

STILLWATER VALLEY WATERSHED COUNCIL



Making a Difference in the Stillwater Valley, MT

Our Mission

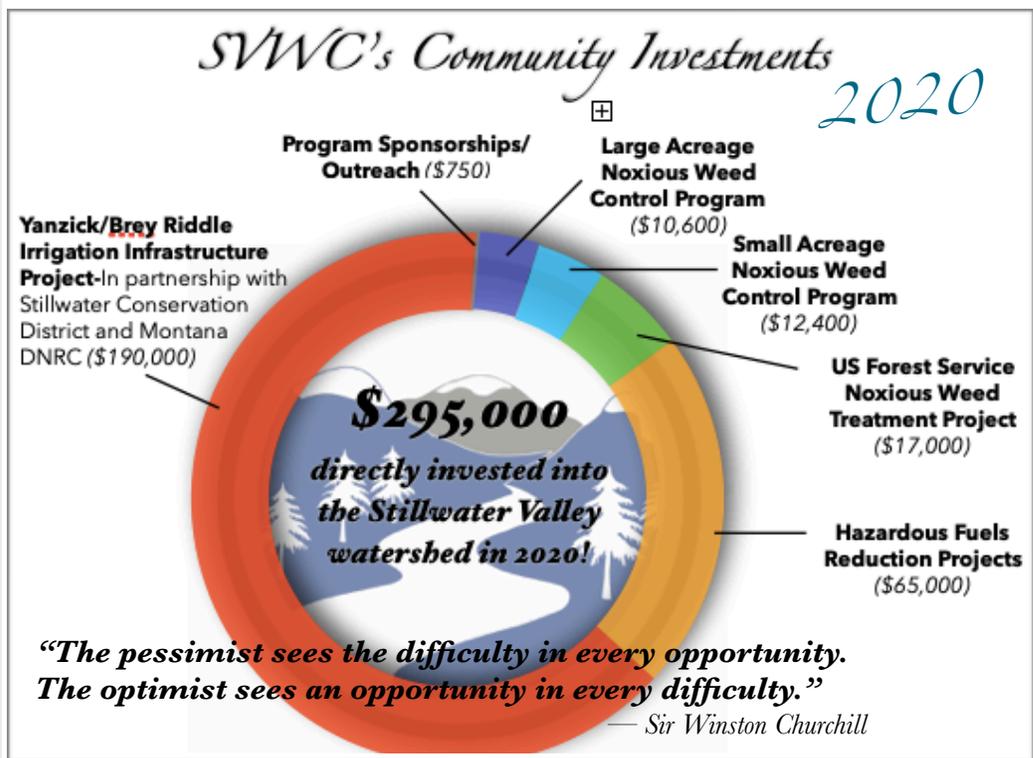
We will provide an open forum in which all interested parties may work in a collaborative effort to sustain our rural quality of life and protect and enhance our natural resources. We are committed to research and educating our Stillwater Valley residents and the public about our watershed and the steps we can take to preserve and maintain the integrity of the river, the land and the beauty of our valley. We will endeavor to bring together public, private and government resources, funding and grants to achieve our goals.



SVWC's COMMUNITY INVESTMENTS

The Stillwater Valley is a wonderful place to live, work and raise a family, the SVWC hopes our programs will enhance the quality of your life just as they have for so many area residents and visitors because, **we all must realize that our impacts go beyond TODAY.**

“In order to preserve this vast area, the sustainability of our farm and rangeland and natural resources such as forests, water and soils must take top priority. Individually, we must come together to support a united effort. It is the SVWC’s purpose to provide the education, financial and technical assistance, and most importantly, the camaraderie in the direction of this cause.”
Tim Schaff, SVWC Chairman



Board of Directors

Tim Schaff, Chair ~ Dirk Pelton, V. Chair ~ Cedar Magone, Secretary ~ Fay Espeland, Treasurer
Butch Behrent ~ Laura Blond ~ Chris Fleck ~ Noel Keogh ~ Tom Kircher
Chase Ostrum ~ Tyrele Schaff ~ Theo Yanzick

Lindsey Clark, SVWC Coordinator

LOCAL HAPPENINGS



Message From Former Board Member, Raymond G. Lien

I WOULD LIKE TO OFFER A COMMENDATION TO THE STILLWATER VALLEY

WATERSHED COUNCIL members, board of directors, and especially SVWC's Coordinator, Lindsey Clark, whose extraordinary efforts to help find grant funds and coordinate the many and varied projects happening throughout the year, throughout the watershed.

