Gunnison County Public Works Department

195 Basin Park Drive
Gunnison, CO 81230
Phone: 970-641-0044

TO: **Board of County Commissioners**
Matthew Birnie, County Manager

FROM: **Marlene Crosby** Marlene

DATE: **March 18, 2014**

SUBJECT: **Reclamation Permits**

Each year as part of the budget process we are asked to look at fees charged by our departments to make sure that we cover our costs to the extent possible. We have also been directed by the Board to work to streamline the permitting process for our customers as much as possible.

The Public Works Administrative Staff and the Community Development Department met to see what changes could be made in the permitting process and how we could facilitate communication between our departments. We will begin using Innoprise, which is the permit tracking system used by Community Development. We hope to have everything in place to scan documents and enter information within the next two weeks.

During that discussion we talked about generating access permits through the Community Development Department, but both departments acknowledged that they are complex and site specific so best handled by our department. That said, we will be doing some cross training so that Community Development can give preliminary approval to the location of the drive, unless there are problems, and then we will follow up with construction requirements. That will eliminate one trip to the site.

Over the past two years my staff and I have had a series of discussions about Reclamation Permits. My concerns include process, cost, and benefit. Currently when an applicant applies for any kind of permit they are asked to fill out a Reclamation Permit, or if the disturbance is under 2,000 square feet they fill out a request for a waiver. As part of the permit application they must provide site plans, etc. I have attached a copy of the permit and waiver for your review.

There is a $75.00 fee for a permit if the disturbance is under 10,000 square feet. If the disturbance is at or over 10,000 square feet the bond is $250.00 for the 10,000 square feet and $20.00 for each additional 1,000 square feet. Needless to say, those fees hardly pay for the cost of a good seed mix if we have to do the reclamation work. There is no charge for a waiver. After we are given the release from Community Development that everything is complete we send a copy of either the permit or the waiver to the Weed District.

A landowner is given two years to complete the reclamation work due to the short growing season. The reclamation includes reseeding and erosion control. At the end of

the two year period, or sooner if the permit holder makes a request, Jon makes a site visit to make sure that the appropriate reclamation has taken place. He then sends a letter to the permit holder either closing the permit or advising them of needed action. Since Jon took over the Weed Management position he has been making over 100 inspections a year trying to catch up after busy construction period and poor employee performance by his predecessor.

I pulled the permit numbers so that we could understand the time and budget impacts of these permits. In 2007 (the last busy season) there were 118 permits issued (20 of which required a bond) and 135 waivers. In 2013 there were 31 permits (5 of which required a bond) and 107 waivers. We estimate that between the departments there is a minimum of 10 hours staff time in each permit.

My concern is that the cost far exceeds the value. The permit does not provide us any authority that we do not have through State weed law and applicable County regulations. The amount of "bond" that we receive covers the cost of very little restoration or reclamation. Much of Jon's time that is occupied with paperwork would be better spent mapping or spraying. That is particularly true in the fall when he is trying to complete field inspections and spray for cheatgrass.

Currently property owners/contractors seldom see the Weed Coordinator at all. They often forget the permit is in existence until they receive the letter. We do not feel we are achieving the goal of increasing weed awareness for the short or long term.

I met with the Gunnison Basin Weed Commission on March 12th and have incorporated their suggestions into our proposal. **Staff would like to recommend the following changes:**

Eliminate Reclamation Permit waivers;

Eliminate Reclamation Permits if there is less than 10,000 square feet of disturbance;

For disturbance of 10,000 square feet or greater, charge a $150.00 permit fee and increase the "bond" amount to at least $500.00. Increase the additional 1,000 square foot incremental cost to at least $100.00 per unit.

