

# SUMMER IS IN FULL SWING

Summer is in full swing and things are happening! Summer time is project time in our household. If you are in project mode as well and would like a bit of practical info and inspiration, then this issue is for you!



*Jennifer Thompson*

Chicken coops on wheels? If you are considering becoming a poultry owner, mobile chicken coops offer some great benefits. Our article **“What is a chicken tractor?”** gives you a plan for a 12-bird chicken coop that you can build for your own place.

If you are interested in growing vegetables, a raised bed may be in your future! These types of growing structures can solve a lot of problems we often face when raising vegetables in Wyoming, especially soil issues. Our article **“Raised beds make life easier for both vegetables and gardener”** makes it clear that building one of these beds is a relatively easy DIY project that can yield tasty rewards in the years ahead.

Energy consumption is a major expense in heated greenhouses. If you own a greenhouse or are planning on building one, **“A few tips to improve the energy efficiency of your greenhouse”** will give you some great ideas on keeping heat loss to a minimum and maximizing your production. If you haven't built a greenhouse yet, the sidebar on the **“Citrus in the Snow”** greenhouse near Alliance, Nebraska, will have you thinking about the earth's free temperature modulating power.

Considering getting a horse? Then you may be thinking projects. You'll need fencing and a shelter for your equine friend. **“Good fences make happy horses”** discusses what fence and shelter features are needed to keep your horse safe and happy.

Whatever happens this summer, if you live in an area susceptible to fire, be sure to visit our **“Wildfire”** section at [barnyardsandbackyards.com](http://barnyardsandbackyards.com), review your defensible space, implement needed projects, and prepare to quickly evacuate should the need arise.

Wishing you a productive and safe summer.