

Conservation

The GFWC Conservation Community Service Program is designed for members to gain an appreciation for our environment. Through preservation, maintenance, and restoration of our natural resources, it strives to educate members about the importance of beautifying our communities; preserving, maintaining, and restoring natural resources; and stimulating citizen action to address these concerns. Our natural resources include, but are not limited to, water, trees, plants, air, land, and wildlife.

Co-Chairwoman:

Barbara/Bev/Cheri

Committee Members:

Harriet, Judy, Karen

Committee Members: Jan, Karin Green, Karen, Tamise, Erin, **Barb H**

Conservation Education Programs - educate members about the importance of beautifying our communities; preserving, maintaining, and restoring natural resources; and stimulating citizen action to address these concerns. One goal is to pick up litter around the Billings area. January was an information and safety presentation about the Grizzly Bear, a North American subspecies of the Brown Bear. Lucky's Grocery – Take bags back for 10 cents or for non-profit organizations.

Earth Month - The month of April encourages members to use the 10 r's. The theme was "Return to Nature". The 10-r's of sustainability to the fullest: Respect, reuse, reduce, refuse, renew, recycle, responsibility, rethink, replant, and restore. You can refill an 8-ounce glass of water 15,000 times for the same cost as a 6-pack of soda pop.

Recycled Greeting Cards – St. Jude's Ranch for Children recycles your used greeting cards and creates new holiday and all-occasion greeting cards. Recycled cards are sold to support our programs and services for abused, neglected and homeless children, young adults and families - Members were encouraged to save used cards that were sent St Jude's to be made into new cards by children at the ranch.

Animal Care and Welfare – Members contributed items for the three Billings animal shelters: BARK, Homeless Pets and Yellowstone County Animal Shelter. Items donated were cat litter, dog and cat food, blankets, towels, food bowls, toys and cash.

ZooMontana - We are sending the Zoo \$1,000 for Education Programs and \$800 for balls for animal play. A guest speaker informed members about the gardens at the zoo.

Arbor Day – trees were planted at Boulder School and students listened to an Arbor Day presentation.

Kind News - Created just for kids, *Kind News* is a magazine for children in grades K-6. Issued bimonthly in three different reading levels, *Kind News*

Audubon Society – Nature education

Ronald McDonald House – recycle pull tabs to help pay for the upkeep of the house

Cell Phones for Soldiers –a donation drive to help our Heroes call home

