

April 10, 2026



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One Free Copy

VOLUME LIV, NUMBER 52 • Circulation 28,080 • Serving Northern Idaho, Western Montana & Spokane Valley

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**GARDENING
SPECIAL ISSUE
PAGES 9-24**

MQS Page 4

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**NOXIOUS WEED
CONTROL Pg. 12**

Page 15

**Mower Tune-Up
Special! This month!**

HANDHELDS

~~\$69.99~~ **\$49.99** plus parts

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TNT CONCRETE LLC. Serving Kootenai and Bonner Counties. Residential only: Specializing in stamped concrete, exposed concrete, broom, and slick finish. Shops, walkways, driveways, back patios, front porches, and add-ons. 208-660-4269

HUSQVARNA Lawnmower, self-propelled, Briggs & Stratton 175cc engine, \$275. Purcell pellet stove pellets, 50 lb. bags, \$4 each. 1950s kitchen table, 36"x60" with leaf, \$200. 208-660-2667, Athol, ID

HUCKLEBERRIES \$50 gallon. 1972 Sportster, new paint job, was running when we parked it. Bird baths and feeders. Wind chimes. Fresh eggs. And more. Call anytime, 208-755-1969

3Cs ANNUAL CHARITY Fashion Show. Join Cancer & Community Charities "3Cs" Saturday, 4/11/26, at its Annual Fashion Show. Doors open at 10:30am. For tickets, go to www.3cscda.com or call Judy at 208-664-4604, Kootenai County

HAYDEN GARAGE SALE. Saturday, April 11th, 7am-1pm only. 12844 N. Pebble Creek Dr. Camping, fishing, household appliances, furniture, clothing, DVDs, CDs, books, plus many other household items in good condition. Some free stuff too!

PLACE YOUR AD

208-667-0651 or nickelsworth.com
Use the Mail-In Ad Form on page 21
Please have ads in by Weds. at 3pm

107 N. 5th St. / PO Box 2048
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

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Doors open at 9:00 am



www.ipff.net

April 18th • Elks Lodge, Wallace, ID

Featuring North Idaho's own
Silent Film Star Nell Shipman

with panelists Gwyn Hervochon, BSU professor
and Virginia Bogert, Seattle WIF

And excerpts from the makers of Train Dreams
(nominated for 4 Academy Awards!)

Q&A with the cast and crew of We F.E.W.

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LeafFilter Gutter Protection

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*Promotional offer includes 15% off plus an additional 10% off for qualified veterans and/or seniors. Cannot be combined with any other offers. One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. See representative for full warranty details. AR 366920925, AZ ROC 344027, CA 1036795, CT HIC067620, DC 420223E-H1, FL CBO056678, IA C127230, ID RCE-51904, LA 559544, MA 213292, MD MHIC11225, HI H164488, MI 262300351, 262300350, 262300352, 262300353, 262300354, 262300355, 262300356, 262300357, MN IR810524, MT 2691922, ND 47304, NE 50145-24, 50146-23, NJ 124-H12280002, NM 4036952, NV 869890, OR 2625294, PA PA179643, RI GC-41254, TN 10369, UT 10703559-5501, VA 270369445, VT 144000871, WA LEAFILH-763PG, WI No. 037-DCFRR WV W05692.

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HOURS
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9:30-6pm
Friday & Saturday
11-4pm
Sunday & Monday
CLOSED

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WE COUNT and BUY CLAD U.S. COIN (5% processing fee)

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1107 E. Sherman Ave. Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814
SpartacusCoinsBullion.com • OPEN SATURDAYS



ERICKSON CONCRETE & Masonry LLC. Over 40 years experience. Stone, brick, block, cement, stamped concrete, fireplaces, chimney repair, veneer, patios, outdoor kitchens, columns, etc. Call for a free estimate! 208-889-9690

