

Healthy Acres Newsletter



MISSOULA COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY & EXTENSION



When Winter Tricks Your Trees

Bud Break, Cold Risk, and What to Watch

We had an unusually warm start to winter in western Montana, and some of our fruit trees and berries responded. We saw a few early-blooming fruits like haskap (honeyberry), currants, and elderberry start to swell their buds already. When this happens, the plants become less tolerant of cold temperatures.

When fruit buds are fully dormant, they can handle very cold weather. For example, dormant honeyberry buds can survive temperatures as low as -35°F . But once buds begin to swell or open, they can be damaged at much warmer temperatures — somewhere between 0°F and -20°F . Open flowers are even more sensitive and may be injured if temperatures drop into the single digits.

Other fruit trees like apple, cherry, and pear are still mostly dormant. However, because of the warm winter, they may begin growing earlier than usual. Once apple buds reach early stages like “silver tip,” they can be injured by temperatures in the single digits — even though fully dormant buds can survive much colder weather.

Based on 39 years of weather records from the MSU-Western Ag Research Center near Corvallis, the chance of temperatures below -10°F has dropped compared to early winter, and the risk of below-zero temperatures continues to decline as we move towards March. However, single-digit temperatures are still possible into mid- or even late March.

In short, we're not out of the woods yet. Keep an eye on your fruit plants and watch for bud swelling. As soon as buds begin to grow, they lose some of their cold tolerance. Paying attention to both the bud stage and the forecast will help you better understand your risk this early spring.



bud swell

When Winter Tricks Your Trees

Sarah Holden, MSU Horticulture Agent
Sandy Perrin, Missoula County Plant Clinic

Longer days and warming temperatures are sending “wake-up” messages to our plants. It’s time to think of new blooms, first leaves, and plant pests. As plants come out of their rest, or dormant period, so also do insects and disease-causing organisms that spent the winter on trees and shrubs.

If you had problems with mites, aphids, scale, or leaf rollers last year, you might want to consider applying an insect-preventative horticultural oil spray when tree and shrub buds begin to swell and show the first green color.

Research indicates that oils are most effective (especially on scale and leaf-curling aphids) if you wait until the very first tips of green leaves begin to emerge before you apply oil. Oils smother newly hatching insects and insect eggs that are just about to hatch. Oils are less effective on insect eggs that are not yet ready to hatch; these eggs are thicker and tougher (to get through our cold winters).

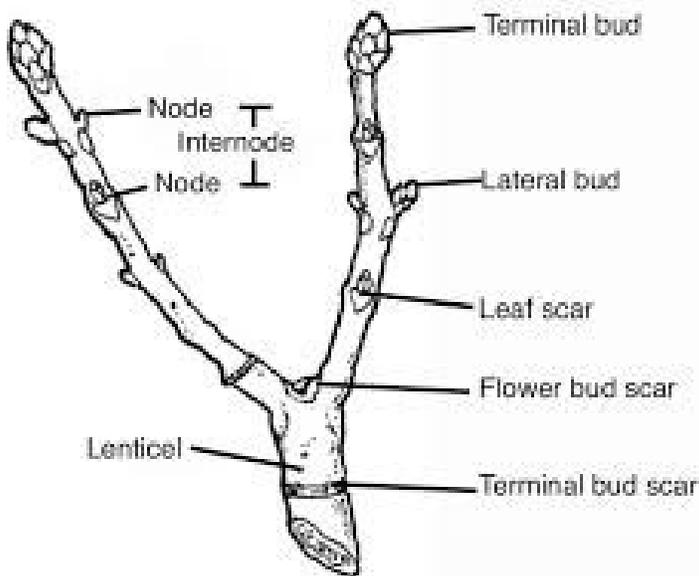


haskap bud

As days lengthen and temperatures warm, insect eggs become less thick and more susceptible to the smothering effect of horticultural oils.