In order to accommodate these changes without negative impacts the following would need to happen:

Provide Innoprise access to Jon Mugglestone which would allow him to check on permits that are being issued and any staff comments about the project. His level of awareness would be greater because he would even be aware of the smaller projects and could make note of them when he was in the area;

On a regular basis in the past the Public Works Department employees have had weed awareness trainings to help us learn to recognize noxious weeds so that our employees out in the field can help identify potential problem areas. If all of our employees and Community Development employees receive training there will be that many more sets of eyes looking at each project area without any extra trips.

Increase our attempt to educate property owners and contractors at the beginning of the project. The first permit issued (ISDS or Building Permit) will have the following items attached:

Noxious Weed Management Pocket Guide for Gunnison County
Reclaiming Land Disturbances

In addition to these two pamphlets which had been previously attached to the Reclamation Permit, Jon has prepared a letter that provides contact information for the Gunnison Conservation District, CSU and our Weed District. We want to encourage property owners/contractors to use the appropriate seed mix, particularly if they are adjacent to Federal or State land.

All applications for any activity that are within Sage-grouse occupied habitat will continue to be referred to the Wildlife Coordinator.

The impact to operating budgets of eliminating these permits (assuming that no permits were issued) would be $1,320.00 to the Weed District and $500.00 to the Public Works Department.

If you have any questions or would like additional information prior to Tuesday's meeting, please give me a call.

Thank you

Cc: Russ Forrest, Community Development Director
Jon Mugglestone, Weed Coordinator

RECLAMATION PERMIT APPLICATION

Distribute Copies To:
Applicant
Permit Files
Permit Files/Final
Building Inspector
Public Works Department

WEED COMMISSION
P.O. BOX 915
GUNNISON, CO 81230
(970) 641-4393

PUBLIC WORKS DEPT.
195 BASIN PARK DRIVE
GUNNISON, CO 81230
(970) 641-0044

Permit No. _____

OWNER NAME: _____

OWNER ADDRESS: _____

_____

OWNER TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

CONTRACTOR'S NAME/PHONE #: _____

PHYSICAL/LEGAL ADDRESS OF PROPERTY BEING PERMITTED: _____

_____

TYPE OF WORK (check all that apply for your project)

- ☐ Road/Driveway – total square feet of disturbance minus the driving surface: _____
- ☐ New Home – total square feet of disturbance minus footprint of the house: _____
- ☐ Utilities (water, sewer, septic, leach field, phone, cable, etc.) - total square feet: _____
- ☐ Other – Description _____ and total square feet: _____

TOTAL SQUARE FEET OF DISTURBANCE: _____

TWO (2) SITE PLANS, PLAT MAPS AND LOCATION MAPS MUST ACCOMPANY THIS PERMIT

The applicant shall furnish all labor and materials, perform all work, and pay all costs in connection with the requirements of this permit. **The permittee agrees that permittee shall pay Gunnison County's costs and attorney's fees for enforcement of the requirements of this permit. The permittee shall have the vegetation established and growing within two years (730 days) of the issue date of the Reclamation Permit. Reclamation work will be completed within _____ days of the issue date of the permit.**

Comments: _____

THIS PROPERTY IS _____IN / _____NOT IN SAGE-GROUSE OCUPIED HABITAT: _____

Fee: This application must be accompanied by a $75.00 non refundable permit fee.

Financial Security Deposit: If the total square footage of disturbance for the project is 10,000 square feet or greater the applicant must submit a financial security deposit to be held as a guarantee that the applicant performs reclamation to the satisfaction of Gunnison County. The deposit shall be held for at least two years from the date the permit is issued and will be released only if the applicant performs reclamation to the satisfaction of Gunnison County. If the applicant requires an extension, it must be approved by the County Weed Coordinator and the original deposit shall be held until such time the project has been reclaimed to the satisfaction of Gunnison County. This deposit does not limit or release the applicant's obligation to control noxious weeds or to reclaim the site. The financial security deposit amount is based on the following schedule:

Initial 10,000 square feet	$ 250.00	Total Deposit: _____
Each additional 1,000 square feet	$ 20.00	

Permit granted this _____ day of _____, 20____, subject to the provisions, specifications and conditions stipulated herein.

