

Conservation Conversations

Resource Management Yellow Pages

'Conservation conversations' is a new series brought to you by the Middle Park Conservation District. Its intent is to explore a variety of conservation-related topics that get people thinking and talking about the natural world we live in.

This month's article is all about the Resource Management organizations in Grand County that are available to assist you in managing your land and resources. Grand County's geographic area is approximately 1.196 million acres in size, larger than the entire State of Rhode Island (only 777,000 acres in area). Though 68% of the land in Grand County is owned by the US Government (US Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and the National Park Service), 321,000 acres (27%) of the land area is privately owned by the full-time and part-time residents of Grand County.

Knowing how to properly manage your land is the key to maintaining a healthy ecosystem (even if it's only the size of your backyard). *Lucky for you, there are several organizations in Grand County that are ready and willing to help.* The list below does not include contractors in Grand County that perform natural resource management work; however, you may be able to get names of contractors by calling some of the organizations listed here. Also, the list below is arranged alphabetically, not in order of importance; they are all equally important in their own way.

Colorado Division of Water Resources

Colorado Division of Water Resources is your direct resource for all water-related issues. Water is a precious resource in Colorado and the drought conditions we've faced in the Western US over that last several years, have made water rights a hot topic. Water is a public resource, meaning that no one individual owns the water that flows through their property or falls from the sky onto their porch. However, individuals can own the right to use the water by purchasing water rights. It is up to the Colorado Division of Water Resources ***to administer water right allocations, issue water well permits and ensure wells are constructed properly, monitor streamflow and water use, approves dam construction, and maintain numerous databases of Colorado water information.*** If you've got a question about your water rights or what you legally can and cannot do with your water rights, call one of our local Water Commissioners...

Colorado Division of Water Resources

Physical Address: 70 E. Agate, Unit F, Granby CO 80446

Phone: Neil Misbach (East Grand): 970-557-3038 or 970-531-1159

Bill Thompson (West Grand): 970-724-3853

Website: www.water.state.co.us



Colorado Headwaters Land Trust

The Colorado Headwaters Land Trust was initially established in 1995 under the name 'Grand County Land Conservancy'. Though they changed their name in 2000 to 'Middle Park Land Trust' and again in 2013 to their present name, the Colorado Headwaters Land Trust has always been dedicated to the same mission ***of preserving and stewarding open lands within the headwaters of the Colorado River for vistas, wildlife, agriculture and water, in partnership with landowners for the benefit of all.*** This 501(c)3 non-profit achieves its mission primarily through the securement of conservation easements on private lands throughout Grand County. A conservation easement is a voluntary binding legal document between the landowner and the land trust that permanently protects the conservation values (scenic and agricultural open space, wildlife habitat, etc.) of said property by restricting development, subdivision and other non-compatible uses. Besides protecting the natural and scenic beauty of your property in perpetuity, there are also potential federal and state tax benefits for landowners who enter into conservation easements. For more information on the Colorado Headwaters Land Trust and how to put your property under a conservation easement, contact...

Colorado Headwaters Land Trust

Physical Address: 52 North First Street, Granby, CO 80446

Phone: 970-887-1177

Email: info@coloradoheadwaterslandtrust.org

Website: www.coloradoheadwaterslandtrust.org



Colorado Parks & Wildlife

Wildlife is a public resource that belongs to the State of Colorado and all its citizens. As such, it is the responsibility of Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) ***to manage the wildlife for generations to come.*** Most people know that Colorado Parks & Wildlife (formerly known as Colorado Division of Wildlife) manages the hunting and fishing seasons in Colorado and are the 'wildlife law enforcement officers'. However, did you know that CPW also employs a number of Wildlife Researchers, Non-Game (Threatened and Endangered Species) Biologists, and Habitat Biologists? Additionally, besides managing

the wildlife, CPW also manages State Wildlife Areas. In Grand County, approximately 20,000 acres of prime wildlife habitat is under the protection and management of the Area Wildlife Office in Hot Sulphur Springs. Besides wildlife management and education, Colorado Parks and Wildlife has several grant programs and opportunities available to the public. You can work with CPW on conservation easements, contact them about game damage reimbursements, apply for outdoor education funding, receive money to do trail maintenance, and discuss wetland partnerships with them. For wildlife-related questions, contact our Area Colorado Parks & Wildlife Office at...

Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Physical Address: 346 CR 362, Hot Sulphur Springs, CO 80451

Phone: 970-725-6200

Website: <http://cpw.state.co.us/>



Colorado State Forest Service

Unlike the US Forest Service, the Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS) does not own or manage much forested land. Instead, the Colorado State Forest Service is ***the lead state agency for providing forest stewardship and management, fuels reduction and wildfire mitigation assistance to private landowners in Colorado***. In addition to providing a wealth of information, the CSFS also has a variety of programs for landowners that support healthy and sustainable forests; some of these programs even provide funding and tax benefits to the landowner. Ultimately, if you have any questions regarding the trees on your property, the Colorado State Forest Service will most likely be your best resource for help. Contact the Granby Field Office of the Colorado State Forest Service at...

