

It's what you don't see...



By Tom Heald

Someone passing by a cottonwood tree will admire the beauty but be unaware more than half of the tree is really underground. Without that tremendous support system, there would be no magnificent tree.

That's a great analogy to our efforts with *Barnyards&Backyards* magazine. It's not possible to show you all the great information we have made available in these pages. For that reason, we've developed the Web site www.barnyardsandbackyards.com with in-depth resources to assist you in

making land management decisions (see related article page 19). Check it out and see how easily information can be at your fingertips. Consider making it one of your "favorites" – it's one of ours!

This pool of resources comes from many Wyoming professionals, including the University of Wyoming Cooperative Extension Service (UW CES), Wyoming State Forestry Division, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Wyoming Resource Conservation and Development Councils, Wyoming Association of Conservation Districts, Audubon Wyoming, Wyoming Livestock Board, Wyoming Weed and Pest Council, and others. It is uniquely gratifying to have so many different organizations

working collaboratively in addressing your rural needs. Keep in mind our information is produced considering Wyoming residents and the unique challenges they face.

Winter in Wyoming can make us feel as if we live on a giant ice cube as we cope with the elements! But winter is also a time of reflection and planning. As you read this winter edition, think about how we can be of assistance. If you read an article that inspires you or want more information, phone or e-mail the author or me! We value your input. Unlike national Web sites or magazines, we truly are vested in making your Wyoming rural lifestyle successful and our rural landscapes sustainable. You can contact me at (307) 235-9400 or at theald@uwyo.edu.

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