

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER APRIL 2023 | VOL. 2 ISSUE 2

CONSERVATION UPDATE



New Beginnings

With our winter winding down here in Pondera County, spring has appeared and we are grateful for the snow we received the past few months. Farmers are getting equipment ready for spring planting and fertilizing, birds are chirping, and our evenings are staying lighter a bit longer each day. With hopeful hearts, we look forward to a new beginning this farming season with moist grounds and warm temperatures on the way, making for the perfect combination to start the season!



Newsletter Content:

- Save the Date:
Composting
Workshop May 12th
- Upcoming Events
- Equipment for rent
- Items for Sale
- Little Conservation
Library
- Spring Recipe

Save the
DATE

COMPOSTING WORKSHOP:

MAY 12TH, 2 P.M.
CONRAD COMMUNITY GARDEN



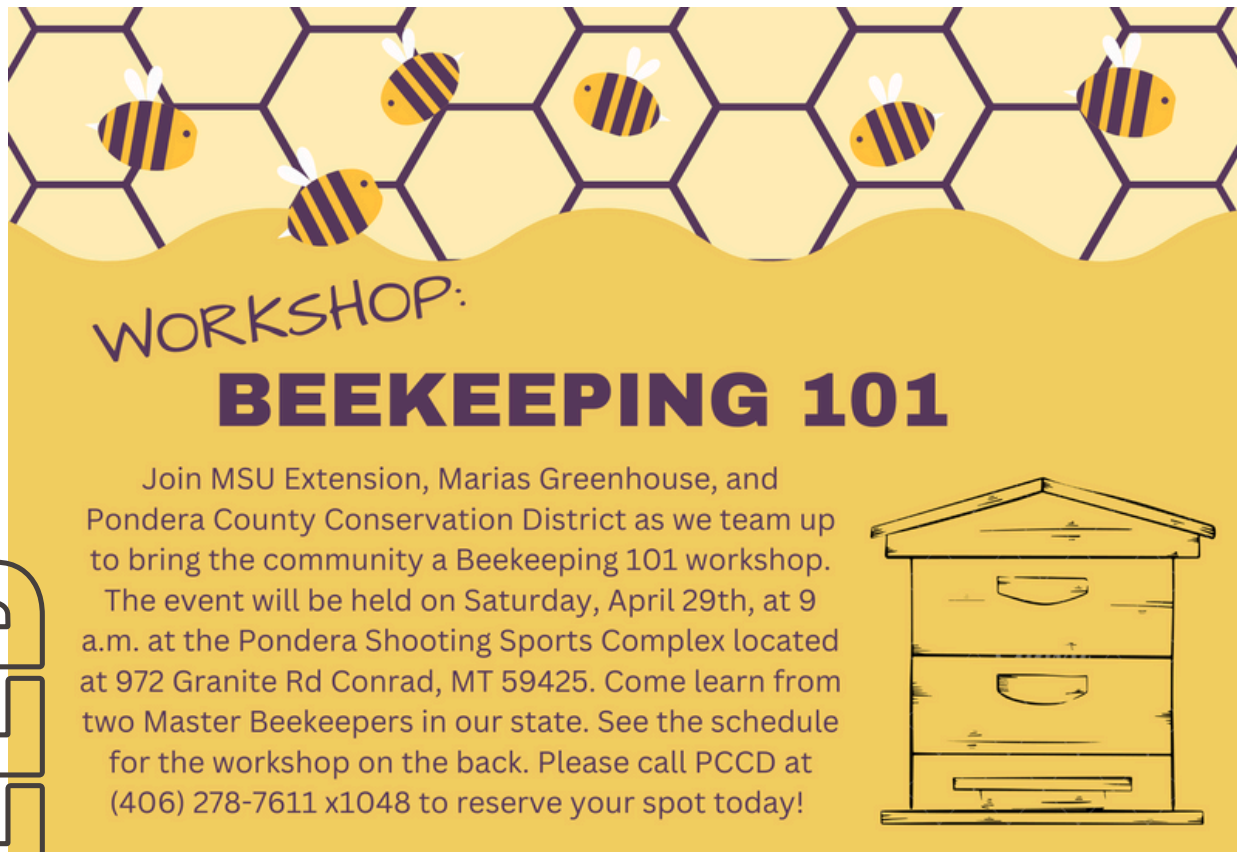
Come join PCCD as we welcome back Patti Armbrister for a hands-on composting workshop. Learn how to make high quality compost without the labor of turning it! We will build a "Johnson Su" compost and learn the do's and don'ts of composting and how to get the most out of it. Call (406) 278-7611 x 1048 or email ponderacd@gmail.com to reserve your spot today!