Colorado State Forest Service

Physical Address: 201 E. Jasper Ave, Granby CO 80446

Phone: 970-887-3121

Email: CSFS_Granby@mail.colostate.edu

Website: <https://csfs.colostate.edu/districts/granby-district/>



Colorado State University Extension

The Colorado State University Extension Service is ***dedicated to serving current and future needs of Coloradans by providing educational information and programs that safeguard health, increase livelihood, and enhance well being.*** The benefit of Extension is that they've got the University in their back pocket. When you need to know the latest and greatest research coming out of the University, Extension is the one to call. Extension can also answer your everyday gardening questions, assist you with your small acreage or large ag production needs, as well as get your children involved in 4-H and other youth development programs. Needless to say, CSU Extension is pretty close to a one-stop-shop. Contact our local Extension Office at...

CSU Extension Grand County

Physical Address: 210 11th St., Fairgrounds Exhibit Hall, Kremmling, CO 80459

Phone: 970-724-3456

Email: coopext_grand@mail.colostate.edu

Website: <http://grandcountyext.colostate.edu/>



Grand County Division of Natural Resources

Grand County Division of Natural Resources is the county's expert on ***noxious weeds and slash pile burning.*** During the warm months of the year, Grand County DNR manages the county's noxious weeds under the guidelines of the Colorado Noxious Weed Act. Landowners can contact Grand County DNR for a wealth of information on noxious weed identification and control. On Fridays during the summertime, Grand County DNR also does a weekly herbicide giveaway for small acreage landowners; all you need is a backpack sprayer and a desire to kill the weeds on your property. Once the cold hits Grand County,

Grand County DNR's focus switches from weeds to slash pile burning. When the mountain pine beetle hit Grand County a decade ago, most of the live, mature lodgepole pine died. Landowners wishing to cut, pile, and burn the dead timber can get a burn permit from Grand County Division of Natural Resources. DNR will provide you with information on proper pile design, ignition, and burn management.

Grand County Division of Natural Resources

Physical Address: 469 E. Topaz, Granby, CO 80446

Phone: 970-887-0745

Website: <http://co.grand.co.us/131/Natural-Resources>



Grand County Wildfire Council

The Grand County Wildfire Council (GCWC) is a non-profit, community-based educational outreach organization serving the residents and visitors of Grand County. The Council seeks works collaboratively with members from local, state, and federal government agencies; local fire departments; homeowner groups; businesses; and concerned citizens ***to promote wildfire prevention, preparedness, mitigation, and survival through education and action.*** For landowners looking to mitigate the potential impacts of wildfire on their property, the GCWC has a variety of resources and brochures available. The Council is also in the process of obtaining funding for on-the-ground mitigation work in high wildfire priorities around the county. 9-1-1 Reflective Address Signs is GCWC's main campaign. Normal address signs are often very difficult, if not impossible, to see in the dark or smoky conditions. GCWC is encouraging everyone to exchange their old signs for new Reflective Signs; it could be a matter of life or death in low visibility emergency situations. For more information on the Grand County Wildfire Council or to order a 9-1-1 Reflective Sign, contact...

Grand County Wildfire Council

Physical Address: 60500 US Hwy 40, Grand Fire Protection District #1, Granby, CO 80446

Phone: 970-887-3380

Email: bewildfireready@gmail.com

Website: www.bewildfireready.org



Middle Park Conservation District & Natural Resource Conservation Service

The Middle Park Conservation District (MPCD) and the Natural Resource Conservation District (NRCS) both work hand-in-hand ***to promote the wise use and sustainability of natural resources on private lands, including soil, water, plants, and animals.*** The Dust Bowl of the 1930s created a need for soil conservation and erosion prevention. As a result, the federal government created the Natural Resource Conservation Service (then called the Soil Conservation Service). The State of Colorado also made it possible for local conservation districts to be formed under the Colorado Soil Conservation Act; out of that came the Middle Park Conservation District in 1957. MPCD is officially a political subdivision of the State, whereas NRCS is an entity of the US Department of Agriculture. Nevertheless, MPCD and NRCS work together to serve our constituents through education, technical assistance, and financial aid programs. The district also sells grass and wildflower seed, tree seedlings and perennials, tire tanks, and polyacrylamide. For more information on MPCD or NRCS, contact them at their joint office....

Middle Park Conservation District & Natural Resources Conservation Service

Physical Address: 106 S. 2nd St, Kremmling, CO, 80459

Phone: 970-724-3456

Email: middleparkcd@gmail.com

Website: www.middleparkcd.com and www.nrcs.usda.gov

