

**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 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.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- Mike Lorash, Chairman
- Bill Mytton, V. Chairman
- Theo Yanzick, Secretary
- Greg Frokjer, Treasurer
- Cindy Green
- JO Hash
- Tom Kircher
- Noel Keogh
- Sandra Peck
- Doug Robinette
- Tim Schaff
- Olaf Sherwood

**Lindsey Clark,**  
SVWC Coordinator

**Inside this issue:**

2012, In Review	2
2012, In Review: Positive Impacts of Cost-Share	3
2012 in Review: SVWC & FUNdraising	4
Agendas for Upcoming Events	5
DNRC's 223 Grant Rec'd	6
Protecting Water Resources on Small Acreages	7
Beartooth Stock Assoc.	8
Membership	9
BOD Application	10
SVWC Membership Form	11

# Stillwater Valley Watershed Council



**Message from the Chairman, Mike Lorash**

Looking back at 2012, the SVWC continued with previous projects and are planning new endeavors.

2012 was a challenging year for weed control to say the least. From the late spring to the extremely hot and dry summer, this past year left many of us frustrated. None the less, the SVWC again made great strides to control weeds. We also secured funding for future projects and have branched out into new projects focusing on rivers and streams.

This is an area we have wanted to diversify into and become a more well rounded "Watershed" organization that focuses on the watershed as a whole and not just the weeds. We are very excited for this venture and with the help and guidance of Dan Rostad from the Boulder River Watershed, I feel the SVWC is on the

right path to achieve our goals of improving and leaving our watershed a better place.

A huge thank you goes out to Lindsey Clark and our board of directors. Lindsey works very hard and does an exceptional job at keeping our organization on track and we couldn't do it without her. The many hours writing grants, making phone calls and answering a wide array of diverse questions; Lindsey does it the best! Our board members also put in countless volunteer hours and they should be commended as well.

The SVWC has again secured funding for weed spraying projects for 2013, so if you haven't been involved in a spray project or if you would like to become involved, contact Lindsey or any board member. We will get you the necessary information on

what it takes to get started. We have come a long way in a few short years and with the dedication of our land stewards, our watershed has improved greatly.

Thank you to all who have participated in our many events and grants in 2012. I look forward to a seeing you at one of our watershed events this year.

**Mike**

**Coordinator's Note:** In order to cut costs, the SVWC will now be emailing newsletters out to those on our email list. If you are not currently receiving newsletters via email and would like to, please send a message to: [svwc2010@hotmail.com](mailto:svwc2010@hotmail.com). However, if you would prefer to continue receiving the newsletters via US mail, rather than email, just let me know.

Thanks you, Lindsey

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- January 19<sup>th</sup> – Beartooth Stock Association's Annual Meeting & Banquet*  
*Anipro Events Center, Absarokee*
- February 2<sup>nd</sup> – SVWC Annual Meeting & Potluck*  
*3:00 pm, Fishtail Community Center, Fishtail*
- February 12<sup>th</sup> or 14<sup>th</sup> – Sweetgrass County Winter Weed Summit (Applicator credits available)*  
*Big Timber Fairgrounds, Contact Heidi Todd for more info (932-5146)*
- May 23<sup>rd</sup> – Water Policy Seminar: "Scenarios That May Impact YOU"*  
*Anipro Events Center, Absarokee*

## 2012, In Review



In 2012 the SVWC set some lofty goals that were accomplished; among them were to:

- ◆ Utilize funds from numerous grants for continued noxious weed control projects
- ◆ Continue the Small Landowner Weed Control Program and expand the focus area along the Stillwater River from the Forest Service line to Spring Creek Bridge
- ◆ Host a fundraising auction and BBQ to raise money for the continuation of SVWC's projects and goals
- ◆ Host a successful river float & weed pull
- ◆ Increase dues paying membership (memberships doubled from 2011 to 2012 with 176 members)
- ◆ Apply for and receive a Department of Natural Resources Conservation (DNRC) sponsored 223 Grant to fund a professional river assessment on 38 miles of the Upper Stillwater, West Fork, Limestone tributaries