Applicant or Applicant's Representative

_____

Signature **Date**

Application and Reclamation Plan Approved:

_____

Weed Coordinator **Date**

Application Fee		**Security Deposit**		**Final Inspection**		**Security Released**	
Paid:	_____	Paid:	_____	Date:	_____	Date:	_____
Date:	_____	Date:	_____	Inspected By:	_____	By Whom:	_____
Cash/Check:	_____	Cash/Check:	_____	Approved By:	_____	To Whom:	_____
Rec'd By:		Rec'd By:					

Reclamation Permit Application

EXHIBIT A

Legal Description of Property Being Permitted:_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Comments:_____

_____

PLEASE ATTACH A LOCATION MAP FOR PARCEL

EXHIBIT B

Description of Site (Including Slopes, Soil Type, Current Vegetation):_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Comments:_____

_____

Reclamation Permit Application

EXHIBIT C

Reclamation Plan: All disturbed areas shall be reclaimed with **two (2) years** of the issue date of the permit. Disturbed areas shall include but not be limited to: utility lines, septic and leach field, driveway, (excluding the road surface), and the building envelope (excluding the footprint(s) of structures).

As much as reasonably possible, disturbed areas are to be planted with vegetation such as desirable grasses, forbs, shrubs, and trees in order to stabilize the site and support the planned post-disturbance land use, stabilize soil, reduce damage from sediment and runoff to down stream areas, prevent the spread of noxious week species, improve wildlife habitat, improve livestock forage, and protect and enhance surrounding natural resources.

RECLAMATION OF:

Driveway Barrow Pits:

Grasses _____ Wildflowers_____ Trees _____

Other _____ Explain:_____

Building Envelope(s):

Lawn _____ Grasses _____ Wildflowers_____ Trees _____

Other _____ Explain:_____

Septic and Leach Field:

Grasses _____ Wildflowers_____ Lawn _____

Other _____ Explain:_____

Utility Lines:

Grasses _____ Wildflowers_____ Lawn _____

Other _____ Explain:_____

Miscellaneous Disturbances (Explain):

Grasses _____ Wildflowers_____ Lawn _____

Other _____ Explain:_____

Comments:_____

_____

Reclamation Standards and Guidelines

I. Introduction:

The policy setting forth land reclamation in Gunnison County is the Gunnison County Board of Commissioners Resolution Series 1998 NO. 13.

Any development, or land use change defined and/or regulated by the Gunnison County Land Use Resolution, the Gunnison County Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction, or the Uniform Building Code, as adopted by the Board of Commissioners of Gunnison County, and which results in road cutting and/or construction, homesite clearing and berm construction shall, **within two (2) calendar years** of the date of the issuance of any applicable permit, be required to reclaim the affected site in compliance with a Site Reclamation Plan approved by the Gunnison Basin Weed Coordinator. Such plan shall, at a minimum, be required to address the following:

Site Reclamation. The site should be sufficiently stable and satisfactory to establish vegetation to reduce erosion and sedimentation. Slopes shall be stabilized using reshaping and earthwork measures, including proper placement of soils and other materials. The topography should be sloped to a configuration suitable for the post-disturbance land use, be esthetically pleasing, and blend with the surrounding undisturbed terrain. Appropriate water courses and drainage features shall be established and stabilized.

Vegetation is rarely satisfactory on slopes steeper than 2:1 (50 percent). Slopes should be this steep only where the natural terrain or some other limitation prohibits further reduction. Plant performances are adequate for conservation protection on 3:1 (33 percent) slopes but is superior on slopes that are less steep.

Where revegetation is impractical or inconsistent with the surrounding undisturbed areas, other forms of surface stabilization shall be used.

