secretary/Treasurer.



DIRECTOR HIGHLIGHTS

Public Outreach and Education

- ◇ Presented 24 tours and field trips for adults with over 400 participants including: city council and county commissioners, church and environmental groups, Wyoming Association of Planners, and Seniors on the Go.
- ◇ Gave 4 invited lectures at the University of Wyoming at the College of



Agriculture, the College of Law and the Environmental and Natural Resources Program.

- ◇ Conducted the 7th Annual Conservation Expo with over 50 exhibitors and 500 attendees.
- ◇ Participated with Wyoming Small Acreage Team with submissions for Barnyards and Backyards magazine.



Water Quality and Conservation

- ◇ Saved over \$80,000 in consultation fees through procurement of an EPA Targeted Brownfield Assessment Program grant to perform environmental analysis of old Midwest Refinery property.
- ◇ Enrolled the Midwest Refinery property in the Department of Environmental Quality Volunteer Remediation Program to begin the process of cleaning up the property.
- ◇ Continued water monitoring in the Laramie River and Little Laramie River.

Energy Conservation

- ◇ Organized and conducted a small acreage energy efficient home educational tour.

Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat Conservation

- ◇ Oversaw the completion of Phase 3 of the \$1.1M Laramie River Restoration project.
- ◇ Continued collaboration with the Wyoming Toad Recovery team in the Laramie Basin.

Community Beautification

- ◇ Participated with Laramie Beautification Committee's county clean-up and community service projects.

Land Use and Planning

- ◇ Purchased 5.6 acres of the old Midwest Oil Refinery located in West Laramie.
- ◇ Procured \$39,000 in local funds to go toward Refinery property clean-up.



RESOURCE SPECIALIST HIGHLIGHTS

Rangeland and Cost Share projects

- ◇ Created 2 small acre grazing plans for 126 acres of rangeland .
- ◇ Planted 8 Living Snow Fences with a total combined length of 5058 feet of trees and shrubs.
- ◇ Processed 3 rural cost share grants to replace aging windmills with solar pumps and tire tanks.
- ◇ Oversaw riparian zone restoration on rangeland that included the installation of a water containment structure



- ◇ Built 1 1/2 miles of fence on rangeland to exclude the riparian area from grazing.

Forest Stewardship

Concluded work on Strain Creek Project in the Medicine Bow National Forest:

- Closed 1.20 miles of roads and trails.
- Supervised pre-commercial tree thinning on 10 acres of forest.
- Constructed buck & rail fence at ends of closed roads and trails to exclude all motorized vehicle traffic.
- Applied native seed mix along compact road and trail tracks.



Old Midwest Refinery Property

- ◇ Cleaned-up property including 11 trailer loads of trash and 3 trailer loads of old tires.

Trees for Conservation

- ◇ Sold 4146 seedlings at annual Tree Sale

Wildlife Habitat

- ◇ Secured \$85,000 grant to improve wetland habitat for migratory birds at Hutton Lake National Wildlife Refuge.



EDUCATION COORDINATOR HIGHLIGHTS



Albany County residents reached through Education Coordinator programs:

K-12 Students: 5145

Adults: 646



Gardens and Gardening

- ◇ Demonstrated small space and vertical gardening methods at the Popo Agie Conservation District.
- ◇ Demonstrated square foot gardening practices to Saratoga Conservation District and Saratoga school district.
- ◇ Held a Gardening Workshop at the Albany County Public Library with topics on: soils, composting, vermicomposting, season extenders, native bees and organic pest control.
- ◇ Attended Butch Cassidy Days at the Wyoming Territorial Prison with a square foot garden display and a seed identification game for youth.
- ◇ Built three 10'x 12' greenhouses for Slade, Linford and Rock River elementary schools with help from Tim Nyquist, Nyquist Building Science; Julie Radosevich, Albany County School Board; and Frankie Spiegelberg, Spiegelberg Lumber and Building Company.
- ◇ Directed the Kids' Gardening Program at LaBonte Park.
- ◇ Built a raised redwood garden bed and Secret Garden for Basic Beginnings North daycare.
- ◇ Received \$2,632.32 grant from SE Wyoming RC&D for assistance in building greenhouses.

EDUCATION COORDINATOR Cont.

Public Outreach

- ◇ Provided a Stream Team Training program for Albany County School Teachers in partnership with Teton Science Center.
- ◇ Participated in the Earth Day by picking up trash with 4th and 5th grade students from the UW Lab School.
- ◇ Assisted with an educational Cost Share grant for Project Learning Tree to present an 8 hr. class on environmental education for 28 University of Wyoming pre-service teachers.
- ◇ Coordinated and provided environment science field trips, recreation programs and camps for Albany County School District.



Conservation Education

- ◇ Assisted with the creation of bird interpretive signs for the Laramie Greenbelt trails.
- ◇ Held an Agriculture Expo poster contest for 340 third grade students resulting in 3 grand prize winners and 17 first place winners.
- ◇ Performed duties of Wyoming State Arbor Day Coordinator for the annual poster contest in partnership with Wyoming State Forestry and Project Learning Tree.



District Clerk Highlights

- ◇ LRCD welcomed the new District Clerk to the staff in June, 2012.



2011-2012 Budget

Assets

Cash reserve \$337,932.07

Revenue

County Appropriations \$443,754.00
 Operating Revenue \$21,500.00
 Grants \$106,823.00
 Miscellaneous \$41,923.00

TOTAL **\$614,009.00**



Liability

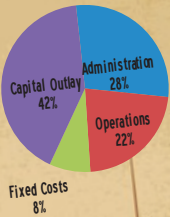
Administration \$270,046.75
 Operations \$212,400.00
 Fixed Costs \$75,623.12
 Capital Outlay \$393,871.21

TOTAL **\$951,941.07**

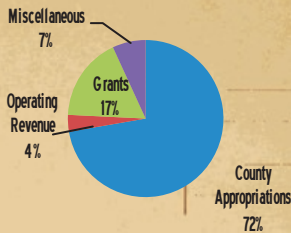


Complete budget
 available on our
 website at:
www.lrcd.net

Liability



Revenue





Laramie Rivers Conservation District
5015 Stone Rd. ~ Laramie, WY 82070
ph. (307) 721-0072 fx. (307) 745-6764
www.lrcd.net