"CLEAR VIEW" 1" chlorine tabs, 10 lbs., new, \$40. 208-920-0039

CHATTAROY BEAST SIZE Sale of tools, automotive, and more. Super prices on wide range of new and used tools for every project. Power, pneumatic, single items, sets, toolboxes, etc. Seriously, way too much to list! Bring a cart and cash, you'll need it. If that doesn't spark your interest (also for sale): 2 tractors, backhoe, plow truck, box truck, small boat hull. 9am-4pm Saturday-Sunday 4/11-4/12, 25819 N. Perry Circle

PRIEST RIVER MOVING sale, 7226 Spirit Lake Cutoff. All must go: Furniture, canning equipment, gardening supplies, tools, king bed, golf cart, and much more. 9am-3pm, Saturday-Sunday, 4/11-4/12

OLD CAST-IRON Clawfoot tub. Needs refinishing, in good shape, \$250. Four tires, driven 150 miles, came off new car, no rims, Yokohama 225/65R17, \$225. Phone: 256-617-0783, Post Falls

RATHDRUM: GUNS, ammunition, gun accessories. Poker table, coolers, patio furniture, treadmill, home decor and lots of misc. Cash only. 8am-6pm Thursday-Saturday, 4/9-4/11, no early birds, 13995 Lauren Loop

THULE BIKE RACK, HITCH mounted, holds 3-4 bikes, gently used, good condition, \$75. Call or text 208-661-5771, Post Falls

8-PIECE SECTIONAL, 4 armless chairs, 2 corners, 2 ottomans, gray corduroy, \$400. 208-920-0039

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www.ziggys.com

THE GREATER SPOKANE DOLL & TOY CLUB
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 Featuring Modern, Vintage & Antique Dolls, Bears, Miniatures, Toys & More

Saturday, April 18th • 10am - 3pm
 Country Homes Christian Church
 8415 N. Wall Street, Spokane

Admission: \$7 adult

Find more information on Facebook:
 Visit tinyurl.com/2tr342v

Garage Sales and Miscellaneous

POST FALLS MASSIVE Sewing and Craft Estate Sale! Miss JoAnn's Fabric Store? Stop by on Thursday to Saturday, April 9th, 10th and 11th, from 9am to 2pm! We have countless fabrics and hundreds of buttons, ribbons, trims, yarn, patterns, and thread, among others. There are various and myriad craft supplies for every holiday, as well as books for sewing, crafts and medicine. We also have furniture, frames, lots of flea market items such as aprons, bib, potholders, men's ties, eyeglasses holders, skirts, and much, much more! Don't miss out and visit Immaculate Conception Church basement at 606 5th Ave.



FRIGIDAIRE DISHWASHER
 A bit older but only used 3 years then carefully stored after a move. Looks brand new, not fancy but works great, \$100. See additional pictures online at nickelsworth.com. Call or text 208-661-5771, Post Falls

BUY, SELL, OR TRADE old coins, gold, silver and jewelry at Northwest Coin and Jewelry Shop. 116 E. Wyoming Ave., Hayden, ID. Open seven days a week, 986-215-5018

HAYDEN MINI SALE. Jewelry, toys, records, books, vests, coats, glassware, and more, \$5 and under. 1621 W. Hayden, 9am-4pm Thursday-Friday, 4/9-4/10

CDA ESTATE SALE. Thursday, Friday, Saturday, April 9th, 10th and 11th. 2103 W. Canyon Dr. Don't miss this massive estate sale featuring the combined contents of three households in one location. This is a large, full sale with an excellent mix of furniture, household goods, garage items, decor, kitchenware, toys, vintage pieces, books and more. You'll find a broad selection including furniture, tools, home decor, seasonal decorations, vintage treasures, children's toys, lamps, kitchen tools, small appliances, dishes, cookware, and many additional household items. There is a little of everything, from useful everyday basics to fun and unexpected finds. Great for families, collectors, bargain hunters, resellers, first-home shoppers and anyone who enjoys a true treasure-hunt sale. With the volume and variety of items coming from 3 separate households, this is a sale you'll want to shop early and allow extra time to browse. Conducted by Orchard Ridge Senior Living Estate Sale Volunteers to benefit the non-profit assisted living facility. Must bring own help for large purchases