Disturbed areas shall be planted with vegetation such as desirable grasses, forbs, shrubs, and trees in order to stabilize the site and support the planned post-disturbance land use. Reclamation stabilizes soil, reduces sediment load in runoff, prevents the spread of noxious weeds, and protects and/or enhances surrounding natural resources.

Slash Around Homes. To avoid insects, diseases, and wildfire hazards, all vegetative residue, slashings, branches, limbs, stumps, roots, or other such flammable lot-clearing debris shall be disposed of from around homesite areas by either chipping or removal prior to final building inspection approval. Homesite areas shall include all areas of the lot in which such materials are generated or deposited.

Removal of Debris. All stumps, and other tree parts, litter, brush, weeds, excess or scrap building materials or other debris should be removed from the site and disposed of in compliance with requirements of the Gunnison City tree dump or Gunnison County Landfill, or by other means in compliance with applicable regulation. All dead or dying trees should be removed from the site, unless those trees are to be retained for wildlife habitat or fire wood, upon recommendation of the Colorado Division of Wildlife or the Colorado State Forest Service. If trees and limbs are reduced to chips, they may be used as mulch in landscaped areas.

Reclamation Standards

I. Site Stability

A. The reclaimed area shall be stable and exhibit none of the following characteristics:

1. Large rills or gullies.
2. Perceptible soil movement or head cutting in drainages.
3. Slope instability on or adjacent to the reclaimed area.

B. Slopes shall be stabilized using appropriate reshaping and earthwork measures, including proper placement of soils and other materials.

C. Appropriate water courses and drainage features shall be established and stabilized.

II. Water Management

The quality and integrity of affected ground and surface waters shall be protected as a part of reclamation activities in accordance with applicable Federal and State requirements.

A. Appropriate hydrologic practices shall be used to protect, and, if practical, enhance both the quality and quantity of impacted waters.

B. Actions shall be taken to eliminate ground water contamination.

C. Waste disposal practices shall be designed and conducted to provide for long-term ground and surface water protection.

If water areas are to be a part of the reclaimed area, they should be planned for a specific purpose before the land is disturbed. Such areas do not justify reducing the amount of reclamation required. They may be the only source of livestock water or may be planned for recreation or wildlife. A permit may be required for water areas and for diverted drainage patterns.

III. Soil Management

Top soil shall be salvaged from areas to be disturbed and managed for later use in reclamation.

IV. Erosion Prevention

The surface area disturbed at any one time during the development of a project shall be kept to the minimum necessary and the disturbed areas reclaimed as soon as is practical to prevent unnecessary or undue degradation resulting from erosion.

A. The soil surface must be stable and have adequate surface roughness to reduce run-off, capture rainfall and snow melt, and allow for revegetation.

B. Application of certified noxious weed free mulch or erosion netting may be necessary to reduce surface soil movement, retain soil moisture, and promote revegetation.

C. Soil conservation measures, including surface manipulation, reduction in slope angle, revegetation, and water management techniques, shall be used.

D. Sediment retention structures or devices shall be located as close to the source of sediment generating activities as possible to increase their effectiveness and reduce environmental impacts.

V. Revegetation

When the final landform is achieved, the surface shall be stabilized by vegetation or other means as soon as practical to reduce further soil erosion from wind or water, provide forage and cover, and reduce visual impacts. Specific criteria for evaluating revegetation success must be site-specific and included as a part of the reclamation plan.

A. Vegetation production, species diversity, and cover, shall support the post-disturbance land use. Areas where the post-disturbance land use does not include lawns, gardens, and flower beds; shall approximate the surrounding undisturbed area or be revegetated to a desired plant community with a composition of species and plant cover typical to that site.

B. The vegetation shall stabilize the site and support the planned post-disturbance land use, provide natural plant community succession and development, and be capable of renewing itself. This shall be demonstrated by :

1. Using certified noxious weed free seed.
2. Successful onsite establishment of the species included in the planting mixture and/or other desirable species.
3. Evidence of vegetation reproduction, either spreading by rhizomatous species or seed production.
4. Evidence of overall site stability and sustainability.