## 2012 in Review: The positive impacts of cost-share on weeds in our Watershed

Table 1. 2012-2013 grants received for cost-share on noxious weed control within the SVWC boundaries

Grantor*	Target Area/Audience	Grantee**	Grant Amount	Year Received	Year (s) Expended	Amount Remaining	Acres Treated	Participating Landowners
NWTF	Midnight Canyon/Trout Creek WMA	SCWD	\$21,121	2012	2012 & 2013	\$12,708	440	4
NWTF	Fishtail Basin Weed Management Area	SCWD	\$30,000	2012	2012 & 2013	\$6,373	1360	10
NWTF	Beaver Creek Weed Management Area	SCWD	\$30,000	2012	2012 & 2013	\$6,276	977	11
RMEF	Twenty acres or more (on or adjacent, to elk habitat)	SVWC	\$30,000	2012	2012 & 2013	\$25,743	176	8
RAC	Small Landowner Weed Control Program	SVWC	\$14,490	2011	2012	0		
NCF	Small Landowner Weed Control Program	SVWC	\$1,000	2012	2012	0	64	102
ACF	Small Landowner Weed Control Program	SVWC	\$3,500	2012	2012	0		
WPAG	SVWC Coordinator Salary	SVWC	\$9,972	2012	2012	0	NA	NA
RAC	Small Landowner Weed Control Program	SVWC	\$13,506	2012	2013	\$13,506	NA	NA
WPAG	SVWC Coordinator Salary	SVWC	\$9,752	2013	2013	\$9,752	NA	NA
Total grants received for use within SVWC boundaries:			\$ 163,340			\$ 74,357	3017	135

\*NWTF (Noxious Weed Trust Fund)-MT Department of Ag

\*RMEF (Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation)

\*RAC (Resource Advisory Council)-US Forest Service

\*\*SVWC (Stillwater Valley Watershed Council)

\*NCF (Nye Community Foundation)

\*ACF (Absarokee Community Foundation)

\*WPAG (Watershed Planning Assistance Grant)-Stillwater Conservation District

\*\*SCWD (Stillwater County Weed District)

## RMEF funds still available for use in 2013

### ROCKY MOUNTAIN ELK FOUNDATION:

In 2010, grant funds totaling \$50,000 were secured to cost-share noxious weed control (50% cost-share up to \$1,000 maximum) throughout the SVWC's boundaries. This grant targeted landowners owning at least 20 acres of land on, or adjacent to, elk habitat. The 2010 RMEF grant was a huge success and resulted in the cost-share on weed control of approximately 1230 acres (38 landowners) and 187 biological control releases.



In February 2012, because of the success of the initial RMEF grant, the SVWC received a similar grant for \$30,000. With the drought of 2012, there was little opportunity for landowners to take advantage of this cost-share. Therefore, the SVWC still

has over \$25,000 available for use to cost-share noxious weed control (chemical and commercial application costs) for the 2013 season. Landowners are eligible on a first-come, first-serve basis (based on earliest sign-up date) until funds are exhausted.

Grant funds have been made possible by the RMEF's Montana Project Advisory Committee. A ton of thanks goes out to the RMEF membership and Tom Toman for their continued support and the positive impacts they have brought to our watershed!

Please complete the "Landowner Cost-Share Commitment & Membership Form" on page 11 or contact Lindsey for more information (406.780.1249) and to find out if you qualify.

**2012 in Review: The positive impacts of cost-share on weeds in our Watershed**

**SMALL LANDOWNER WEED CONTROL PROGRAM:**

In 2007, public and private landowners on the Upper Stillwater River joined together and formed a Weed Management Area (WMA). The formation of this WMA gave public and private landowners the opportunity to utilize funding sources available to assist noxious weed control projects. This cost-share project took a "top-to-bottom" approach at weed control. Each year weed management efforts started at the Woodbine Trailhead and moved downriver as far as funding allowed, eventually ending at Nye. This project was the first organized weed management effort along this critical river system.