I was fortunate to participate on the SVWC board for several years - a great honor to work with a dedicated group of people with diverse interests and backgrounds. These differing philosophies were able to cooperate and compromise for the greater good of our valley and community - quite an accomplishment in our current society. SVWC has come a long way since its inception in 2010 which began as a way for local landowners to help small acreage owners and Stillwater Mining Company on the Upper Stillwater, control an ever-growing infestation of spotted knapweed. Currently, efforts focus throughout the entire drainages on noxious weed ID, education and control; assisting in maintaining water quality in our watershed through improving efficient irrigation practices and more recently, cost-share funding for hazardous fuels/ forest management in the wildland urban interface - helping people improve the fire resistance of their properties and homes.

Though I resigned from the SVWC board in June 2020, before my current term was finished, it was not due to any animosity with the organization - just too many other obligations and the realization that as we grow older it is time to help younger people step up to help carry the SVWC mission forward into the future.

The only disappointment that I felt during my participation on the board was realizing the number of area residents, full-time, seasonal and absentee owners, not active members of SVWC and who also do not participate in effective noxious weed control. A disconnect exists in understanding the amount of productive forage lost due to infestations because most noxious weeds exude chemical receptors which inhibit the growth of nearby productive plants.

I encourage you to find time to participate with the SVWC. Everyone is welcome at board meetings, forums and scheduled events - make some new friends and see the world around us in a new light.

The board and membership are committed to the SVWC's mission. Please follow the SVWC website online at **StillwaterValleyWatershed.com** for updates on programs and events and educational resources. Become a member and participate in the process of keeping the Stillwater Valley one of the "Last Best Places".

Ray.

2021 Upcoming Events

FEBRUARY 17 - SVWC Meeting, 6:00 pm, Fishtail Community Center

APRIL 21 - SVWC Spring Forum & Annual Meeting, 1:00 pm

Anipro Event Center, Absarokee

MAY 15 - Cooperative Weed Control Program Enrollment Opens

JUNE 17 - Nuts & Bolts of Weed Management on Small Acres, Roscoe Community Center

LATE JULY - Small Acreage Cooperative Weed Control Program Spray Days, Upper Stillwater

AUGUST 12 - SVWC Annual BBQ & Auction Fundraiser, Anipro Event Center, Absarokee

AUGUST 15 - Stillwater River Float & Weed Pull, Nye



SVWC CELEBRATES SUCCESS IN 2020

ANNUAL BBQ & AUCTION FUNDRAISER



The SVWC sincerely thanks all who have supported SVWC's endeavors to continue conservation stewardship education and natural resource enhancement programs!

Event Highlights:

- * Attended by 100+ supporters;
- * Superb entertainment by the High Country Cowboys;
- * Many awesome donations were auctioned, raising over \$10,000 for the SVWC!

ANOTHER RECORD TURNOUT FOR RIVER FLOAT & WEED PULL EVENT

Float Highlights:

- * 22 youth and adults floated, including local 4H and FFA members;
- * 8 boats were loaded;
- * Collected 35 large trash bags of spotted knapweed between Stillwater Mine and Moraine Fishing access!



lots of fun was had by all!!!

SVWC RECEIVES \$125,000 ENDOWMENT



THIS SUMMER, THE SVWC WAS PRESENTED WITH THE GIFT every non-profit organization hopes for—the start of an endowment. With the unfortunate passing of Johnna Lee Williams, a staunch supporter of the SVWC and previous owner of Haas Ranch located on Fishtail Creek, these funds were bequeathed to the SVWC in addition to donations to numerous other non-profit organizations in and around the Billings area. The SVWC will use this generous donation responsibly to continue Johnna's wishes of preserving and enhancing the natural resources of the Stillwater Valley. The financial endowment of \$125,000 will assist SVWC's sustainability and continuation of worthy projects deemed necessary by the watershed board and community.

“Charitable gifts such as this will go a long way to insure the preservation of the Stillwater Watershed and the perpetuation of this watershed council,”
Tim Schaff, SVWC board chair

SPECIAL PROJECT UPDATES—Noxious Weed Control

SVWC Board Perspective

Tyrelle Schaff, SVWC Board member and hunting enthusiast

A Successful Hunt—Did you Tag & Bag this Hunting Season? I hope everyone had a successful hunt this season and enjoyed getting outdoors to take in the beautiful fall we had! The SVWC would like to bring to your attention the opportunities for impact that many of us have when we are out hunting, hiking, and enjoying the fresh air. The opportunity lies when we are moving along game trails, through brush, side hills, and stream beds where we come into contact with noxious weed seeds.