C. The revegetation plan shall provide for the greatest probability of success in plant establishment and vegetation development by considering environmental factors such as seasonal patterns of precipitation, temperature and wind; soil texture and fertility; slope stability; and direction of slope faces.

D. To insure the establishment of a diverse and long-lasting vegetative cover, the permitee shall employ appropriate techniques of site preparation and protection. Species

diversity should be selected for long-term land uses and to provide for a reduction in visual contrast.

E. Where revegetation is to be used, a diversity of vegetation species shall be used that are capable of supporting the post-disturbance land use. Species planted shall include those that will provide for quick soil stabilization, provide litter and nutrients for soil building and are self-renewing.

F. Integrated Weed Management (IWM) methods shall be employed for all noxious weed species on the State and Gunnison County lists. Weed control methods shall also be used whenever the inhabitation of the reclaimed area by noxious weeds threaten nearby areas.

G. Where revegetation is impractical or inconsistent with the surrounding undisturbed areas, other forms of surface stabilization shall be used.

Contact Adena Green, Gunnison County Weed Coordinator, at 970-641-4393 for information on weeds, weed management, and reclamation.

Contact John Scott, Natural Resources Conservation Service, at 970-641-0494 or Joe Brummer, Mountain Meadow Research Center, at 970-641-2515 for seeding recommendations.

VI. Revegetation Considerations for Fire Safety on Forested Homesites

Improper landscaping can greatly increase the risk of structure and property damage from wildfire. Special consideration should be given to revegetation planning on the down hill side of a home site. Vegetative clearance around the house (defensible space) is the primary determinant of a home's ability to survive wildfire.

A. Consider placing a 3 foot gravel barrier around the house to protect from fire.

B. Grasses-Plant low growing grasses close to the house. Mow grasses low around the house and garage, as well as around out buildings, decks, firewood piles, propane tanks, shrubs, and specimen trees with low-growing branches.

C. Wildflowers-Wildflowers can form tall, dense areas of available fuel, especially in dormancy. Plant wildflowers in widely separated beds within the defensible space to mitigate fire hazard. Do not plant directly adjacent to structures unless the beds are frequently irrigated and vegetation promptly removed after the first hard frost.

D. Shrubs-Plant low-growing, non-resinous varieties close to structures. Do not plant directly beneath windows or vents, or where they might spread under wooden decks. Do not plant shrubs under tree crowns, or use them to screen propane tanks, firewood piles, or other flammable materials. Plant shrubs individually, as specimens, or in small clumps apart from each other, and away from any trees within the defensible space.

E. Trees-Carefully consider the placement of trees when planting. Do not plant trees near structures. Allow plenty of room between trees, and consider the growth potential of

each species. Spacing within the defensible space should be at least 10 feet between the edges of tree crowns.

VII. Wildfire Safety Guidelines on Forested Homesites

Most forested homesites contain an over abundance of trees. Trees like all plants need adequate room to grow. Forests which are too dense are prone to insect, disease and wildfire hazards. To reduce the threat of wildfire, trees and shrubs should be thinned and pruned as described in the Service in Action Sheet, Forestry - Creating Wildfire Defensible Zones.
To reduce wildfire hazards, all vegetative residue, slashings, branches, limbs, stumps, roots, or other such flammable lot-clearing debris on site, as a result of construction, shall be disposed of.

To reduce wildfire hazards around the property after construction, the homeowner should do the following:

Thin trees
Trim the limbs on large trees around the homesite to a 10 foot height
Reduce ladder fuels (Shrubs or small trees located under larger trees)

Methods of debris disposal for the three zones of fire safety surrounding a homesite or subdivision are: See Forestry - Creating Wildfire Defensible Zones.

Zone 1 - Chipping and/or removal of all slash

Zone 2 - Piling and burn later with 6 inches minimum snow cover.