The summer of 2011 saw the SVWC continue that project further downriver to Beehive. Forty-two landowners participated, directly impacting well over 300 acres.

The hot and dry summer of 2012 didn't hamper this annual weed control effort, too much. The SVWC, with important financial assistance from the Resource Advisory Council (RAC) Grant, and the Nye and

Absarokee Community Foundations, was able to extend the target area further downstream to Spring Creek Bridge.

The SVWC and volunteer members coordinated five commercial applicator companies to treat noxious weeds for the 102 landowners who signed up to participate in the spray program. Over 60 acres were treated for noxious weeds such as: spotted knapweed, leafy spurge, Canada thistle and houndstongue. Fourteen subdivisions and numerous other small landowners participated. As a result, there was a direct positive impact on well over 750 acres. The indirect impacts of this project are difficult to quantify, as many downstream properties would be at risk for contamination by these upstream infestations if this project had not taken place.

Participation in this program doubled from 2011 to 2012. As a result, the treated acres also significantly increased and infestations sprayed in 2011 were able to be retreated in 2012 for maximum control.

In 2013, with grant monies that have been secured, matching funds, and in-kind contributions, the cost to you the landowner will be \$50.00 per hour, along with your \$25.00 annual membership to the SVWC. However, the actual cost of this project will be approximately \$135.00 per hour (it is estimated that one hour of application will treat one acre of land); a significant cost reduction to those participating.

Landowners will be accepted for this program on a first-come, first-served basis (based on earliest sign-up date). A prepayment of \$50.00 will be collected prior to the scheduled application and deducted from your final bill. Any additional control measures over one hour of application time will be billed to the landowner by the SVWC at a rate of \$50.00 per hour.

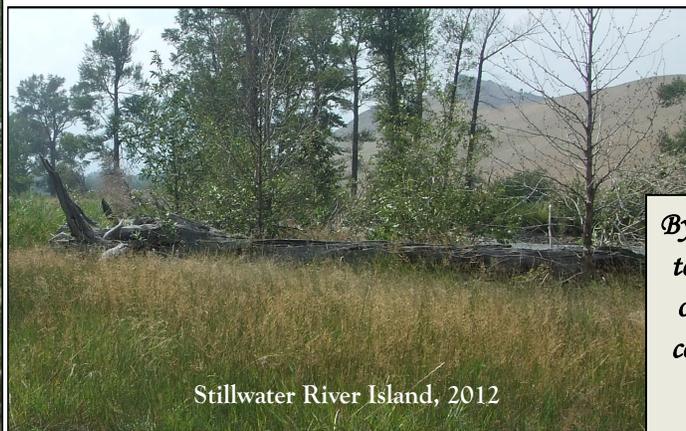
The 2013 weed season will be especially challenging. The record high water levels of 2011 exceeded the capacity of river and stream banks. The flooding that resulted deposited weed seeds from offsite areas that usually don't affect the tributaries. Then, 2012 brought a severe drought which put a strain on the native vegetation.

Due to unforeseen events and weather patterns, we must all take responsibility for managing our property to keep the Stillwater Valley from being over-run with noxious weeds. The longer we postpone aggressive control measures, the more it will cost and the more noxious weeds will devalue our property creating greater environmental problems. We are offering you an opportunity to join with your neighbors in an effort to protect the natural ecosystem of the Stillwater River.

If you are interested in taking advantage of this opportunity, please fill out the form on page 11 and return it to us. If you have questions, please contact Lindsey. You can also send any inquiries to [svwc2010@hotmail.com](mailto:svwc2010@hotmail.com).