Do you recall looking down at your pants, shirt sleeves, pack, K9, or equine companion and saying to yourself **oh no, not again!** You try to brush the seeds off, but they only attach themselves to gloves or other areas of clothing? This noxious weed is most likely houndstongue and it seems like it will stick to anything it encounters. Removing weeds like this from your clothing and animal companions can be time consuming and is easy just to pick them off and toss to the ground.

It is beneficial these seeds be removed and discarded properly as dropping the seeds on the ground will only result in spreading the weed and making the problem even greater. Next time this happens to you or someone you are with, please remember to pull out a small bag or container from your pack and discard them in the trash when you can. This will help limit the spread in the areas you like to travel.

As hunters and stewards of this land, we have the opportunity to work with the local landowners who are allowing us to hunt and recreate on their property. With GPS, cell phones, or a camera we can use a waypoint to mark the location of, or take a picture of, an infested noxious weed area. This information can then be shared with the landowner, giving them an opportunity to work towards eradicating the identified weed(s). This hunting season, I used an app on my phone for marking the location and adding a photo of an area infested with knapweed. It worked very well. I encourage you to build a relationship with the landowner where you recreate and ask them if they would be interested in having this information. If you are a landowner, this is a great opportunity to have a team help you map and identify areas that may need some additional attention for weed control.

If you or someone you know would like more information or training on the identification of noxious weeds and their seeds, please reach out to the SVWC—we would love to help. **Remember when you grab your tags take a bag!**

Tyrelle

FUNDS STILL AVAILABLE TO TREAT NOXIOUS WEEDS ON USFS ALLOTMENTS!

WITH THE INAUGURAL YEAR UNDER OUR BELTS, the MT Fish Wildlife and Parks (FWP) Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program (WHIP) funds secured by the SVWC in 2019 could be deemed a success.

With the help of adjacent landowner matches and US Forest Service (USFS) personnel, 1688 acres were of noxious weeds were treated in 2020. Of those, 173 acres were treated on USFS backcountry grazing allotments, equating to over \$17,000. With one year down, four years and four drainages to go, there is still over \$250,000 in funding remaining—now that's a lot of dead weeds if we can make it happen!

This mission encompasses monitoring and treatment of noxious weeds within the 220,000 acres of the Custer-Gallatin National Forest, preventing further spread throughout the Stillwater watershed. The benefits of treating this entire area will have a direct benefit to the USFS lands and the surrounding watershed. Both the SVWC and USFS value and emphasize a cooperative and integrated approach to invasive weed management.

Monetary REWARD opportunity for those finding large, unknown weed infestations in the backcountry along the Beartooth Front!

Opportunities for you! A) USFS grazing allotment lessees can utilize WHIP funds to hire a commercial applicator service to treat weeds on your federal allotment. **B)** If you are landowner, hunter, backcountry enthusiast, weed scout, or all of the above, the SVWC is offering a reward to help find new noxious weed infestations. Monetary rewards will be offered to the person/persons finding the most and largest unknown patch of weeds. In order to claim your patch, you must GPS map the location and take photo points with a prominent landmark in the background. **Contact Lindsey for more details!**



Noxious weed treatment crew refills spray tanks—Derby Fire line weed control, circa 2010.

SPECIAL PROJECT UPDATES—Noxious Weed Control



COOPERATIVE WEED CONTROL PROGRAM ENROLLS 2000+ ACRES

2020 MARKED THE 10TH YEAR of SVWC's

small acreage Cooperative Weed Control Program (CWCP). This program, intended for landowners with 20 acres or less, targets noxious weeds such as spotted knapweed, leafy spurge, houndstongue and Canada thistle.

With steadfast support from area community foundations (Absarokee, and Nye) as well as the USFS's Resource Advisory Committee and the Sidney E. Frank Foundation, this cost-share program is made possible.

These organizations continue to generously provide grant funds for cost-share to landowners throughout

the Stillwater River's corridor and financially assist the treatment of noxious weeds.

In 2020, landowners from throughout the Stillwater watershed, which encompasses Nye to Roscoe across the Beartooth Front and from Dean to Columbus down the Stillwater drainage, participated in the weed control program. Annually, the target area again begins at the Forest Service boundary on the upper Stillwater

River and continues to subdivisions outside of Nye, Fishtail, Roscoe, Absarokee, and Columbus, including properties in-between.

Final tallies for 2020:

- * 123 participating landowners
- * 1836 acres enrolled
- * 234 acres treated
- * 353 commercial applicator hours
- * 20+ volunteer hours
- * 16 NEW program enrollees

"The CWCP has helped us know what to look for and attack first."

2020 CWCP participant & Nye area resident

The CWCP will continue in 2021, stay tuned for more information!