Zone 3 - Lop and scatter pieces, measuring less than 18 inches, to decompose. Debris in Zones 1 and 2 may be moved to Zone 3 and disposed of in the manner described for Zone 3.

Contact Brian Ayers or Joel Stewart, Colorado State Forest Service, at 970-641-6852 for further information on defensible space, trees, shrubs, and fire safety.

VIII. Visual Resources

To the extent practicable, the reclaimed landscape should have characteristics that approximate or are compatible with the visual quality of the adjacent area with regard to location, scale, shape, color, and orientation of major landscape features.

IX. Site Protection

During and following reclamation activities the permitee is responsible for monitoring and, if necessary, protecting the reclaimed land to help ensure reclamation success until the liability and bond are released.

X. Site Specific Standards

All site-specific standards must be met in order for the site to be properly and adequately reclaimed.

APPENDIX A

Planting Guidelines

Planning

1. Land slopes should not exceed 50% (2:1) and should be flatter where feasible and practicable.

2. Soils must have sufficient depth and potential fertility to support the type of vegetation to be established.

3. Materials that interfere with planting must be removed.

4. Runoff water from the site or adjacent areas must be controlled to prevent serious erosion and damage to the planting.

Topsoil

High priority should be given to salvaging the surface materials. The soil materials should be applied uniformly over the surface to a minimum depth of 6 to 8 inches. Topsoil transported into the area should be from a noxious weed free source.

Seedbed Preparation

The seedbed should be settled and firm, but friable enough that seed can be placed at the specified seeding depths. Competitive stands of weeds that are present before seeding must be controlled prior to planting.

Over-compacted soils should be tilled to break up rooting restrictive layers and then packed to prepare the required firm seedbed.

Seeding Methods

1. Seed can be planted with a drill on slopes of 33% (3:1) or flatter.

2. Seed may be broadcast by hand, by mechanical spreader, or by hydraulic equipment on areas that are small, too steep, or not accessible for seed-drill operations. This guideline does not provide for hydraulic application of seed and mulch in a single operation.

Seeding Depth

1. Seed planted with a drill should be covered with soil to a depth of ¼ to ¾ inch.

2. Seed planted by broadcasting should be incorporated into the surface soil, not to exceed a depth of ¾ inch, by raking or other method.

Time of Seeding

Timing is dependent upon the seeding recommendation. Contact John Scott, Natural Resource Conservation Service, at 970-641-0494 or Joe Brummer, Mountain Meadow Research Center, at 970-641-2515 for information on time of seeding.

Rate of Seeding

Contact John Scott, Natural Resource Conservation Service, at 970-641-0494 or Joe Brummer, Mountain Meadow Research Center, at 970-641-2515 for information on rate of seeding.

Mulching

Straw and/or hay used for mulch, must be certified noxious weed free. A hydromulch can be applied to the area after the seed has been drilled in or broadcast. On steep slopes where crimping is not possible, jute matting (biodegradable mesh) may be used as a mulch over the newly seeded area.

Water Areas

If water areas are to be a part of the reclaimed area, they should be planned for a specific purpose before the land is disturbed. Such areas do not justify reducing the amount of reclamation required. They may be the only source of livestock water or may be planned for recreation or wildlife. A permit may be required for water areas and for diverted drainage patterns.

Temporary Cover Crop

Temporary cover crops provide protection and a firm seedbed for the grasses. A temporary cover crop will also stabilize the soil until the grasses become established.

Weed Control

Annual weeds and grasses, and noxious weeds compete with seeded desirable plant species resulting in poor seedling establishment. Weeds must be managed to enable revegetated sites to succeed.
Please contact Adena Green, Gunnison County Weed Coordinator, at 970-641-4393 for further information on weeds and weed management.