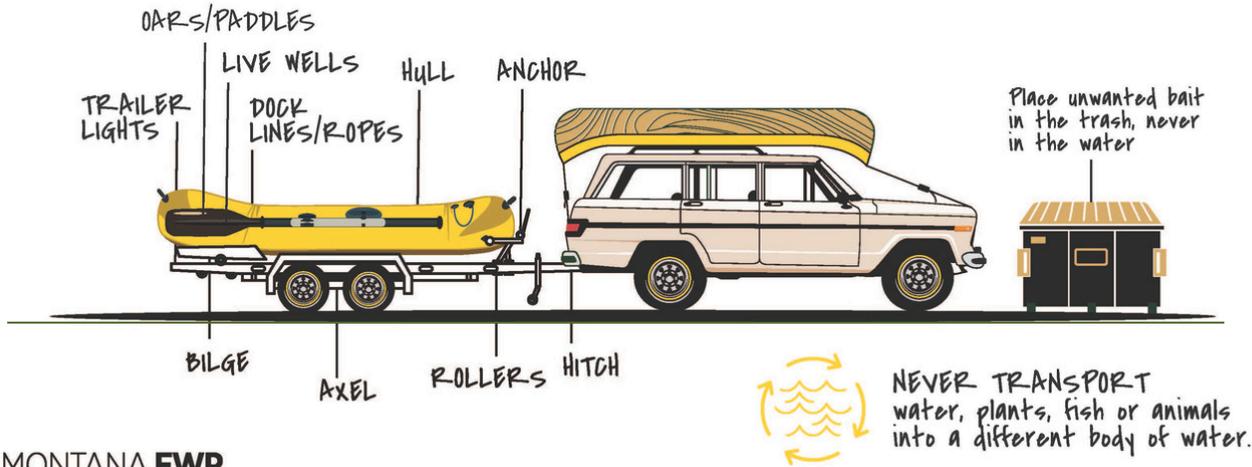
Most spray oils are mineral, or petroleum-based, but vegetable, fish, neem, and citrus oils are also available. Use oils when temperatures are above 40 F, but below 80 F. Oils should dry completely before they are exposed to freezing temperatures. Apply oils several hours before night temperatures drop.

The advantage of oil sprays is that they have a relatively low hazard to humans and non-target organisms, such as beneficial, biological control insects. There are limitations, however. Oils must contact the insect (or insect egg) to kill it. So, dormant oil sprays are completely ineffective unless the pest for which you are aiming has spent the winter, and is still present, on the tree or shrub you are spraying. Another limitation is that oil sprays generally kill only smaller, soft-bodied insects.



CLEAN.DRAIN.DRY.

CHECK THESE AREAS OF YOUR BOAT



MONTANA FWP

Protecting Our Waters: How Missoula County Prevents & Manages Aquatic Invasive Species

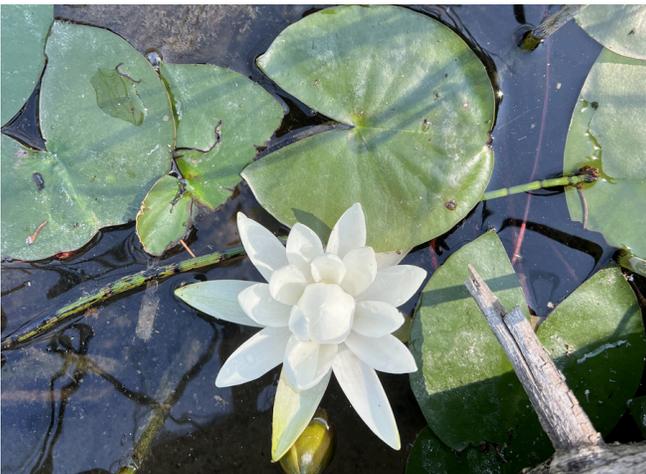
Missoula County is the host of so many clear, cold, and scenic waterbodies. The lakes, rivers, and streams surrounded by scenic mountain ranges and conifers as far as the eye can see support our wonderful native fish, amphibians, mollusks, and plant species. As more people recognize the beauty of Missoula County, the number of boaters traveling within the state and from other states to recreate is increasing.

With the increase in travel from waterbody to waterbody, it is as important as ever to take precautionary steps to minimize the spread of aquatic invasive species (AIS). This includes cleaning, draining, and drying watercraft, gear, and anything that might be carrying water, plants, matter, or invasives hiding in sediment from one waterbody to another. Stopping at watercraft inspection stations is another way to help prevent the spread of AIS.