56,000 ACRES ENROLLED IN LARGE ACREAGE NOXIOUS WEED PROGRAM

SINCE THE DERBY FIRE OF 2006, grant funds have been utilized to help offset costs for landowners to treat large weed infestations within the Stillwater Watershed. The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) and USFS Resource Advisory Council (RAC) have long been supporters of enhancing the valley's natural resources in order to improve area wildlife habitat.

SVWC's noxious weed control endeavors include cost-share programs focusing on improving such natural resources are geared toward landowners with more than 20 acres. This program would not be possible without the continued support of the RMEF and RAC.

Over the past two years, 22 area landowners enrolled over 56,000 acres in this program, treating 1,740 acres!

An application has been submitted to the RMEF for an additional \$25,000 to cost-share noxious weed projects in 2021-2022. We'll keep ya posted!

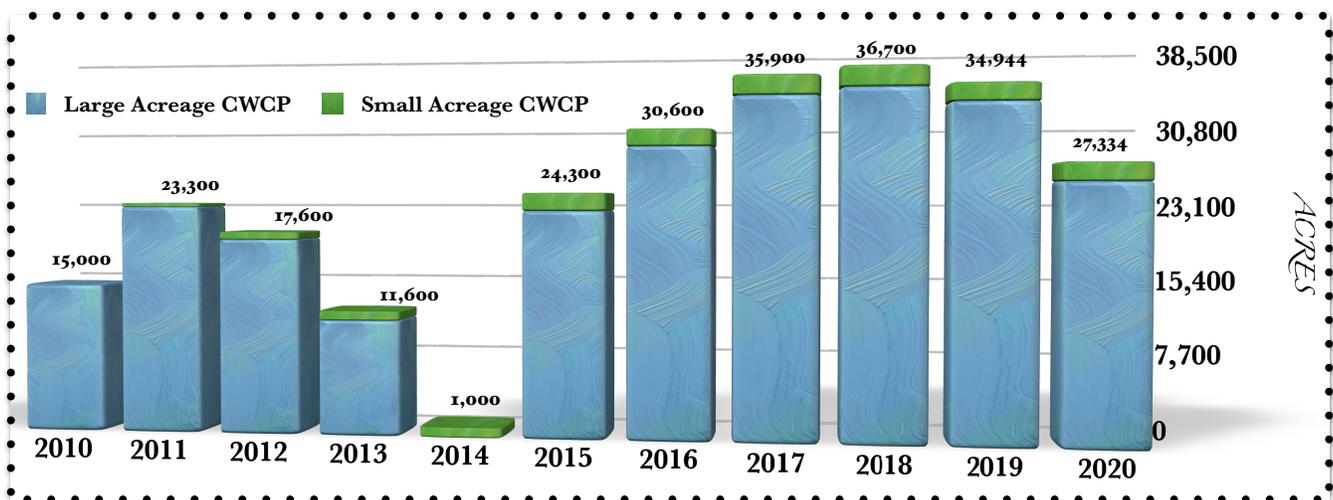


Figure 1: Acres enrolled in SVWC's noxious weed control program over the past decade, including both small and large acreage CWCP. Enrolled acres decreased in 2020 due exhaustion of grant funds for the large acreage cost-share program.

SPECIAL PROJECT UPDATES-Forest Health

SVWC RAMPS UP ENROLLMENT IN FUELS MITIGATION PROGRAM WITH ANOTHER \$240,000 AVAILABLE FOR LOCAL PROJECTS



OPPORTUNITY FOR FUELS MITIGATION ASSISTANCE CONTINUES...

No matter why you own your land, you'll likely agree that with ownership comes responsibility to protect its legacy.

With additional funds awarded from the Montana DNRC in 2021, the SVWC is able to continue with the hazardous fuels mitigation cost-share program!

The SVWC will provide professional fuels reduction planning and mitigation advice from local DNRC forester, as well as a significant financial assistance for completed fuels mitigation work.

The jurisdiction for this 3-year program (2022-2025) are the outlying areas of Columbus, Absarokee, Nye, Fishtail, Dean and Roscoe, specifically communities, subdivisions and forested rangeland areas in the Wildland Urban Interface along the Beartooth Front.

What does "FUELS MITIGATION" really mean?

Definition: Fuel reduction removes vegetation to lessen threat of wildfire. The objective is to remove enough vegetation (fuel) so that when a wildfire burns, it is less severe and can be more easily managed. When vegetation, or fuels, accumulate, they allow fires to burn hotter, faster, and with higher flame lengths.