Stillwater River Island, 2011



Stillwater River Island, 2012

*By initiating landowners to cooperate simultaneously, a more effective control program will be achieved.*

*All funds raised from our auction, as well as other fundraising activities, remain in the watershed to continue our community education and cost-share*

## 2012 in Review: The SVWC puts the “FUN” in FUNdraising!

On August 25th, 2012 the SVWC celebrated the success of the past year by hosting the 4th Annual BBQ and Auction Fundraiser at the 4K Ranch. The evening event was a big success thanks to our faithful volunteers and numerous newcomers that brought their support so that the event would go off without a hitch. Over \$5000 was raised, which was made possible because of the generous folks that donated auction items as well as the all the hot hands that were lucky enough to win the highest bid.

Special thanks goes out to the 4K Ranch and Mike

Lorash for the stellar facilities and BBQing capabilities. Bruce & Theo Yanzick donated the lamb and Wanda Wilcox of Paintbrush Adventures provided the goat. Meredy Royce fed the crowd and Doug Robinette kept them quenched at the bar, while Nancy Brown and Becky Chenault headed up the decorations and front table. Brian Young provided the outstanding auctioneering—we couldn’t have done it without you! Thanks to Noel Keogh for gathering the weeds used in the Weed Rodeo, and Olaf Sherwood for judging the competition.

## 2012 in Review: River Float & Weed Pull

On Sunday August 26th, following the success of our 4th Annual BBQ and Auction, 17.25 dedicated weed fighters braved the chilly weather, low waters and big boulders of the Stillwater River to hunt down knapweed on the islands and banks of our county’s namesake river. Four boats successfully navigated and eradicated from Old Nye to Moraine Fishing Access. According to our veteran weed warrior, Noel Keogh, this was the most successful float & pull event he has been a part of on the Stillwater River! However it was very evident that the efforts of the Small Landowner Spray Program are definitely paying off. Thank you all the volunteers as well as Stillwater Mining Company for providing the delicious sack lunches prepared by the Fishtail Store.



Photo by Bud Chenault



Photo by Bud Chenault



Above, Greg Frokjer manning his raft

Below: Mark Rapf, Anne Gunn & Charlotte Karnos scouting for spotted knapweed

BBQ & Auction:  
Above, Cindy Green showing us her loop; Top middle, Fay Espeland volunteering to show off the auction items; Right, attendants at the 4K Ranch



**What's in store for 2013?**

**SVWC's ANNUAL MEETING AND POTLUCK—February 2nd, 2013**

**WHEN:** Saturday, February 2nd  
**WHERE:** Fishtail Community Center  
**TIME:** 3:00 pm – Meeting will be followed by a potluck dinner

**AGENDA**

- 3:00 pm \* Introductions
- 3:15 pm \* Stillwater River/Limestone Creek Assessment: Warren Kellogg, Stream & Watershed Consulting
- 4:30 pm \* Nye Fuels Reduction Project: USFS Representative
- 5:00 pm \* Water Policy/Rights Topics for the May 23rd program: Tim Schaff
- 5:15 pm \* Board Member Elections
- 5:30 pm \* Social Hour and Potluck Dinner

At 2:00 pm on February 2nd, prior to the Annual Meeting, Warren Kellogg will be on hand to meet with water users on the Garrigus Ditch to discuss avenues to improve the structural integrity of the ditch in order to increase the irrigation efficiency. Please feel free to attend if you are interested or contact Lindsey for more info.

*A NECESSARY COMPONENT OF ANY COMMUNITY IS INVOLVEMENT—*  
 COME FOR THE FOOD, FRIENDSHIP AND MAYBE YOU'LL LEARN A LITTLE MORE THAN YOU  
 DID YESTERDAY...



**WATER POLICY SEMINAR - Scenarios That May Impact YOU**

**WHEN:** Thursday, May 23rd  
**WHERE:** Anipro Event Center  
**TIME:** 12:30 pm to 5:30 pm

**Purpose:** The SVWC will be hosting our 2nd Annual Water Policy Seminar for property owners and water users. Our goal is to provide information and available resources that are relative to water right issues and concerns. This year, the forum will focus on different scenarios that are common among water users.