Upcoming Events:


- **PCCD Next Board Meeting** Tuesday, April 11th , 2023 at 8 a.m. at the USDA Service Center Conference Room in Conrad, MT
- **Conservation Trees Delivered** April 17th-May 2nd to the District
- **Rescheduled: Beekeeping 101 Workshop** April 29th at the Pondera Sports Shooting Complex, 9 a.m.- 12 p.m.
- **Outdoor Classroom** May 4th at the Dupuyer Creek Picnic Area, open to all 4th graders in Pondera County
- **PCCD Board Meeting** Tuesday, May 9th, 2023 at 8 a.m. at the USDA Service Center Conference Room in Conrad, MT
- **Hands-On Composting Workshop** May 12th 2 p.m. at the Conrad Community Garden with guest speaker Patti Armbrister

RESCHEDULED



WORKSHOP:
BEEKEEPING 101

Join MSU Extension, Marias Greenhouse, and Pondera County Conservation District as we team up to bring the community a Beekeeping 101 workshop. The event will be held on Saturday, April 29th, at 9 a.m. at the Pondera Shooting Sports Complex located at 972 Granite Rd Conrad, MT 59425. Come learn from two Master Beekeepers in our state. See the schedule for the workshop on the back. Please call PCCD at (406) 278-7611 x1048 to reserve your spot today!



Schedule:

- 9:00 a.m. – Introduction and Welcome
- 9:05 – 10:05 - Introduction to Beekeeping -Location, Types of Bees, Life Cycles, & Costs
- 10:10 – 10:55 – Equipment
- Break 10 minutes
- 11:05 – 11:35 - Plants and Pollinators
- 11:40 – 12:00 p.m. - Top 10 Newbie Mistakes



Save the Date!



PCCD is hosting their 23rd Annual Outdoor Classroom for 4th graders of Pondera County at the Dupuyer Creek Picnic Area on May 4th at 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. A handful of presenters will be at stations to present on local conservation efforts in our community. We hope to make a memorable day for all who come!

Equipment for Rent

- Level \$25/day
- Doppler Flow Meter \$250
- MCCA 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



Conservation Trees:

If you ordered trees through PCCD this year, they will be available for pick up around the end of this month to beginning of May. We will contact you when they are in. For any questions, please call 406-278-7611 x1048 or email ponderacd@gmail.com.

If you are interested in ordering trees for the following spring, you will need to place your order with PCCD by October. PCCD has tree order forms available for pick up at the office starting in September. We ask that you fill out your order forms and get them turned in by the **beginning of October**. Tree inventory goes quickly, get your order submitted early.

Sale!

Items for Sale:

- Trees for Conservation- Inquire with PCCD for ordering next fall
- Landscape Fabric- \$125/roll (6' x 500' roll)
- Montana Women History Book- \$22
- Marker Flags- \$12/bundle (100 per bundle)
- Map Ordinance Book- \$35

Check it
Out!

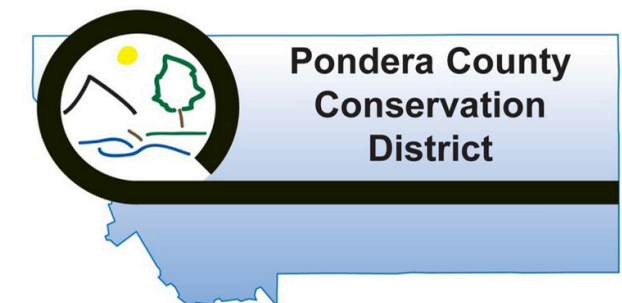
Little Conservation Library



Now open! PCCD has gathered a handful of conservation related books for children ranging from preschool to 12 years old. Come by the office and check out a book of your choosing. From farming and ranching topics, to soil health, composting, and pollinators- the assortment of books is vast! We just ask that you sign out the book and return it to the office after two weeks of checking it out. We hope you enjoy our Little Conservation Library!

PCCD Board:

Jack Judisch, Chair
Paul Jones, Supervisor
Roger Paulsen, Urban Supervisor
Bryce Johns, Supervisor
Ramsey Offerdal Jr., Supervisor
Keith VandenBos, Supervisor
Cole Peebles, Urban Supervisor
Kaysie Steele, Administrator



Strawberry Chicken Salad with Mint & Goat Cheese



Ingredients:

- 1 pound chicken cutlets
- 6 tablespoons olive oil, divided
- $\frac{3}{4}$ teaspoon salt, divided
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon ground pepper, divided
- 3 tablespoons white-wine vinegar
- 1 tablespoon minced shallot
- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoons honey
- 1 cup fresh mint leaves, divided
- 10 cups mixed salad greens
- 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups strawberries, sliced
- 4 ounces sugar snap peas, trimmed and thinly sliced
- 2 ounces goat cheese, crumbled
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup sliced almonds, toasted

Directions:

1. Preheat grill to medium-high. Brush chicken with 1 Tbsp. oil and sprinkle with $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp. each salt and pepper. Grill, turning once, until cooked through, 2 to 3 minutes per side. When cool enough to handle, slice the chicken.
2. Meanwhile, whisk vinegar, shallot, honey, and the remaining 5 Tbsp. oil, $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. salt, and $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp. pepper in a large bowl. Finely chop $\frac{1}{4}$ cup mint; add to the dressing in the bowl, whisking to combine. Reserve 2 Tbsp. of the dressing.
3. Tear or coarsely chop the remaining $\frac{3}{4}$ cup mint leaves; add to the bowl along with mixed greens. Toss gently to combine. Divide the salad among 4 dinner bowls. Combine the chicken and the reserved 2 Tbsp. dressing in the large bowl; stir to coat. Divide the chicken, strawberries, snap peas, goat cheese, and almonds among the 4 dinner bowls. Garnish with more mint, if desired.

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.