It is essential to stop at every inspection station every time you pass one. **An invasive mussel like the quagga, zebra, and golden can be much smaller than a pinky nail and survive over 30 days out of water in ideal conditions.**

Inspectors are trained to know where all the best places to look are and work hard to check all those nooks and crannies of a watercraft to ensure there are no hitchhikers. Last year, there were over **27,000 inspections** done at Clearwater Station, which Missoula County runs in partnership with Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks. Remember to protect our waters by staying **Clean, Drain, and Dry.**



CLEAN. DRAIN. DRY.

Craving more? Check out our blog!

www.missoulaeduplace.org



ROCKY MOUNTAIN GARDENS MISSOULA MONTANA

Celebrate Rocky Mountain Gardens' Spring Opening at Phlox Fest

Phlox Fest



Gardens of the Garden City

Saturday April 25, 2026
10 am - 2 pm

Join us for the second annual Phlox Fest to celebrate Rocky Mountain Gardens' spring opening! A free and family-friendly event, Phlox Fest is a great time to make your first visit to the Gardens!

Phlox Fest features a different theme each year, and the theme for 2026 is **Gardens of the Garden City**. The goal of this theme is to highlight the many gardens, growers, and garden-adjacent organizations that make Missoula such a vibrant and connected Garden City, while helping the public discover the people and places shaping our local gardening culture.

In addition to the opening of the gardens, *Phlox Fest celebrates the blooming of Missoula Phlox, a rare species that has only been identified in Missoula County*. With any luck, the Missoula Phlox in our Montana Crevice Garden will be in full bloom!

DATE: Saturday, April 25
TIME: 10 am – 2 pm
LOCATION: Rocky Mountain Gardens
1075 South Avenue West



Birds eye view of the first annual Phlox Fest, April 26, 2025



Garden Hours

We will be opening our gates to the public on Wednesday, April 1st!

Monday – Friday, 9 am – 5 pm
Saturday, 10 am – 5 pm
Closed Sundays

This year, we're excited to introduce Evening Hours! The Gardens will remain open until 8 pm on the first Wednesday of the month, April through November.



Educational Programming

From irrigation to fruit tree grafting, bird watching to watercolor painting, we are excited to host an abundance of educational programs throughout the year.

Additionally, we are introducing Plant Powered Social Hours in the Gardens! These free, drop-in events will occur during evening garden hours on the first Wednesday of the month, April through November.



Amy Zanzig leading a garden walk about dahlias



Volunteers collecting seeds of native plants in the Pollinator Haven and Pete's Prairie

Volunteer Opportunities

We are so excited to get back in the flow of volunteer events! Below is an overview of the opportunities available this season.

DROP-IN EVENTS...beginning April 2!

Thursdays, 10 am – noon

GARDEN SPECIALISTS

You don't have to be an expert to specialize in an area! If one or more of the following appeals to you, this is your opportunity to learn more or share your knowledge!

- Native Plants
- Tomatoes
- Dahlias
- Seed Saving

GARDEN AMBASSADORS

Help us keep the gardens open and welcoming beyond business hours!

- Saturdays, beginning April 4
- First Wednesdays of the month, April - November





Creating Habitat at Home: Our Community Conservation Programs

Marirose Kuhlman, Habitat Coordinator

More and more Missoula County folks are discovering that conservation isn't limited to wild places – it can happen right outside your door. From native plant gardens to flowering lawns to workshops and events, our community conservation programs help you create vital pollinator habitat at home.

ReWild Your Yard

Our ReWild Your Yard programs show residents how to turn traditional home landscapes into vibrant, pollinator-friendly spaces using Montana native plants. Many people are interested in native plant landscaping but feel overwhelmed about how to get started. Our ReWild Your Yard workshops and classes help by providing inspiration, information, and practical tools to help homeowners incorporate native species in their yards and gardens.

When you include regionally appropriate native plants in your landscaping, you support pollinators, birds, and other wildlife while reducing water use and long-term maintenance. Even small changes make a meaningful difference!