**Presenters:** DNRC, Montana Water Court, NRCS, Army Corp of Engineers, Water Right Attorney, FWP

**Potential Scenarios:**

- ◆ How do I make changes or additions to my water rights?
- ◆ How do I object to an individual's use/or whom is applying for water rights that may adversely affect my property?
- ◆ Do I have a legal right to interfere with an irrigation ditch or canal that passes through my property?
- ◆ Can an individual place a pump and/or make a diversion off of an existing ditch, canal, stream or river without a water right?
- ◆ If water is in short supply (i.e. drought, last user on the ditch, other landowner is using the water), what can I do to ensure I receive my water right?

“A watershed can be simply described as an area of land draining into a specific point. The functions of a watershed are to capture, store, and release water. Land use changes can disrupt the natural function of a watershed, resulting in erosion of streams, flooding and a decline in water quality.”

Jennifer Mohler

## SVWC Receives a DNRC 223 Grant for \$15,000 for Assessment of Stillwater River & Limestone Creek

If you recall from the Spring 2012 Newsletter, there has been concern voiced about the potential devastating effects of an active landslide on the south bank of the West Fork River as well as the potential of transferring the river's system into an old river channel that exits at the Nye Trading Post. In order to prioritize mitigation projects that will improve natural resource issues such as these, as well as irrigation related improvements, the SVWC has applied for and received a 223 Grant from the Department of Natural Resource Conservation Service (DNRC) in the amount of \$15,000.

This grant will fund comprehensive assessment of three stream reaches located in the upper Stillwater Valley including: the Stillwater River at Woodbine Campground downstream 22 miles to Spring Creek Bridge; West Fork of the Stillwater River downstream eight miles to the confluence of the main Stillwater River; and Limestone Creek downstream eight miles to the confluence of the main Stillwater River.

Warren Kellogg, based out of Clancy, Montana, has been hired by the SVWC to perform the assessment. Warren has worked closely with Montana watershed groups since 1977. He was raised on a Montana ranch and has a life-long background in agriculture, landowner relations, environmental sciences, geographic technology, watershed management, resource assessments, project planning and development, and group facilitation. Over the last 35 years, Warren has worked with landowners, watershed groups and conservation districts throughout Montana in all aspects of watershed planning and stream corridor assessments.

Warren is very familiar with the Stillwater River. During the 1980's, over a seven year period, he worked closely with landowners and water users along the Stillwater River and its tributaries while serving as the NRCS District Conservationist for Stillwater County.

The assessment will meet the following objectives:

1) Collect and summarize resource information that will provide the current hydrological and geomorphological conditions of the three river reaches. The assessment will provide baseline information that will include alternatives for mitigation projects to preserve natural resources and improve existing conditions. Special attention will be given to stream bank stabilization and irrigation infrastructure restoration. The assessment will also provide data/information on aquatic habitat, riparian condition, and channel geomorphic stability.

2) Provide recommendations of restoration opportunities that follow a consistent prioritization process. Analysis and conceptual alternatives will be provided that will encompass channel geomorphology, aquatic habitat, and irrigation efficiency.

In order to accomplish this, the entire length of each reach will be walked during late summer 2013. The assessment will consist of a comprehensive evaluation of channel stability, riparian health, infrastructure condition, and aquatic habitat. Landowner and local agency input will be solicited during the assessment.

A comprehensive stream corridor assessment report with project maps will be produced and presented to the Stillwater Valley Watershed Council. A stream corridor assessment report, including recommended restoration priorities, conceptual alternatives, and GIS reference maps based upon field observations and landowner interviews will be distributed for review by the SVWC.

On February 2nd at our annual meeting, Warren Kellogg will be presenting his stream assessment strategy as well as answer any questions you may have. The meeting will be at the Fishtail Community Center, starting at 3:00 pm.

Make sure our kids have a watershed to steward. Help sustain community-based conservation.