YOU CALL, WE HAUL! WE specialize in clean-outs, junk removal, light demolition, yard debris removal and more; serving Kootenai County. Call IDAHAUL at 208-446-8054

Weekly SUDOKU

					2		
			7	6			9
6		8	2			3	
9	7		5			2	
3			6	8			
	5				3	7	
5	8		2	9		4	
	2	4		8		5	3
	3	9			5	8	

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
 ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

2006 25' SAFARI Airstream, 75th Anniversary model. Roof is refurbished, new fantastic fans, new skylight, and new flooring. Excellent condition! \$42,000. 208-818-1746 or 208-818-4236



WE BUY JEWELRY! GOLD rings, necklaces, bracelets, diamonds, gems, scrap gold and silver, vintage and antique costume jewelry, pocket and wrist watches, silver Native American, silverware, knives, forks, spoons and other. Cash paid, I come to you. 208-660-2889

YOUR FRIENDLY LOCAL free classified paper since 1972: the Nickel's Worth

WILHELM'S CREATIVE Home Renovations, LLC. Contractor license #1871997. Happy to help you with spring projects, handyman services, remodels, additions, custom decks, doors, windows, trim work, new construction. Over 30 years experience. Post Falls native. Home of the "Call today, get your estimate today." Also buying mobile homes and distressed properties. Cash today. I'll make you an honest offer, no BS. When you're ready please give me a call: 208-625-8733 or 208-582-1666

Musical Instruments & Instruction

TWO NEW MUSICAL instruments: Palatino violin, brand new, complete with nylon case strings, bell and all accessories. Etude trumpet, brand new, ETR-200 Series, hard case and music book with CDs. \$200 each, call Tim at 814-312-0470, CdA



Foster ♥ Adopt ♥ Support
CDA HUGE COMMUNITY Yard Sale and Adoption Event! All proceeds benefit RescueLove, a 501(c)3 saving the lives of at-risk dogs. Furniture, clothing, pet items, vendors, nail trims/ chipping/ baths and more! 1pm-4pm only, Sunday 4/19 at 2890 N. Government Way

HENRY'S



COUNTRY STORE

HENRY'S COUNTRY Store is now open in Oldtown, ID. We carry regional and gourmet foods, as well as a wide variety of unique kitchen, home, and bath essentials. Henry's has old-time country store vibes and aims to give shoppers a fun and nostalgic experience. Come visit us today at 54 Selkirk Way, Ste. B in Oldtown, Idaho. Open Monday-Saturday, 9am-5pm. Call us at 208-437-3680 or visit our website: henrys.countrystore.com

Priest River Animal Rescue's 2026 Spring Fling
SILENT ITEM and LIVE DESSERT AUCTION DINNER FUNDRAISER
Saturday, April 18th, 4pm-8pm
 Stratton Elementary School • 1201 W. 5th St., Newport, WA
Tickets: \$25 each, available online at tinyurl.com/yc7nbpak or at Critters Thrift Store, 5538 Hwy 2, Priest River, ID

Dinner provided by **Truck-N Delicious** Live music by **Popeye Rose Social Club**

All proceeds from this event go directly to our Building Fund

NEW TRUCKLOAD OF Hollon safes. Come get yours now while they're hot! Country Lock & Key, Post Falls, Hayden, and CdA. 208-772-4091

LOOKING TO BUY US Coins pre-1963, coins graded and ungraded. Also buying gold and silver. Call Mike at 801-808-0343. I also buy guns. CdA, ID

Oldtown Flea Market
--- Buy • Sell • Barter • Yard Sales ---
Open 9am-5pm Friday, Saturday & Sunday, May 1st thru Sept 30th!
 1332 Highway 2, Oldtown, Idaho • On Google & Facebook
 10x10 spaces • \$10 per day • Sign-up is on Thursday
 208-946-8226 or 208-946-1514
 We will have our vendor Jack with guns & ammo all month!

