



MSU Extension Education & Research Improving the Quality of Life

In Garfield County

Garfield County Weed Prevention Area

Seventeen landowners cooperated to develop a joint plan to keep their agricultural lands free of noxious weed invasion. Covering more than 250,000 acres, the WPA gives the landowners the tools to prevent weed invasion and educate recreationists and others about the dangers of noxious weeds. This program was made possible by a \$17,000 grant from the Center for Invasive Plant Management.

Missouri Breaks Weed Management Area

Following the Missouri Breaks Fire of 2003, a group consisting of private landowners, Garfield County, BLM, State of Montana-DNRC, US Fish and Wildlife Services, and the Charles M. Russell Wildlife Refuge came together to develop a 256,000-acre Weed Management Area (WMA). Through assistance from a Montana Noxious Weed Trust Fund Grant, the participants came together and developed an integrated weed management plan to curtail the introduction and spread of invasive species following the 130,000-acre fire.

GPS/GIS Programs

Numerous GPS training classes were offered in Garfield and surrounding counties to landowners and county officials involved in Disaster Emergency Services. The programs included how to use GPS units and how to incorporate the data gathered into a map and data set for future use. Many have used the skills learned to improve farm and ranch management through mapping weeds and other important locations.

4-H Leader Training B Leaders College

County Extension agents from seven counties came together to jointly present the new State Leadership program to Eastern Montana 4-H leaders. About 25 4-H leaders attended the seven-hour program which focused on Positive Youth Development. Leaders were able to take home a variety of hands-on tools that can be used to foster positive youth development.

4-H Shooting Sports Leader Training

The County agent has taken a lead role on the State 4-H Shooting Sports Training Team and has assisted with the presentation of three regional trainings to 4-H leaders in the past year. The shooting sports program provides youth with the opportunity to increase their self-confidence, develop leadership skills, goal setting and increased mental concentration. 4-H leaders who have been certified through a shooting sports leaders training program direct the program within each county.

Garfield County Extension Office is located in the Courthouse in Jordan

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An educational resource dedicated to improving the quality of people's lives by providing research-based knowledge to strengthen the social, economic and environmental well-being of families, communities and agricultural enterprises.