Missoula County Bee City and Pollinator Pathways

Missoula County is proud to be a Bee City USA affiliate! The Missoula County Bee City Pollinator Pathway initiative connects small gardens and green spaces throughout Missoula into a larger network, creating “corridors” of pollinator habitat through town. Pollinator pathways allow butterflies, bees, and other beneficial insects to have access to nectar, pollen, and nesting resources as they move through the urban landscape.

Missoula County Bee City programs include community outreach events and collaboration with local partners to

raise awareness about the essential role native bees and other pollinators play in our food systems, ecosystems, and everyday lives.

Flowering Pollinator Lawn

Our Flowering Pollinator Lawn program offers an accessible entry point for residents who may not be ready to remove turf but want to make their lawns more ecologically beneficial. Flowering Lawns support pollinators and typically require less fertilizer and water once established.

Our Flowering Lawn mix incorporates low-growing flowering plants such as clover, self-heal, and creeping thyme along with fine fescue grasses. The result is a lawn that can provide nectar resources while maintaining attractive and usable green space.

Even small actions you take in your yard can add up to meaningful change to support pollinators in our community. By including native plants in your landscaping, creating flowering lawns, or initiating a Pollinator Pathway, Missoula County residents can build a healthier landscape for pollinators and people alike. We hope you'll join us for a class or workshop and start creating habitat at home!





Missoula County AgTalk Series: “Where do I start?”

Natalie Sullivan, MSU Missoula County Ag, Equine, & Livestock Agent

The face of agriculture in Missoula County is changing. While agriculture still encompasses expansive fields of cattle and crops, smaller farms and ranchettes growing fruit trees or flowers and raising small ruminants or chickens are more frequent agricultural enterprises in western Montana. Agriculture includes agritourism, horse boarding, farm stands, and neighborhood gardens. No matter the size of your land, the cost of productivity, or the species you grow, your tracks on the land matter.

Whether you steward three acres or three hundred, the health of your crops, animals, and businesses is important to the health of our community. That is why the Department of Ecology and Extension has launched Missoula County AgTALKS- a series of educational events for anyone whose land and livestock are important to them. The tagline for the series is “Where do I start?” This means that each event will give you the best local tools



and resources for tackling your farm or ranch’s most pressing topics; taxes, insurance, pests, and disease, just to name a few. These are NOT long, detailed lectures but, rather, opportunities to find who, where, what, and how to start thinking about the topic to save you time and money in the long run. Who do you go to gain agricultural land status for tax purposes? How do you know if you bought enough hay for your livestock? What resources do farmers and ranchers have locally and regionally to combat agricultural related stress? The Missoula County AgTALKS will run monthly between October and April of each year.

MISSOULA COUNTY

FREE AgTALKS

**CONTROL OF COLUMBIAN
GROUND SQUIRRELS**



MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

Frenchtown High School Auditorium
Wednesday, April 29, 2026
6:00 pm to 8:00 PM

For More Information
Natalie.sullivan1@montana.edu
406-258-4208

Upcoming 2026 AgTALKS you don’t want to miss...

March 25- “Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Local Update”

Montana Department of Livestock and Montana Department of Public Health @ Online Webinar

April 29- “Controlling Columbian Ground Squirrels in Missoula County”

Montana Department of Agriculture @ Frenchtown High School Auditorium

May 20- “Hay Farm Tour for Horse and Livestock Owners”

Grass Valley Farm

Free Missoula County AgTALKS will run between October and April each year with monthly in-person and webinar programming.

Link to [Equine & Livestock Needs Assessment Survey](#). We need 100 more survey participants by the end of 2026. Can you help?

Living Roots Book Launch & Conversation

Join us for a celebration of perennial foods, and their deep roots in Western Montana! Josh Slotnick will moderate a conversation with Liz Carlisle, Aubrey Streit Krug, and Mariah Gladstone about their new book **Living Roots: The Promise of Perennial Foods**. Following the conversation, copies of the book will be available for purchase and signing (courtesy of Fact & Fiction), and Mariah Gladstone will prepare a special tasting of perennial appetizers!