## Protecting Water Resources on Small Acreages, Jennifer Mohler

Jennifer Mohler of Bridger Scientific, Inc., is a resource conservationist specializing in holistic and sustainable land management, and is the coordinator for the Gallatin/Big Sky Noxious Weed Committee. Jennifer has worked with a diverse group of public, private, and non-profit entities to conserve natural resources by promoting sustainable practices and conservation minded weed and grazing management plans. As a horse specialist, she assists landowners in finding a balance between the horse's needs with the land's limitations and offers creative options to reduce costs, increase forage yields, manage weed populations, and improve animal health. Services of Bridger Scientific, Inc. include land management consulting, educational classes, and property design. You can reach Jennifer Mohler at 406-388-5668 or [jenmohler@gmail.com](mailto:jenmohler@gmail.com).

"Protecting Water Resources on Small Acreages" is a 28 page publication written to help you manage your property to best protect and conserve water resources. This booklet will hopefully provide a source of information for people interested in protecting water resources, particularly from the standpoint of impacts related to small acreage properties. If you would like a copy please contact Lindsey or Jennifer Mohler.

Below are some of the tidbits and highlights from the booklet:

- ◆ Did you know that on average one horse produces: 40-50 pounds of manure per day (16,500 pounds per year) and 8-12 gallons of urine per day (3,650 gallons per year).
- ◆ New York City was ordered by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to clean up their public waters supplies in 1989. Instead of spending \$8 billion to construct a new water-filtration plant, NYC spent \$300 million to acquire land and easements over the next 10 years in order to better protect the Catskill Mountains watershed from impacts related to its primary sources of pollution. In this ongoing effort to protect their watershed, NYC saved money and invested in the long term sustainability of their natural resources.

**A healthy riparian area is beneficial because it:** Increases forage production; reduces flood velocity and erosion; provides important habitat for wildlife; stabilizes stream banks; increases late summer stream flows by storing and slowly releasing water; and protects water quality by filtering sediment, nutrients, and chemicals from runoff.

### Tips for a healthy riparian area include:

- ◆ Work to protect the stream corridor and associated wetlands. Start with creating a separate riparian "pasture" to give the area a break from land use activities such as grazing. Practice appropriate grazing management by controlling the season of use, and limiting the duration and intensity of grazing. Know that each species of grazing animals will use the pasture differently. Work to ensure adequate vegetative cover, and allow sufficient rest and regrowth time for plants.
- ◆ Leave riparian vegetation and large pieces of wood in the stream channel. Dead snags provide critical habitat for wildlife.
- ◆ Protect water quality by keeping a wide vegetated buffer next to the stream. A healthy stand of thick grasses is the best filter of pollutants.
- ◆ Restore degraded riparian areas by planting willows and other native vegetation to control erosion and reestablish fish and wildlife habitats.
- ◆ Consider restoration if your stream is impaired. Start with assessing the stream, prioritize problems and goals, and develop a work plan. Don't forget to monitor the restoration.
- ◆ Manage grazing carefully and keep it weed free.

**Practice good pasture management and graze it right.** A healthy stand of grass is your best defense against weeds and the best way to protect soil and water resources. Overgrazing can lead to unhealthy grasses, weed infestations, soil compaction, and heavier parasite loads. Grazing more than half of the grass plant greatly decreases root growth, which in turn reduces the ability of the plant to produce more leaf. Continuous overgrazing eventually kills your grass.

A rotational grazing system improves long-term production and reduces weed invasion. The biggest mistake landowners make is putting too many animals on too few acres. If you have limited acreage, it is likely that your pasture will be used primarily for exercise and plan to feed hay year-around.

## Beartooth Stock Association's Annual Meeting

**WHEN:** Saturday, January 19th

**WHERE:** Anipro Event Center, Absarokee

**TIME:** 2:00 pm Meeting with speakers

6:00 pm Waterhole Saloon opens

7:00 pm Dinner



Following dinner there will be an auction with proceeds going to our Disaster Relief Fund. Many of the donated items are made by BSA members. Dancing to Jim Dressler and The Big Country Band will follow.