*It may only be January, but fire is now a year-round reality. There is no time like the present to start making plans for fire prevention **BEFORE** the summer heat and fuel conditions are even greater for a wildland fire event.*

YEAR THREE OF SVWC'S PROGRAM WAS A "BLAZIN SUCCESS!" SVWC'S COORDINATOR AND DNRC FORESTER, JEFF HERMANN'S, stayed busy these past couple years with numerous home and property assessments from Shane Creek to Getaway Trail and all over in between.

These site visits were a great opportunity to travel around the community, discussing with concerned land managers about different priorities for each property and how best to minimize risk in the event of a wildland fire.

Final Tallies— 2018-2020:

- * **Over 50 home assessments performed**
- * **30 projects implemented**
- * **382 acres treated**
- * **\$165,000 in financial assistance for landowners, plus \$210,000 in landowner program matches**

"I am excited about the progress we are beginning to make managing timber along the front. With tireless help from Jeff Hermanns and Lindsey Clark, numerous fuel reduction projects have been completed or are planned. Private landowners who once may have been reluctant to manage their forests, have agreed to do so, encouraging more landowners to participate and appreciate the benefits of proper treatment."

Andy Rockefeller, Lazy EL Ranch, Roscoe

Below is an example of a property enrolled in SVWC's fuels mitigation cost-share program. Although hesitant in the beginning, the owners were beyond thrilled with the results. For more before and after examples please go to www.stillwatervalleywatershed.com.



To schedule a FREE home/property assessment...

Contact Lindsey NOW!

SPECIAL PROJECT UPDATES—Water Quality



WATERSHED ASSESSMENT CONTINUES FROM 1990'S PROJECT

THIS FALL, THE SVWC FORMALLY RELEASED ITS LATEST PROJECT

aimed at continuing a watershed assessment project, monitoring the health of streams and developing geographic information system (GIS) mapping capability in the watershed. An impressive array of partners have come together for this project including the Stillwater Conservation District (SCD), Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), Natural Columbia office, FWP, the U-cross Foundation-Yale School of the Environment, and Tom Osborne, a local retired hydrologist. The project is called the Stillwater-Rosebud Water Quality Initiative (SRWQI).



The SRWQI involves monitoring basic water quality parameters at sites in the Stillwater-Rosebud drainages roughly monthly over a two-year period beginning October 1, 2020. Other than at certain facilities like Sibanye Stillwater Mine and community wastewater plants, there has not been routine water quality monitoring in the watershed since the United States Geological Service dropped their monitoring program eight years ago. “Our streams are such a valuable asset to our lives we can’t afford to neglect their health either”, said to Tom Osborne who has volunteered to take the lead on this project with support from the SVWC board and local volunteers.

The companion GIS effort involves mapping key natural resource features in the watershed from the large bank of data sources available from state, federal and local agencies. The SVWC has at its disposal a graduate research assistant located at Yale University who, working remotely under local supervision, will pull various data layers together into a system usable by the SVWC and other local entities.

The project’s moving parts came together this summer after the SVWC was approached by Tom Osborne of Absarokee, who volunteered to help lead the work on the ground. Tom is a retired professional hydrologist who has worked on water resource projects around Montana for the past 45 years. The project is looking for local students and adults interested in getting involved.



Tom Osborne and Cedar Magone conduct stream flow measurements on the Rosebud River—October, 2020

Watershed “Special Project” Flashback — 1991

GEORGE H.W. BUSH WAS PRESIDENT, THE SOVIET UNION BEGAN TO DISSOLVE, a gallon of gasoline cost \$1.14, *Down Home* by Alabama was the top country song, and the Butcher Creek watershed project kicked off in Stillwater and Carbon Counties. This ambitious watershed assessment and restoration project was led by the SCD when Barbara Berry was the Administrator. At least \$412,000 of agency funds came in from the Soil Conservation Service Great Plains program, the State of Montana DNRC, Department of Health and Environmental Sciences, and Montana FWP.

The project focused on Butcher Creek, a tributary of Rosebud Creek that arises at the foot of the Beartooths and discharges to East Rosebud Creek just south of Absarokee. Accounts from the time state that Butcher Creek has substantial sediment load that impacts the cold-water fisheries of Butcher Creek, the Rosebud and Stillwater River. The project included water quality monitoring and landowner-identified streambank and riparian restoration projects.

The natural flow of Butcher Creek has been altered since 1894 by the transfer of water for irrigation from East Rosebud Creek. The increase of flow in a channel mostly formed in soft erodible soils has led to chronic streambank erosion. Management of irrigation water and return flows are a challenge on the relatively steep slopes of the basin.

The Butcher Creek project ran for at least eight years, resulting in erosion control projects like willow planting, off-stream livestock watering and irrigation water controls. An extensive set of water quality data were collected that attempted to see whether the restoration projects led to measurable reductions in sediment and nutrients in the basin. A large file drawer of information on this project was recently “found” and is being evaluated to re-learn the lessons contained on the many typewriter-written pages. It is pretty clear that the project was an example of positive watershed

cooperation among the many landowners, scientists and citizens involved.