Mariah Gladstone, Piikuni (Blackfeet) and Tsalagi (Cherokee), grew up in Northwest Montana on and near the Blackfeet Reservation. She graduated from Columbia University with a degree in Environmental Engineering and returned home where she began her work on food advocacy. She developed Indigikitchen, an online cooking platform, to revitalize and re-imagine Native foods. She then earned a Master's degree at SUNY-ESF in the Center for Native Peoples and the Environment. Mariah has been recognized as a Luce Indigenous Knowledge Fellow by the First Nations Development Institute, as well as a 2025 Castanea Fellow by the Earth Island Institute. She has shared the importance of reconnecting to traditional foods at events throughout North America and abroad, as well as through appearances on the Today Show, CBC, and numerous podcasts. In addition to all this, Mariah offers a variety of cultural experiences for visitors to the Blackfeet Nation and Glacier National Park. Mariah released her first book, Mountains to Oceans: Kids' Recipes from Native Land, in January 2025.

Liz Carlisle is an Associate Professor in the Environmental Studies Program at UC Santa Barbara, where she teaches courses on food and farming. Born and raised in Montana, she got hooked on agriculture while working as an aide to organic farmer and U.S. Senator Jon Tester, which led to a decade of research and writing collaborations with farmers in her home state. She has written three books about regenerative and organic farming: Lentil Underground, Grain by Grain, and Healing Grounds, and she is co-editor of the new edited collection Living Roots: The Promise of Perennial Foods. Prior to her career as a writer and academic, she spent several years touring rural America as a country singer.

Aubrey Streit Krug is a writer and researcher who investigates relationships among humans, plants, and places. She is the Director of the Perennial Cultures Lab at The Land Institute, where her team leads social and cultural research and educational efforts like civic science that feature learning with communities to help realize more just, diverse, and perennial grain agricultures. Her most recent project, co-edited with Liz Carlisle, is the essay collection Living Roots: The Promise of Perennial Foods. Aubrey grew up in rural Kansas, where her parents farm wheat and raise cattle. Her curiosity about grassland stories and plants led her to earn a PhD in English and Great Plains Studies. She loves rocky prairie hillsides and lives in Kansas.

About The Book:

Living Roots makes the case for putting perennial foods at the center of our farms and our plates, to add flavor and nutrients to our diets while reducing emissions and making our food system more resilient to climate change and economic uncertainty. With contributions from James Beard Award-winning chefs, Macarthur genius grant-winning scientists, and a host of farmers who are leading the way on perennializing agriculture, the book takes readers on a behind-the-scenes tour of the largest food forest in the United States, the test plots developing the first commercial perennial grains, and the vast grasslands where Indigenous communities are returning bison to their prairie homelands. In the process, each contributor shares their unique story of learning with these long-lived plants about how to root deeper in the face of existential challenges, speaking directly to readers charting their own path on a rapidly changing planet.

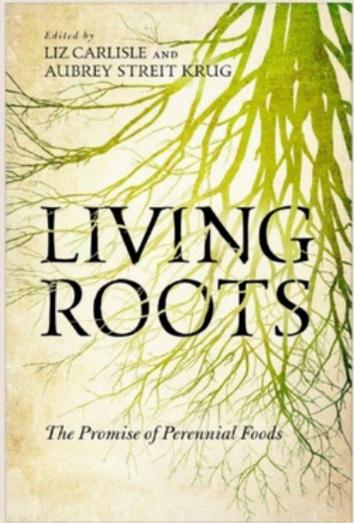
JOIN US

For a celebration of perennial foods & their deep roots in Montana

Book Launch

Featuring conversations with:

**Liz Carlisle,
Aubrey Streit Krug,
& Mariah Gladstone**



Special tasting of perennial appetizers!

Books will be available for purchase and signing!

Tuesday, April 14th | 6:00 PM
Exploration Center
Registration suggested

Fact & Fiction
BOOKS FOR ALL AGES

www.missoulaeduplace.org | Upcoming Events

MISSOULA COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF
ECONOMY & EXTENSION

Interested in receiving more information like this?