### Speakers/Topics

- ◆ Chaley Harney - MT Beef Council
- ◆ Watty Taylor - Russian Beef Market
- ◆ Update presentations will be included from: NRCS, Stillwater and Carbon County Weed Districts, Montana Stockgrowers Association, Montana Fish Wildlife & Parks, Stillwater Valley Watershed Council, T-Bone Cattlewomen and Carbon and Stillwater County Commissioners.

The Waterhole is sponsored by Yellowstone Bank, Mandeville Agency, and Beartooth Ford. Dinner will be served by the Stockman Café of Rapelje and will include Sven's famous lamb.

## Changing Corrals, Corralling Change, Managing the Difference

Since the start of the Stillwater Valley Watershed Council, we have been working in cooperation with the Beartooth Stock Association (BSA) on their program to reduce water contamination from livestock confinement areas: "Changing Corrals, Corralling Change, Managing the Difference." This program strives to raise the awareness of livestock producers on the issues created by runoff from livestock confinement areas entering surface waters and to help producers who want to improve water quality on their operation find funding sources to aid in making these improvements.

Thanks to the efforts of local working groups, assistance has been granted from the Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative (GLCI), Montana Farm Bureau Federation, Future Fish (through Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks), NRCS, and both cash and in-kind support from numerous private individuals. These programs have helped supplement funds and labor from the individual producers. The "Changing Corrals" program has increased awareness of several local producers who have modified their livestock confinement

areas to greatly reduce livestock waste from entering our water sources.

One major source of funding for the "Changing Corrals" project is the Environmental Quality Improvement Program (EQUIP) offered through the NRCS. Because of the efforts of the BSA and the SVWC, Stillwater County has been allocated extra funding through the EQUIP program to aid water quality improvement projects. Next year's budget for these projects in Montana is \$945,000. Additionally, NRCS has an agreement starting in 2013 with the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) that allows producers to be eligible for the EQUIP program without having to get a discharge permit from the DEQ, saving producers additional paperwork and costs.

The SVWC would like to thank the many livestock producers who have modified their operations and reduced livestock waste issues. For more information, or if you or someone you know who would like to become better stewards of the land and water of our area contact the local NRCS office (322-5348), Noel Keogh at 328-6285, or Lindsey at 780-1249.



**Your support is necessary for our continuity!**

2012 SVWC Profit & Loss Statement	
Jan 1 - Dec 28, 2012	
<b>Income</b>	
Memberships	3,900.00
Donations	2,160.00
Clothing	240.00
Grants	25.00
Nye Community Fndtn	1,000.00
Absarokee Community Fndtn	3,500.00
<b>Grants Total</b>	<b>4,500.00</b>
<b>Cost Share</b>	
Flea Beetles	1,725.00
<b>Cost Share Total</b>	<b>1,725.00</b>
<b>Fundraisers</b>	
Auction	4,583.50
<b>Fundraisers Total</b>	<b>4,583.50</b>
Small Landowner Spray Program	3,500.00
Small Tract Additional Acres	1,360.00
RAC Grant	14,434.75
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>36,428.25</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Filing Fees	15.00
Membership	60.00
Food/Drink	1,655.74
Porta Potties	130.00
PO Box Rent	56.00
Postage	136.59
<b>Landowner Reimbursements</b>	
Spraying Cost Share	4,257.34
<b>Total Landowner Reimbursements</b>	<b>4,257.34</b>
Small Landowner Spray Program-Contractors	11,688.25
Small Landowner Spray Program-Chemical	1,280.00
Office Supplies	862.43
Professional Fees	792.00
Administration	3,026.10
Phone-Cell	95.67
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>24,055.12</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>12,373.13</b>

Stillwater County is a wonderful place to live, work and raise a family. We hope this program will help enhance the quality of your life. Respect your neighbors' livelihood and property, and be aware that your actions impact your neighbors, human and otherwise.