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Nickel's Worth Publishing

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ANNUAL Craft Fair

April
11th & 12th
Saturday & Sunday
10am-4pm both days

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Good Food, Fun & Crafts

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Questions?
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425-350-8579

High School Musical, Jr. at Circle Moon Theater

— Northwoods Performing Arts —



The Mountain Harmony Show Choir and Northwoods Performing Arts present their annual youth show, this year entitled *High School, Jr. Musical*. Under the direction of Nina Pletsch, *High School* features two popular teens auditioning for East High's spring musical and is a nostalgic romp as they navigate the ins and outs of high school drama.

High School performances are scheduled on April 16th-18th and April 23rd-25th with tickets for dinner show or show only, and special pricing for seniors and children. Doors open at 5:30pm, dining service begins at 6:30pm, and the curtain opens at 7:30pm. The final performance on the 25th is a matinee with doors open at 2pm; no meal is served.

Menus are provided by: Mi Pueblo Restaurant (April 16th, beef enchiladas); Country Snack Shack (April 17th, beef tips); HooRay's Catering (April 18th, beef ragu lasagna); Owens Catering (April 23rd, fried chicken); and Owens Catering (April 24th, country fried steak).

For tickets, call 208-448-1294, visit: northwoodsperformingarts.com, or at Seeber's Pharmacy in Newport, WA.

Produced by special arrangement and music supplied by Music Theatre International, New York, NY. The book is by David Simpatico, music adapted by Bryan Louiselle, and is based on a Disney Channel Movie written by Peter Barsocchini.

You'll be laughing, singing and cheering throughout the familiar drama of cliquish high school all the way! Circle Moon Theater is on Highway 211, 3.5 miles north of Highway 2.

Community Calendar

St. Maries Annual Spring Clean-Up, Saturday, April 11th, 8am-1pm. Volunteers meet at Blue Goose Sporting Goods, 621 Hwy 5, St. Maries to begin at 8am. Bags and gloves will be provided. Rain or shine; even 30 minutes of time will be appreciated for a town clean-up.

Courtesy of Coeur d'Alene Insider, cdainsider.com

WATER DAMAGE cleanup and restoration: A small amount of water can lead to major damage in your home. Our trusted professionals do repairs to protect your family and home value! 833-887-0117. Have zip code ready!

ATTENTION SINGLE ladies! Gentleman business owner seeking single lady in her 60s for a wide variety of fun activities. I'm very healthy and fit and hope you are also. I'm polite, well mannered and have a terrific sense of humor. Friendship first and then let's see what develops. Please call or text Doug at 208-770-0381 or northidahodoug@gmail

Storage Units & Space For Rent

COMMERCIAL SPACES: 1600 sq. ft. heated shops/warehouses. One with 10x10 overhead door, office, bathroom and gas heat, and one with two 10x12 overhead doors, bathroom and gas heat; \$1000-\$2000 per month with one year lease. All located on Government Way between Dalton and Hanley Ave. on east side. 208-664-3333 or text 208-818-5793

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(2) 3-WHEELERS, (1) Honda Big Red and 1 Kawasaki. 40' dry van with lift gate for storage unit. 28' dry van. 5-man custom pontoon raft with extra pontoon, V-8 marine diesel (555) in crate, Cummins. 2 600 amp single-through master breakers in cabinets. Call for prices. 208-448-0586, 206-683-0994, leave messages. rp ark@seanet.com



(2) BICYCLES. MAGNA Fugitive men's mountain bike, 18 speed, blue, gel cushion on seat, rear view mirror, water bottle holder. Avalon 6001 women's cruiser bike, purple, 7-speed, zipper bag for personal items, steel cable key lock. Professional tune-ups done last year. \$50 each or \$85 for both. Additional pics at nickelsworth.com. Call or text 208-661-5771, Post Falls