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www.missoulaeduplace.org





Honeyberry Kitchen News

Kelly Moore, MSU Missoula County Family & Consumer Science Agent



2026 is here, and Ecology and Extension is busy planning and implementing innovative, community-driven programs. There's a whole lot going on through these kitchen doors! As a Missoula County, MSU Extension FCS agent, it is my goal to help build strong relationships within a diverse community and promote sustainable practices that help build stronger families.

According to the Ohio State University Extension, "A Family and Consumer Sciences Extension Agent addresses some of the most pressing social challenges facing the nation, its communities, and its families through research-based educational programming and instruction, practical demonstrations that support and improve life-enhancing health and wellness that help build stronger family units." With this goal in mind, class topics are researched and presented to a program committee for input and expertise.

February has been a record month for classes with Cultivate and Cook, Young Chefs in the Kitchen, Confidence in the Kitchen, and several special topic education classes. Offering both interactive and demonstration cooking classes provides opportunities for recognizing the diversity of our audience and learning styles within our program. Following a recent Confidence in the Kitchen class, a participant reported, **"After all these years and many biscuit fails, I can now say that I can make biscuits!"**

Surrounded by **25-plus kids** and accompanying adults in a recent **"Young Chefs in the Kitchen"** class, we made gnocchi together, surrounding the entire Honeyberry counter with cutting boards, flour, potatoes, and excited chatter about the simplicity of the recipe and the camaraderie of creating something together.

Food Trends for 2026- compiled by food industry experts, include:

- Mindful consumption and indulgence
- health-focused fiber
- fermentation, shareability
- seasonality
- nostalgic
- Ingredients grown regeneratively by Indigenous Peoples and local producers
- affordability
- ingredients that tell a story

It is the goal of the Honeyberry Kitchen that 2026 will be a year of commitment to focusing on these trends.

Hope to see you soon in the Honeyberry Kitchen!



New Employee Spotlight: Cassidy Green

Healthy Acres Healthy Communities Foundation Coordinator

Tell us about yourself

My name is Cassidy Green, and Missoula has been home to me for the past 25 years—second only to where I grew up, but first in my heart. I graduated from the University of Montana in 2009 and have spent the last 15 years working in nonprofit communications, development, and community engagement. I've had the privilege of working with organizations such as the Montana Food Bank Network, Home ReSource, Families for a Livable Climate, and Community Health Alliance. I also previously served on the board of the Community Food & Agriculture Coalition (now Farm Connect).

Outside of work, I'm a mom to two boys—ages 9 and almost 13—so much of my time is spent at swim meets, baseball games, and taekwondo tournaments. When we're not running between activities, our family loves camping, hiking, and boating around Montana. In my spare moments, I'm usually attempting to keep a garden alive and managing what has become a very enthusiastic houseplant collection.



What are you most excited about in this position?

I'm excited to build on the incredible work already happening within the Missoula County Ecology & Extension Department. The programs they lead have such meaningful impacts on both our community and our local environment. I'm especially excited about helping connect more people to that work—sharing the stories, expanding awareness, and creating opportunities for community members to engage with and support these programs. Being part of strengthening that connection between the department and the community is something I find incredibly motivating.



APRIL 30 - MAY 1
MISSOULAGIVES



Save the Date for Missoula Gives! April 30 & May 1

Healthy Acres Healthy Communities Foundation, the foundation that provides philanthropic support to the programs of Missoula County Department of Ecology & Extension, invites you to start the growing season with a little bit of generosity. On April 30th and into May 1st, Missoula Gives kicks off a 26-hour local giving event like no other. Healthy Acres goal is to raise \$5,000 to grow the impact of the Ecology & Extension programs like the Rocky Mountain Gardens, Youth in Restoration, Home Upgrade Hub, Cultivate & Cook, Biocontrol, and others!

Help us kick off the growing season by supporting Healthy Acres Healthy Communities Foundation at www.missoulagives.org/organizations/healthy-acres-healthy-communities-foundation during Missoula Gives.



the Home Upgrade Hub

Spring is the perfect time for home improvement projects! Join the Home Upgrade Hub and our partners for events focused on home hardening, wildfire mitigation, energy efficiency, and retrofit project planning.