RECLAMATION PERMIT WAIVER

(TO BE COMPLETED IF THE TOTAL SQUARE FOOTAGE OF DISTURBANCE IS LESS THAN 2.000 SQUARE FEET)

WEED COMMISSION
P.O. Box 915
Gunnison, CO 81230
(970) 641-4393

PUBLIC WORKS DEPT.
195 Basin Park Drive
Gunnison, CO 81230
(970)641-0044

No Fee Required

OWNER NAME:_____

OWNER MAILING ADDRESS: _____

_____

OWNER TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

CONTRACTOR'S NAME & PHONE #:_____

PHYSICAL & LEGAL ADDRESS OF PROPERTY:_____

_____

TYPE OF WORK (check all that apply)

☐ Road/Driveway – total square feet of disturbance **minus** square feet of driving surface_____

☐ New Home – total square feet of disturbance **minus** square feet of house _____

☐ Utilities (Septic, Leach Fields, Electric, Gas, Cable TV, etc) total square footage _____

☐ Other – description and total square footage_____

TOTAL SQUARE FEET OF DISTURBANCE: _____

The applicant must submit two (2) complete site plans and two (2) location maps with this waiver application. Waiver granted subject to the provisions, specifications and conditions stipulated herein. The permittee agrees that permitte shall pay Gunnison County's costs and attorney's fees for enforcement of the requirements of this permit. The permittee shall have the vegetation established and growing within two years of the issue date of this Reclamation Permit Waiver.

Owner's, or Owner's Representative Signature:

_____ **Date**

Waiver Approved By:

_____
Marlene D. Crosby **Date**
Public Works Director

GUNNISON COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT USE ONLY

This completed waiver with required attachments was received in the Public Works Office: _____

This waiver has been issued for the following reason(s):

1. Agricultural Operations _____
2. Total disturbance will be under 2,000 square feet _____
3. Existing – No new disturbance _____
4. Subdivision Mandated Landscaping _____

   Subdivision Name: _____

5. Other - _____

THIS PROPERTY IS _____IN / _____ NOT IN SAGE-GROUSE OCCUPIED HABITAT: _____

Special Conditions or Comments: _____

_____

Gunnison County
COLORADO

Gunnison Watershed Weed Commission
PO Box 915, Gunnison, CO 81230
Phone: 970-641-4393 Fax: 970-641-0653
www.gunnisoncounty.org/public_works_weed_district.html

Dear Property Owner and/or Project Manager,

As your project begins, please take a few minutes to read through the attached brochures regarding reclamation and noxious weed control. As you plan for reclamation and stewardship of your project site following construction, we hope this information will be useful to you.

Reclamation and re-vegetation of your project site following construction will play a very important role in ensuring soil stability, preventing sediment runoff to waterways and preventing the spread of noxious weeds. Thank you for your work to ensure that your property's impacts on the ecosystem of which it is a part remain positive.

Please be aware that there are numerous agencies and departments that can provide you with site-specific assistance and information about reclamation, erosion control, re-vegetation, landscaping and noxious weed management. Please feel free to contact any of the following if we can help you to ensure the success of your stewardship efforts on your project site.

- The Gunnison Conservation District provides information and assistance about reclamation and re-vegetation, erosion and noxious weed control and many other land management issues. The Conservation District also supplies site-appropriate seed mixes for re-vegetation and products for management of noxious weeds.
  Phone: (970) 642-4461
  Website: http://gunnisonconservationdistrict.info/
- The Gunnison County Weed Management Program provides information about weed control and re-vegetation, and will gladly visit with you on your project site to help you develop noxious weed management and reclamation plans.
  Phone: (970) 641-4393
  Website: http://www.gunnisoncounty.org/171/Weed-Management
- CSU Extension of Gunnison County provides research-based information and educational programs regarding plant selection and landscaping, weed management, site reclamation and many other land-management issues.
  Phone: (970) 641-1260
  Website: http://www.gunnison.colostate.edu/

Please let us know if we can provide any assistance or information that may be useful to you and thank you for your efforts to practice good stewardship on your project site.