Photo courtesy of Farmer Stockman, May-June 1992
Gordon Parker, far left, hosted a tour of his ranch on Butcher Creek for conservation district supervisors from Stillwater and Carbon counties.

SPECIAL PROJECT UPDATES—Soil Health



MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD, CEDAR MAGONE

IMPROVING SOIL HEALTH IS THE NEWEST GOAL OF THE SVWC. With healthier soils ecosystem function can be restored, allowing soils to infiltrate more water and increase water holding capacity while decreasing erosion, creating resiliency in drought and floods, and increasing crop and forage production, to name a few benefits. How are healthier soils achieved?

Five basic principles of improving soil health:

- Minimize soil disturbance
- Keep a living root in the soil
- Keep the soil armored
- Increase plant diversity
- Integrate livestock

These principles are all interconnected. They can and should be applied everywhere, including grazing lands, annual & perennially cropped fields and even in your garden (integrating livestock may not be possible, but adding composted manure is!).

Minimize Soil Disturbance: Overgrazing or tilling disrupts the soil structure, creates compaction and destroys the habitat microorganisms live in. Over time, organic matter will decrease and so will the soil's ability to infiltrate and store water.

Keep a Living Root in the Soil: Photosynthesis turns sunlight and carbon dioxide (CO₂) into carbohydrates and simple sugars. Some of these carbohydrates and sugars are exuded from the roots and feed the soil microbes in exchange for nutrients the plants need. Plants that are overgrazed have less leaf material available for photosynthesis. Roots die off to match the plant material that is left aboveground, thus decreasing the amount of living root in the soil and the amount of food available to microorganisms.

Keep the Soil Armored: Litter comes from crop residue and the parts of ungrazed plants that are trampled to the soil surface by livestock. Dead plants not in contact with the soil surface will oxidize (turn gray) and the carbon will be released into the atmosphere. Microbes, worms, etc. need dead plant material to be in contact with the soil so decomposition and nutrient cycling can take place. Plants and litter on the soil surface will hold more snow and lessen the impact from raindrops so water can infiltrate where it is available to plant roots. They shade the soil, increase humidity within the microclimate and help hold the soil in place. Bare ground allows soil to blow or wash away and in the heat of the summer will kill soil microbes.

Increase Plant Diversity: Nobody likes eating the same thing day after day and neither do soil microorganisms. Think about native rangeland in good condition. You will find a variety of grasses, forbs and maybe shrubs, depending on the site. Plant diversity is key to increasing competition against weed infestations, breaking pest and disease cycles, and improving carbon storage and nutrient cycling.

Integrate Livestock: The vast grasslands of North America evolved with large grazing animals, bison. These animals were constantly on the move eating and trampling grasses and forbs and redistributing nutrients in the form of dung and urine. Grazed areas were not revisited for long periods of time, giving plants a long recovery period. Hoof action from grazing animals can break up soil crusts and give water small places to pool and infiltrate rather than running off. Leaving grass is not wasting grass, it is the key to healthier soils and building organic matter. The more organic matter you have, the more drought resilient your soils are.

I encourage you to learn more about soil health, think about these principles and how you can apply them to make your soils more productive and resilient. For more information, visit: www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/mt/soils/health/ or www.soilfoodweb.com.

Cedar, SVWC Secretary

Stillwater Valley Watershed Council
SPRING FORUM & ANNUAL MEETING
April 21, 2021

Join Us~
 For a unique opportunity, in your own back yard, to learn from local experts about topics pertaining to **soil health in the Stillwater Watershed.**

Please, be a part of our journey~
 April 21st, 1-4 pm, Anipro Event Center, Absarokee

WATERSHED NEWS — Something To Think About

SAFETY TIPS FOR NEW RURAL RESIDENTS TO MONTANA



Montana Farm Bureau Press Release, January 11, 2021

With new folks moving to Montana, and many rural areas of the Treasure State experiencing growth, it's essential to promote basic information regarding rural (and not-so-rural) road safety.

"If you've moved to Montana, there is a good chance you'll encounter a large piece of farm equipment on the road," notes Montana Ag Safety Director Austin Grazier. "First and foremost, if you are nervous about meeting large farm equipment/machinery, imagine what it's like driving it. Farm machinery is often loud, large, and challenging to maneuver. Remember, if you cannot see the operator, he/she probably cannot see you."

