

the THISTLE

Park County Weed and Pest Control District

November 2014

Buying or Selling Hay? Park County is a Quarantine County and Certified Weed Free Forage is Required on Most Federal Lands!

Park County has required a District Wide Quarantine Release for many years. In addition, most federal agencies including (but not limited to) the U.S. Forest Service, Yellowstone National Park, and the Bureau of Land Management have issued policy orders requiring the use of Certified Weed Free Forage for use on public lands. What is the difference?

STOP!

All farm products sold in Park County must have a district wide quarantine release to sell or move farm products in or through Park County. The most recent endorsement of this legislation was in 1980. For the producer to meet the requirements of the Park County quarantine, they must have their crops inspected (annually) before harvest to ensure that any noxious weed seeds or root parts are removed before harvesting. Control methods include mowing, cultivating, spraying with chemicals, or any other method to prevent the spread of the 25 state designated noxious weed species in addition to the 11 Park County declared species.

Once a request has been received, PCWP staff inspects the field(s) and if acceptable conditions are met, issues a quarantine release allowing the producer to move/sell that product. If there are noxious weeds present, producers are encouraged to work with PCWP staff to develop a noxious weed management plan so that they may obtain the required release. This Park County Quarantine release is the only certificate needed **except on federally administered lands**. More information is available at www.parkcountyweeds.org.

The voluntary North American Weed Free Forage Program (former Regional Forage Certification Program) was officially taken over by the North American Invasive Species Management Association (NAISMA) in 1997. Since that time NAISMA has been responsible for ensuring the minimum standards for prohibited noxious weed species and the certification of weed free forage. These “standards” have been adopted by most federal agencies in 25 states via a Memorandum of Understanding as a preventative program to reduce the introduction of noxious or invasive weed species onto public lands.

Producers must request their lands be inspected 7 days before harvest for the 54 weed species listed as prohibitive in this program. This list of weeds and inspection standards are much more extensive than the requirements for a district-wide quarantine release. Prohibited species may also include additional weeds of local concern such as annual mustards and wild oats.

Individuals wishing a Weed Free Forage certification will be charged a \$50 inspection and administrative fee per visit regardless of the number of fields or acres inspected for one renter and/or landlord. This fee will be charged for each cutting or visit regardless of whether the crop meets certification standards or not. Individuals who have met the certification standards for Weed Free Forage will be issued a certificate and be allowed to purchase a special colored twine to tie the bales or special tags. For more information on the Certified Weed Free Forage Program visit <http://www.naisma.org>. or contact PCWP @ 307-754-4521





Don't put away that sprayer!

Condensed from a *Barnyards and Backyards* article by Mary McKinney

Properly maintaining your hand or ATV sprayer will prolong its life.

Now that the days are longer and the need for that pesticide sprayer may have passed, don't be tempted to push it to the back of the shop without performing important maintenance tasks. Keeping equipment clean throughout the season is an ongoing process, but cleaning and winterizing pesticide sprayers can prevent repairs or replacements next spring. **Read the Label!**

The following are *general* guidelines. Before beginning, read and follow any requirements on the label of any pesticides used. This includes donning proper personal protective equipment and following special instructions regarding specific cleaning products and procedures. Perform in an area that rinsate will not contaminate water supplies, streams, or crops and in an area inaccessible to children, pets, and livestock. Pay particular attention to sensitive vegetation in the runoff area. Clean the spray equipment. Consult label.

Some household products may be used including but not limited to:

- Laundry detergent, household ammonia (effective at penetrating and loosening deposits and residues in the spraying system), and chlorine bleach (decomposes residues of most sulfonylurea and other herbicides).
- **Caution!** Care must be used with chlorine bleach to prevent mixing with ammonia (found in fertilizers) to prevent dangerous chlorine gas. Disposal of rinsate containing chlorine bleach should also be considered.

Run the cleaning solution through the entire system. Flush the cleaning solution through the hoses, wands, screens, and/or boom nozzles.

*** As noted above, do not mix rinsates of bleach and ammonia.**

Winterize using antifreeze. Several options are available including some low-toxicity varieties. **Caution! Automotive antifreeze is toxic.** Proper use and disposal is required. Operate the pump system to move antifreeze throughout the entire system. Remember, you must collect and properly dispose of any antifreeze that discharges from the system. In the spring, drain/rinse tanks and components by operating pumps to

Following a routine maintenance process for sprayers not only increases the life of the equipment but can also save money on replacement parts. Avoid the frustration of finding out a wand has split or a seal failed from not winterizing the sprayer. Inspect sprayers during this process and repair and replace any broken or worn parts. For more information on winterizing sprayers, check out the Web or ask your local weed and pest professional. Remember, consult the label first!

For the complete article go to http://www.uwyo.edu/barnbackyard/_files/documents/magazine/2012/fall/092012bbwinterizesprayer.pdf.

GOT WEEDS? We Can Help!

Powell 307-754-4521 or Cody 307-527-8885

Cost share is Available for Most Noxious species!

