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PARK COUNTY WEED AND PEST CONTROL DISTRICT

IN COOPERATION WITH THE
STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING PLANT SCIENCE DIVISION
PARK COUNTY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

BOB PARSONS
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P.O. BOX 626
POWELL, WY 82435
(307) 754-8884 or 527-8884
(307) 527-1840 (Cody)

March 18, 2008

Dear Landowner,

This letter is to inform you about the threat of noxious weeds and the State of Wyoming and Park County laws pertaining to noxious weed control. Noxious weeds are invasive non-native plants (mostly from Europe and Asia) that are threatening our native forage, wildlife habitat, agriculture regions, and may limit our recreational opportunities. Often times, landowners do not realize that these invaders are slowly choking out their native plant communities and desirable vegetation. Because of their aggressive growth habits, noxious weeds are expensive to treat if not caught early.

The Wyoming Weed and Pest Control Act of 1973 was created to control designated noxious weeds. Landowners are required to control the spread of noxious weeds. The State of Wyoming has 25 designated noxious weeds (**WS 11-5-102 (a) (xi)**, **W.S. 11-12-104**) and Park County has an additional 8 designated noxious weeds (**W.S. 11-5-102(a) (vii)**, **W.S. 11-5-102(a) (viii)**). The law states, "A landowner who is responsible for an infestation and fails or refuses to perform requirements for the control of the infested area within the time designated may be fined not more than \$50 per day for each day of violation and not more than \$2,500 per year as determined by the court." Such actions can be taken; however, we would like to avoid them through the use of education.

Park County also has a district wide Quarantine. This prohibits the movement of any and all farm products including forage on any public roads within Park County. The purpose of this quarantine is to minimize the spread of noxious species. Park County Weed and Pest Control District (PCWP) inspects and issues more than 180 permits each season. Both buyer and seller are responsible for compliance with this quarantine and can be fined if in violation. PCWP staff will inspect your fields at no charge. If you are not already on our list for this service, you may call our office so we can add you to our mailing list.

Park County Weed and Pest Control District (PCWP) is also working throughout Park County to assist landowners in the development and implementation of an effective integrated weed management plan. These plans offer a course of treatment for the control and prevention of noxious weed spread. PCWP provides this technical assistance as a free service. In addition, PCWP is offering a 50/50 cost share program on herbicides used in the control of Russian olive and Saltcedar in the county. Guidelines and applications are available at our office in Powell and Cody.

Contact Park County Weed and Pest at (307) 527-8885 or (307) 754-4521 if you need technical assistance or if you have any questions. We hope that you will support our efforts to control the spread of noxious invasive species in Park County. Thank you for your participation.

Sincerely,
Mary McKinney
Mary McKinney
Assistant Supervisor