Tips for dealing with farming equipment on the road:

- **BE PATIENT!** Tractors, swathers, combines, etc. are not designed to go 60 mph. The farmer or rancher is going as fast as possible and will likely pull over when there is a safe spot to do so. If you must pass, **DO IT SAFELY**. That means pass on long, straight sections of the road. **DO NOT** pass on bridges, curves, or hills. Pass slowly and cautiously.
- When you see agriculture equipment, slow down. If you are traveling at 55 mph it will only take you seven seconds to rear-end a tractor traveling at 15 mph.
- Recognize wide vehicles make wide turns. When you see farmers and ranchers veering one direction, **DO NOT** assume they are moving out of your way. They are likely preparing to make a turn. Slow down and wait until you are certain you can safely proceed.
- If you are approaching wide machinery, **SLOW DOWN AND YIELD**. This might mean you need to stop and pull off the road, back up, or even find a different route if you are in a rush. Farm equipment is often wider than their lane and cannot safely pull over on the shoulder. Recognize that agricultural machinery is often tall, unstable, heavy, and at risk of tipping over if they are on the shoulder or loose surfaces.

If you are traveling through Montana, you will eventually come across ranchers moving cows across or down a major

roadway. "Simply put, don't drive through the middle of the herd without permission," said Grazier. "Chances are the ranch was there long before that roadway was and the rancher is just trying to do his job. Often times the rancher will wave you through; when they do, go slowly, cautiously, and stick to one side of the road. The cows will move out of your way, albeit at their own pace, and it's up to you to be patient."

Other rural living knowledge from Montana Farm Bureau:

- Slow down on dirt roads and be sure to give oncoming vehicles a friendly wave.
- Open range means you must watch out for livestock on the roads, it is your responsibility.
- Cows are domestic, but generally not pets. Don't try to pet or feed one without the owner's permission. Cows with calves can be very protective of their young and dangerous.
- If you go through a gate, leave it how you found it.
- If you run into and tear down someone's fence, fix it or let the owner know.
- If it snows, there's a good chance your driveway won't get plowed.

At certain times of the year, farmers and ranchers work around-the-clock. This could involve loud equipment, lights, dust or mooing cows.

Dirt roads are bumpy and dusty. They get very muddy during snow melt or rain and there are even some that are "impassable when wet." Heed the signs. Even though you might think it would be a "fun challenge" to get through, it will leave the road severely rutted and ruined for those who need to use it when it dries up.

Farmers spray fertilizer and crop protectants to keep their crops healthy and growing. Yes, Montana has grasshopper infestations every so often and they will be all over everything.

Finally, don't be in a rush, enjoy the scenery and be friendly to your neighbors — they will be the ones pulling your car out of the ditch.



~2020 SVWC Memberships~

2020 marked the 10th year since SVWC's inception! WE TRULY APPRECIATE the support garnered by constituents over the years as we have grown and developed as an organization.