LOOKING FOR Homemade baked goods? Look no further. Bread, cookies, cakes, pies, noodles. Open Wednesdays only from 1pm-5pm. All naturally grown vegetables available by July. 348 Lower Lynch Creek Rd., Plains, MT, 59859, or 406-333-6631, ext. 3



I BUY ESTATES. I BUY contents of homes, storage units, barns, garages. I buy old stuff: antiques, silverware, jewelry, silver and gold, collections like postcards, coins and stamps, fishing gear, tools, old signs, painting and old prints, frames, cowboy, western and Native American stuff, rocks and minerals, lighting, old Idaho and Spokane stuff, black and white photos and documents. Cash paid, I come to you. 208-660-2889

NATIONAL SUNDAY LAW? God never forces our will! Legislated worship is not of God. Call 509-233-8155 for free information (book)

THE GREATEST COVERUP of all time. How the Father and son's personal names were hidden. Prov. 30:4 "What is His name, and what is His son's name if you can tell." Write: YHWH, PO Box 306, Libby, MT 59923

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Miscellaneous

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, my witness, temperance; against such a thing there is no law. *Inspired by Galatians 5:22-23*
Paid for by RLW

ONE BEDROOM (UP) WITH full bath, lower area W/D, half bath, in-floor heat, gas cast iron fireplace, open plan. Very quiet, garden space. Furnished. Knotty Pine cabinets, all utilities paid, \$1800 month. Guest house. No pets. One person. 208-772-6909, Marty



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LINCOLN RANGER 305G 10kW portable welder generator, runs good, \$4250. Lincoln Weld-Pak wire feed welder, \$280. Honda EB6500 generator, works great, \$2850. Honda EU2000i inverter generator, \$780. Generac IX 2000 inverter, \$550. Craftsman 42" lawn tractor, runs good, \$850. 6x10 steel trailer with side rails and loading gate, \$2350. 1988 Honda Elite 50 scooter, parts bike, \$600. Credit cards accepted, 208-762-5651

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WordPlay

by Barbara Nimke

"Have a Seat"

From flag pole to log, pillow or hot tub, choose your seat. This puzzle contains the names of 36 items people can sit in or on. They are written forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

S E B A T H T U B A W O
T T C U R E N I L C E R
U C O N T M L O N L P B
M E Z O E T G O D D E L
P E Y T L F O D P N F E
N N T T R I A H C M R A
O K C O S S A H B O W C
T M O M B T E X S A T H
U L L A I A W T S Y O E
F W F N C I G E T T I R
S O S U Y R E G H E L S
S L W A C S Q R A A E J
I L I S L U O I P N T S
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Patios • Covered Patios • Foundations • Footings

Call Tri-Rock today!
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NOW HIRING!



Miscellaneous



TWIN HEADBOARD, white, good condition, gently used, solid wood with all hardware included, high quality, made by Stanley Furniture Company, \$150. See additional pictures online at nickelsworth.com. Call or text 208-661-5771, Post Falls

PREPARE FOR POWER outages today. Generac Home Standby Generator. Receive free 5 year warranty with qualifying purchase. 855-948-6176 to schedule free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move

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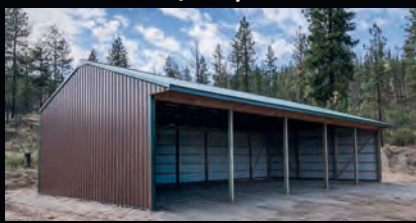
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GOD'S PROBLEM IS TO produce a people that keep God's law of love (all 10 Commandments of Exodus 20:3-17). Satan's problem is to not let that happen. In other words, God is on trial, and Satan is the prosecutor, while Jesus Christ is the defense lawyer. And Satan claims that no one can keep that law of love. Jesus Christ has to prove that there are people that have kept, and will keep, God's law of love, all 10 Commandments. And that is where God's Judgement Day comes into play, to show who has, and who has not. As it is written, "In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them" (2 Corinthians 4:4). So far Satan, being the "god of this world," has had fantastic success, as it is said in the Bible, "Satan, which has deceived the whole world" (Revelation 12:9). The great text of loyalty is God's 4th Commandment, the 7th day Sabbath (Saturday). His sign of loyalty (Ezekiel 20:12, 20). Satan has his sign of loyalty, Sunday, the first day of the week (Daniel 7:25). And it is up to the individual person who freely decides who they will follow, Jesus Christ (Saturday) or Satan (Sunday). That is what the Mark of the Beast scenario is all about, to force every person in the USA to choose who they are loyal to, which the 900+ page document Project 2025 started when Trump became President. Then will come Judgement Day. Tim, 208 217 8942 text