PLANNING A HOME ENERGY EFFICIENCY RETROFIT SERIES

Join the Home Upgrade Hub for the 2026 Planning a Home Energy Efficiency Retrofit Series! The four-week series will guide attendees through the steps of planning and prioritizing retrofit projects, weatherization, budgeting, and financing options resulting in cost savings, improved indoor air quality, and comfort levels



Lupine Lab
5:30-7pm



Session Schedule:

May 6th

Assessing Your Home's Energy Use & Drafts

May 13th

Tackling Retrofit Basics & your Home's Envelope

May 16th

Resilient Homes Tour - Target Range with Climate Smart Missoula 2pm - 4pm

May 20th

Budgeting & Financing your Home Energy Efficiency Retrofit



MAGNETIC COOKING

Induction Stove Demo

Tuesday, March 24, 2026
6:00pm - 7:30pm

- Tex-Mex Polenta Bowls
- Chance to Win Induction Cooktop

FREE

win ME!!

1075 South Ave W
Missoula, MT 59801

MISSOULAEDUPLACE.ORG
406-258-3441 | Cefoster@missoulacounty.us

ELECTRIFY MISSOULA

**SUNDAY, MAY 24TH
10AM - 4PM**

DEFENSIBLE DESIGN: A HOME HARDENING & WILDFIRE READINESS DEMONSTRATION

A collaboration between the Home Upgrade Hub, Missoula County's Wildfire Mitigation Program, and the Rocky Mountain Garden to make the Exploration Center hardier and resilient to wildfires.

COME VOLUNTEER!

WWW.MISSOULAEDUPLACE.ORG REGISTER TODAY!

Keep up to date by visiting our calendar
[Calendar of Events](#)

Craving more? Check out our blog!

www.missoulaeduplace.org

NOW HIRING MISSOULA YOUTH IN RESTORATION CREW MEMBERS

for the 2026 season!



Position Details:

- Must be **14 - 18 years old**
- 35 - 40 hours per week
- June 16 - week of August 14
- Pay is \$ 16.50 per hour



Benefits:

- Work outdoors with natural resource professionals
- Gain a deeper appreciation for public lands
- Insight into various career paths in natural resource management
- Enhance resumes and college applications

Requirements:

- Ability to work in various weather conditions
- Physical capability to hike up to 10 miles and perform strenuous labor
- Availability for occasional overnight camping
- Team-oriented mindset



SCAN TO APPLY
Deadline - May 8th



Protecting our Rivers: Russian Olive on the County Noxious Weed List



On the banks of Missoula's rivers, the arrival of spring brings renewed life and renewed challenges. Russian olive (*Elaeagnus angustifolia*), a silvery-leaved tree originally introduced from Eurasia, has become an increasing threat to our riparian areas. **In June 2025, the county took action, officially listing it as a noxious weed to protect our waterways and wildlife habitat.**

Originally planted as an ornamental tree and windbreak, Russian olive spreads aggressively in natural areas. It forms dense stands that crowd out native plants like cottonwoods and willows, alters soil chemistry by fixing nitrogen, and changes habitat structure for birds and other wildlife. Once established, it is persistent and can resprout from roots, making management a long-term effort.

To address this threat, the Missoula County Department of Ecology is leading a science-based, integrated management approach. Staff monitor known populations, survey high-risk areas, and implement targeted removal strategies. Young plants can often be removed by hand or with specialized tools, while larger trees may require cutting followed by herbicide treatment to prevent resprouting. Because Russian olive can return from roots or seeds, ongoing monitoring and repeated treatments are essential.

Equally important is collaboration with landowners and local organizations. The Department provides guidance and support to help residents take early action, ensuring that control efforts are effective and manageable.

How You Can Help

Community involvement is key to limiting further spread:

- Learn to identify Russian olive on your property
- Remove seedlings early, when control is easiest
- Avoid planting it in landscaping projects
- Consider native alternatives that benefit wildlife and pollinators
- Report new infestations to the Department of Ecology

Spring is a season of renewal, but it also reminds us of our shared responsibility. By working together, through awareness and coordinated effort, we can ensure that Missoula's rivers, open spaces, and wildlife habitats continue to thrive.