**HAVE YOU PAID YOUR 2013 DUES?**

The Stillwater Valley Watershed Council relies on people like you to match project funds and provide essential operating support. In order for you to benefit from SVWC's programs you are encouraged to become a member. Annual dues are \$25.00.

Please consider donating to our non-profit, tax deductible organization. Send membership or support to SVWC, PO Box 112, Absarokee, MT 59001.

WE ARE TRULY THANKFUL TO THOSE WHO HAVE GIVEN OR ARE CONSIDERING A GIFT!

*\*\*Because of your support, the SVWC was able to double its membership in 2012 with nearly 180 dues-paying memberships!\*\**

As participants in the Small Landowner Spray Project for the last two years, we have not only benefited from a dramatic reduction in noxious weeds but were able to learn a lot about them such as how to spot them, their potential to do real damage, and what to do about the problem once identified. We laud the multi-pronged efforts of the SVWC!

*David & Sandra Joys*

Join today and receive a complimentary window decal!



**THANK YOU for your generous donations and membership contributions!**

2013 Memberships to Date

Terry & Charlene Adams \* Charles Barker & Pam Young \* Nathan & Fay Espeland \* Richard Griffith \* J.O. & Erica Hash \* Joel Kemp \* Lazy EL Ranch \* Scott Mitchell & Barb Bryant \* Tim & Deb Schaff \* Lee Wilder

Donations

Richard Griffith

Memorial Donations

† *IN MEMORY OF CLAY DONOHOE* †

Scott Mitchell & Barb Bryant

## SVWC Board of Director Position Openings

Due to term expiration, four positions are open for the Stillwater Valley Watershed Council's Board of Directors. If you are interested in applying for a three-year board member position, please return this form to the address below by January 30<sup>th</sup>. The Council (that means you) will make the final decision on board appointments at the Annual SVWC meeting on February 2nd, 2013.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Business/Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_



Why do you wish to serve on this Board?

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Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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

Stillwater Valley Watershed Council
Landowner Cost-Share Commitment & Membership Form

Landowner Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Local Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Stillwater County Property Location: (section/township/range, subdivision)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Approximate # of acres in the project: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check all that apply, sign and return.

I am interested in participating SVWC's project.

The project I am interested in receiving assistance for is [i.e. corral relocation, weed spraying (identify targeted weed species), bug releases, etc]:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I do not wish to participate in the SVWC project but in doing so, recognize that I am required to comply with the existing Montana Noxious Weed Law.

Yes, I want to join the Stillwater Valley Watershed Council. Enclosed is my \$25.00 annual membership fee.

I am already a member of the Stillwater Valley Watershed Council.

Please indicate your contact information and property location even if you do not wish to participate in the program. This will let us know if we have made contact with all landowners.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Date

Please return to:

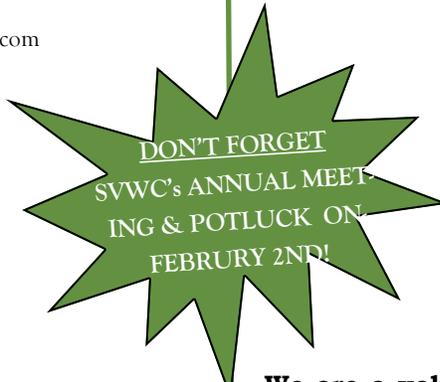
Stillwater Valley Watershed Council
PO Box 112
Absarokee MT 59001
406-780-1249



STILLWATER VALLEY  
WATERSHED COUNCIL

**SVWC**  
**PO Box 112**  
**Absarokee, MT 59001**

406.780.1249  
E-mail: SVWC2010@hotmail.com



Our website is currently being  
overhauled, visit soon to see our  
improvements!  
[www.stillwatervalleywatershed.com](http://www.stillwatervalleywatershed.com)

We are a volunteer group of local residents and interested representatives who are 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

## Stillwater Valley Watershed Council

**ABSAROKEE**



**FISHTAIL**



**DEAN**



**NYE**

