

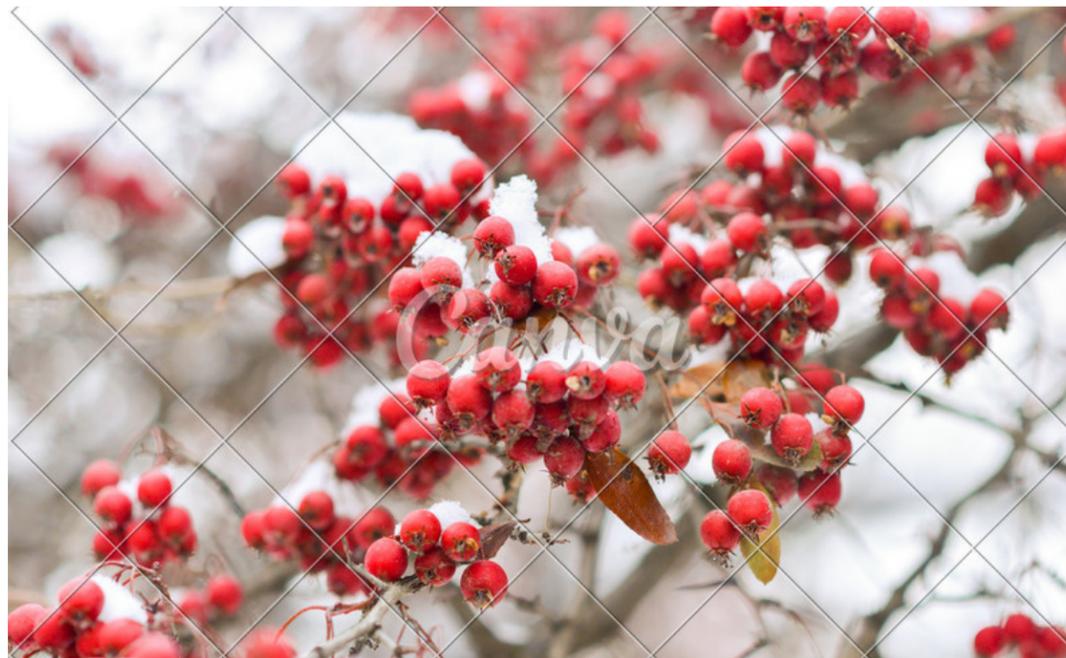


CONSERVATION UPDATE



A NEW CHAPTER

Entering the new year always brings a clean slate to the table. New ideas, new traditions, new relationships- an opportunity to begin a fresh chapter of your story. What do you hope to write this year? Please enjoy this issue of PCCD's Conservation Update. Learn about some interesting NRCS programs coming out, a Working Lands Summer Internship for college students, upcoming events, tree sales, and more. From us to you, have a wonderful new year!



Newsletter Content:

- ***A New Chapter***
- ***NRCS EQIP info***
- ***Working Lands Internship***
- ***Upcoming Events***
- ***Conservation Trees & Items for Sale***
- ***Cranberry Orange Punch***

NRCS Corner



NRCS is seeking interest in several EQIP program opportunities. There is currently an Act Now sign-up for the National On-Farm Energy Initiative as well as the new Great Falls Area Soil Health Targeted Implementation Plan (TIP). Both can be applied for and obligated on a continuous basis pending an assessment and ranking until March 1st, 2024. Call the Conrad NRCS office at 406-278-7611 or stop by for more information. Additionally, the NRCS and Pheasants Forever in Pondera and Glacier counties are looking to gauge interest in payment assistance with electric fence and other structures for wildlife concerning predators near attractants. Please call and give us your contact information if this or something similar could assist your management of your operation.



PCCD Board:

Paul Jones, Chair

Roger Paulsen, Urban Supervisor

Bryce Johns, Supervisor

Ramsey Offerdal Jr., Supervisor

Eric Gunderson, Supervisor

Kaysie Steele, Administrator

Check this
Out!



Working Lands Internship Program



The Working Lands Internship Program (WLIP) is structured to provide college students interested in the field of natural resources the opportunity to apply educational theory learned in the classroom to practical, hands-on applications by working on five to six production agriculture operations in two to three week increments.