Layne VonLanken 406-258-3434
lvonlanken@missoulacounty.us





79th Annual Missoula 4-H Drama Festival is in the books!

Since 1947, Missoula area 4-H youth and volunteers have been creating and performing plays to participate in the 4-H Drama Fest. With the exception of 2021, due to Covid, the festival has taken place without fail. While the number of clubs involved has declined since the heyday of the 1960s and 1970s, the enthusiasm from the 4-H members remains.

According to records, Tony Rollin, Missoula County 4-H agent through the late '40s into the late '60s, grew up in an orphanage in Minnesota. He said they would put on plays each year and he thought preparing for those performances gave the children self confidence and public speaking skills that would aid them later in life. The first festival was held in Missoula in 1947 at the Orchard Homes Country Life Club. The winning play that year was "The Blue Teapot," and was performed by the Orchard Homes 4-H Club.

This year's Drama Festival consisted of plays from the **Blue Mountain 4-H Club** and the **Mullan Trail Mustangs 4-H Club**. The judge was Natalie Sullivan, and the list of awards is as follows:

Congratulations to the Mullan Trail Mustangs 4-H Club for "Jackie and the Potato Stalk."

- Blue Ribbon play
- Outstanding Actor: McKayla Horn, Charlie Bourgeois
- Outstanding Comedy Actor: Alice Bourgeois
- Club Certificate of Achievement for Costuming & Makeup
- Club Certificate of Achievement for Artistry
- Club Certificate of Achievement for Focus

Congratulations to the Blue Mountain 4-H Club for "Unplugged Adventures."

- Blue Ribbon play and Overall Outstanding Play
- Outstanding Actor: Alieria Seymour, Kendall Moran
- Outstanding Supporting Actor: Aubrey Jaques
- Club Certificate of Achievement for Set Design
- Club Certificate of Achievement for Creativity/Originality



Welcome Jenna Asnault Big Sky Watershed Corp

Where are you from?

I grew up in Chico, California.

Why were you interested in becoming a Big Sky Watershed Corps member?

I wanted to gain more experience in the wildlife and natural resources field. After working several different seasonal jobs that only lasted 3-6 months, I wanted a position that would last a little longer. I've always been around for the field season and data collection, but I wanted to be part of the planning process and post-field season work as well. I also worked as a Conservation Fellow a few years ago and had a good experience.

Why were you interested in working with the Missoula County Dept. of Ecology, AIS District?

I was interested in working for an organization I hadn't worked with before. Plus, the work is a bit different than the other jobs I have done so I am excited for something new. I have also been living in Missoula since 2020 and am already established here, which made the whole transition much easier.

What projects are you most excited to work on?

I am most excited about the fragrant water lily management project and the mosquito district projects. Anything research oriented always piques my interest.

What do you like most about Missoula so far?

I love how there is such easy access to so many different trail systems. It is also a nice size; it's not a huge city like those in the Bay Area or in southern California, but not so small that you feel you are missing out on any amenities or activities.

Where do you see yourself in 5 years?

I have no idea. Hopefully either in grad school for wildlife or finished with grad school.

What do you enjoy doing for fun?

Hiking, biking, reading, spending time with my boyfriend and our dog, birdwatching, and running.

What's one thing you want to do during your year in Montana?

This year I'm planning to bike the Going-to-the-Sun Road in Glacier before it opens to cars.

If you were a color, what would it be?

Either dark blue or forest green. Not sure why.



MISSOULA BIOCONTROL CREW

COLLECTS AND COST-SHARES
BIOCONTROL AGENTS FOR:

Spotted knapweed

Leafy spurge

Dalmatian toadflax



ABOUT BIOCONTROL

- ✓ Appropriate tool for contiguous weed infestations 1 acre or more
- ✗ Not appropriate if you plan to spray herbicides at the exact same location
- ✓ Great long-term weed management option
- ✓ Allows native and beneficial plants to better compete

\$50/RELEASE

Phone
406.540.3808

Email
missoulabiocontrol@gmail.com

Interested in receiving more
information like this?



Sign up for our email list!