

DECEMBER
2024

Goshen County Weed & Pest NEWSLETTER

Goshen
County
Weed & Pest

PACK RAT VS. KANGAROO RATS

Kangaroo Rat - In Wyoming Ord's kangaroo rats are abundant in sand dune communities, including semiarid grasslands, mixed-grass prairie, shrub- and scrublands. They consume a variety of foods, but most commonly eat the seeds of grasses and forbs, green vegetation, and dry vegetation. These rats aren't necessarily invasive, but they do create burrows that can be a nuisance to landowners. Kangaroo rats are often the mice like creatures you see running across the county roads at night.



Bushy-tailed Woodrats (packrats)- Pack rats are also known as wood rats or trade rats because they are attracted to shiny objects and will sometimes trade one item for another. Pack rats use the materials they collect to build their nests, which can be up to 4 feet high and 8 feet wide. They use sticks, branches, cactus bits, and other natural materials to strengthen the nest and keep out predators. They also add "treasures" like keys, coins, jewelry, candy wrappers, and animal poop to their nests.

Control measures: Snap traps are the most effective.

Prevention: store food in air tight containers, seal entry way gaps and windows.

Please note- GCWP does not sell control methods for weeds or pests that are not on our designated or declared lists.
Find the lists on our website!

CONTROLLING SILVER AND FRINGE SAGE

Although Wyoming has a handful of different types of sagebrush, silver sage and fringe sage are the most widespread throughout Goshen County. Sagebrush species in Wyoming are very difficult to control and/or eliminate. Fringed sage is a vigorous spreader that creeps along to cover the surrounding area and reseeds when it has the chance. Silver sage also has invasive-like characteristics, moderately palatable to livestock and fair-good palatability to wildlife. Wildlife use sagebrush species as their winter vegetation food source. Both brushes can be controlled by repeated application of 2,4-D during the early part of June, when the plants foliage is present. Just one year of application normally gives 70% control of the sagebrush stands. For best results on continued control of sagebrush don't expect complete control in a one time treatment. It can take up to 2-3 treatments to see 90% control.

FUN FACT

The Wyoming Weed & Pest Council is made up of 23 County Districts. Each county in Wyoming implements local initiatives through locally appointed boards, paid staff and volunteers. These initiatives aim to curb the spread of invasive species both locally and statewide.

In 1973, Governor Hathaway helped pass the Wyoming Weed and Pest Control Act. This allowed Wyoming Weed & Pest Districts with funding to aid in the prevention of

invasive species.

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MAKE SANTA'S NICE LIST

*TREAT PRAIRIE DOG INFESTATIONS
ON YOUR PROPERTY!*

GCWP HAS A GREAT COST-SHARE
PROGRAM FOR PRAIRIE DOGS!

SWING BY THE OFFICE BEFORE
MARCH 15TH TO PURCHASE
KAPUT PARIRIE DOG BAIT OR FOR
INFORMATION TO CONTACT A
COMMERCIAL APPLICATOR.

STAY IN THE KNOW

- Dec. 23rd thru Jan. 2nd- Office Closed for Holiday Break
- Office open to normal office hours January 6th
- OFFICE HOURS - Mon-Thurs, 7am-5pm
- **MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