The WLIP is a paid three-month summer internship where students work with and learn from mentoring ranchers across Montana. Room and board is provided by host ranches.

Students will be responsible to help in any way possible on host ranches throughout the internship period doing various tasks that are necessary for daily ranch operations. Students may also have the opportunity to participate in community meetings, meet with Federal and State agencies, and attend educational events. The hands-on learning experiences gained from this program are invaluable.

Priority will be given to Junior and Senior students enrolled full-time in Montana universities who are majoring in natural resource related fields.

Internship Highlights:

- Free room & board,
- Paid 10-12 week summer internship,
- Networking with ranchers, agency personnel and more,
- Hands-on working lands experience in a ranch environment,
- An unforgettable experience!



Applications and additional information:

<http://dnrc.mt.gov/Conservation/Conservation-Programs/Rangeland-Resources/montana-working-lands-internship-programs>

APPLICATION DEADLINE: February 1

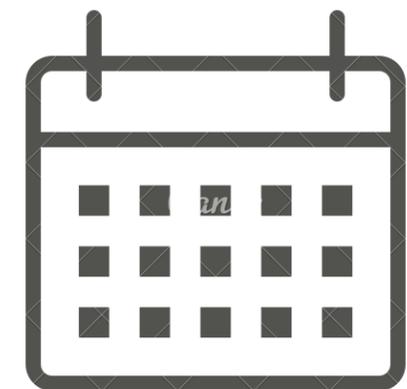
Contact: Stacey Barta | sbarta@mt.gov | (406) 594-8481



Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **January 9th, 2024- PCCD Board Meeting** 8 a.m. at the USDA Office Conference Room
- **February 1st- Working Lands Internship Applications** due
- **February 13th- PCCD Board Meeting** 8 a.m. at the USDA Office Conference Room
- **March 1st- NRCS EQIP Program** Deadlines



SALE

Items for Sale:

- Trees for Conservation- Orders completed before Oct. 1st
- Landscape Fabric- \$125/roll (6' x 500' roll)
- Montana Women History Book- \$22
- Marker Flags- \$12/bundle (100 per bundle)
- Map Ordinance Book- \$35
- Bird Ramps- \$40



Conservation Trees:

Tree orders were submitted the first week of October to the MT Seedling Nursery based in Missoula. If you are still interested in ordering trees, you will need to place your order with the MT Seedling Nursery directly by calling (406) 542-4244 or emailing mtnursery@mt.gov. Tree inventory goes quickly, get your order submitted early.

For those that have ordered trees, we should expect the trees to arrive in the springtime. PCCD will be keeping in touch with you throughout the year with any information regarding the trees ordered.

Equipment for Rent

- Level \$25/day
- Doppler Flow Meter \$250
- MCCS Measuring Probe \$10/day
- Towner Disc \$10/acre first time over, then \$6/acre. \$250 deposit
- Tree Spade \$20/tree, \$250 deposit
- Scraper
- Fabric layer \$20/roll, fabric purchased @ PCCD covers cost for rent. \$250 deposit
- Tree planter \$0.15/tree, \$50/day minimum if 1-333 trees. \$250 deposit

Deposits are refundable upon payment of any required repair charge

See Rental Agreement form for more details

Cranberry Orange Punch

RECIPE FOR THE NEW YEAR



Time: 5 mins

Serving: 24 cups

Equipment: Large punch bowl, ladle, glasses

Ingredients:

- 2 (2 quart) bottles chilled cranberry juice (no-sugar-added but sweetened with fruit juice)
- 1 (1 liter) bottle chilled club soda
- 6 cups orange juice
- Oranges, thinly sliced for garnish
- Fresh cranberries for garnish

Directions:

1. Combine cranberry juice, soda and orange juice in a large punch bowl. Cover and chill for at least 4 hours.
2. When ready to serve, float orange slices and cranberries in the punch.
3. Serve & enjoy!

PCCD holds
monthly
board
meetings on
the second
Tuesday of
each month at
8 a.m. Please
call 406-278-
7611 ext. 1048
if you would
like more
information