Donna Allison~Rory & Tony Anderson~Jim Bill & Debbie~Anderson Family Trust~Arnold Green Meadow Ranch~Tom Astle & Saralee Melnick~Earl & Diana Atwood~Lonnie & Diane Averill~Charles Barker & Pam Young~Carol Bass**~Linda Bay~Beartooth Ranch**~John Beers**~Butch Behrent**~Ron & Kay Berklund~Eugene & Holly Berquam~Tom Biel~Billings Police Protective Assoc.~Birdhead HOA~Don & Patricia Black~Jim & LaVaun Black~Bill & Colleen Black~Ted & Shelly Blazina~Laura Blond~Sara Bollman~John Bostedt~Andrea Brainard~Bruce & Pamela Bricco~Richard & Karlene Bridges~Pam Briggs~Bob & Cathy Brown~Ken & Jan Britton~Broken Horn Ranch**~Mike & Debra Buckley~Dan & Theresa Burkhardt~Lois Butler~Mike Campbell~Michael & Jeannie Cantrell~Kathy Cardiff~John & Laurie Carrel~Veronica Carter**~Kevin & Katrin Chandler~Bud & Becky Chenault~Kathleen Chochrane~Ken & Andrea Cohen~Norman & Cynthia Colbert~William & Melissa Collins~Walt Cougan~Rebecca Crocket~Harry & Judith Cuff~Pat & Linda Cunningham~Don & Nancy Dallas~Chip Dawson~Lee & Lynne Davis~Pieter & Michele DeGroat~Dan & Lorraine Deibler~Bob Delk~Deb DePietro**~Tracey & Anita DeRudder~Julie Dickinson**~Bryon Dingman~Paul & Cathy Donohoe~Alan & Amy Drain~Gerald & Sara Eaks~Scott & Barb Edmundson~Terry & Shari Ekwortzel~Clarke & Sharon Elliott~William Enright~Nate & Fay Espeland**~Doug Ezell & Sharon Christianson~Brian & Cynthia Favero-Heikes~Ron & Peggy Ferster~Fishtail Basin Ranch**~Bill Flanagan~Chris Fleck~Ty & Jennifer France~Catherine Frazer~James Frock~Eileen Gabel~Bob Gahagan~Todd & Gina Gahagan~Mick & Lynnette Gainan~Jerry & Wendy Galvin~Rob & Kyra Gaskill~Pete Gaustad~Lyle & Janet Graff~Anne Gunn & Mark Rapf~Beverly Hall~Ardie & Anne Halvorson~Mark & Patty Hamilton~Randy & Terry Harper~Steve & Cheryl Harris~Harsha Family~Jon & Kathryn Hartley~J.O. & Erica Hash~Dick & Patricia Heard~Dick Henry~Bob Herronen**~Hertzler Ranch~Gerald & Jeanette Heuer~Tom & Karen Heyneman**~Alex & Andrea Heyneman**~Bryann Hill~Derek & Shawn Hinz~Lee Hitchner~John & Donna Hjelvik~Paul & D'Anne Holley~Shirley Howard & Terry Robinson~Nick & Kaite Howes~Tim & Gail Janiak~Wanda Jenkins~Blaine Jensen~Nik & Connie Job~Bruce & Patricia Johnson~Scott & Diane Johnson~Roger Johnston~Ken & Peg Joki**~Mark & Mardy Jones~Tom & MaryAnn Jones~David & Sandra Joys**~Pat & Charlotte Karnos~Mike Keene~Lainey Reynolds~Keene~Howard Kehlenbeck~Geoff Keller~David O. Kem & Judith Raines~Joel & Maryann Kemp~Noel & Penny Koogh**~Bob & Kathy Kirch~Paul & Mareen Klaboe~Lawrence & Karen Klee~Chris Koch~Michele Koch~Mark & Karen Korsmo~Frank & Jennifer Lamm~Betty Lannen~Todd & Terri Larson~Lazy Y Diamond Bar Ranch~Tim & Pati Lechner~John & Patricia Lesnick~David Leuthold**~Johnny Leuthold**~Raymond & Marge Lien**~Brent & Michelle Lipp~Hank & Barb Lischer~Michael & Joanne Louis~Darrel & Karen Luera~Dave & Shelley MacCausland~Alice Madison~Hugh & Cedar Magone**~Webb & June Mandeville~Marty Martin**~Keith & Kathryn Martin~Steve & Karen Marts**~Peter & Coreene Masse~John Matovich**~Paul & Donna McClure~Tom & Margaret McGillvray**~Barb McKay~Bob Mendenhall~Steve & Cynthia Merriam~Mike Michunovich~Paul & Peggy Miller**~J.O. Miller & Diana Scollard~Patti Miller~Merrill Miller~Tom & Barb Milligan~Scott Mitchell & Barb Bryant**~Doug & Sheryl Moffett~Dave & Marge Molin~Jon & Nancy Molin~Moses Family**~Jack & Ann Mowell~Bill Muldoon~Elizabeth Murcko~Bill & Janice Mytton~Ken & Irene Nelson~H. 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~Donations of \$500 or Greater~

**Absarokee Community Foundation~Carol Bass~Beartooth Stock Association~Nate & Fay Espeland
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**Denotes other SVWC cash donors



SVWC Board of Director Position Openings

Due to term expirations, four positions are open for the SVWC's Board of Directors in 2021. If you are interested in applying for a three-year board member position, please return this form to the address on the application below by **April 15th**. The final vote on board appointments will take place at our annual meeting on **April 21, 2021**.

Board Member Application Form Stillwater Valley Watershed Council

Name: _____ Home Phone: _____

Address: _____ State: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Business/Occupation: _____



Why do you wish to serve on this Board?

Signature _____

Date _____

Return application to: Stillwater Valley Watershed Council
PO Box 112
Absarokee, MT 59001

STILLWATER VALLEY WATERSHED COUNCIL

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SVWC
PO Box 112
Absarokee, MT 59001

406.780.1249
svwc2010@hotmail.com
www.stillwatervalleywatershed.com
find us on Facebook!

"Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success."

- Henry Ford

We are a volunteer group of local residents and interested representatives working together to enhance the quality of our rural Montana lifestyle by protecting, restoring and conserving our abundant natural resources through good stewardship and community involvement for this and future generations.

STILLWATER VALLEY WATERSHED COUNCIL



COLUMBUS

ABSAROKEE

FISHTAIL

DEAN

NYE

ROSCOE