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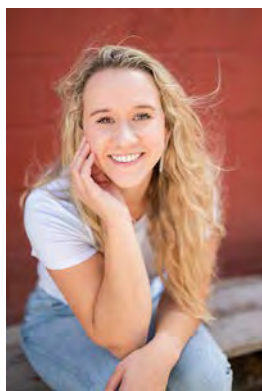
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Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

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1. ANATOMY: What is heterochromia?
3. GEOGRAPHY: What is a chain of islands called?
4. FOOD & DRINK: What is Canada's national dish?
5. HISTORY: When was Facebook launched?
6. MEASUREMENTS: What is the shortest wavelength in the visible light spectrum?
7. U.S. STATES: Which state has the most miles of interstate highway?
8. MOVIES: What type of fish is Nemo in the animated film "Finding Nemo"?
9. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Which month is designated as National Ice Cream Month in the United States?
10. SCIENCE: How long does it take for the International Space Station to orbit the Earth?

- Answers**
1. Richard Simmons.
 2. When the colored part of the eyes (irises) are two different colors.
 3. Archipelago.
 4. Poutine (French fries, cheese curds and gravy).
 9. July.
 10. 90 minutes.

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Create Little Moments of Happiness This Spring with Family-Friendly Potato Recipes

— Feature Impact —

As the weather breaks and spring brings increased opportunities for families to get outside, activities, adventures and jam-packed calendars abound. All those special moments spent at the park, the sports field or in the backyard may leave lasting memories, but they can also leave you feeling short on time in the kitchen.

Bring a little moment of happiness to busy family mealtimes during the spring season with The Little Potato Company's line of easy-to-prepare Little Potatoes. They come pre-washed, require no peeling and are small enough that they don't need to be cut, allowing for less time in the kitchen and more family time around the table as the days get longer - no extra spring cleaning required. For an added helping of convenience, their Microwave Ready Little Potato Kits come with delicious seasoning packs; simply pop into the microwave, sprinkle on the included seasoning and enjoy.

For a fun after-school or game-night snack, these Crispy Air Fryer Potato Nuggets pair perfectly with a variety of delicious dips. The air fryer cooks the potatoes in minutes, creating a crispy snack with minimal prep - no chopping or peeling needed.

Or you can make a delicious side dish a cinch with pesto, which adds a bright, flavorful twist to a classic in these Basil Pesto Mashed Potatoes. They pair perfectly with everyday family meals using Little Potatoes that require no chopping or peeling thanks to their naturally thin skins, helping cut down on prep time while bringing fresh flavor to the dinner table.

To help fuel families' spring vacation plans and everyday meals, The Little Potato Company is giving you a chance to enter a sweepstakes through May 25 to win a \$10,000 travel voucher with additional prizes including 10 grocery gift cards valued at \$1,000.

Enter the sweepstakes at TheLittleSpringtime-Sweepstakes.com, and find more ways to make spring meals a breeze by visiting LittlePotatoes.com.



Crispy Air Fryer Potato Nuggets and Dip

Prep time: 10 minutes

Cook time: 24 minutes

Servings: 4

Potatoes:

- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- 1 cup milk
- 1.5 cups panko breadcrumbs

- 1.5 pounds Little Potatoes

Chimichurri:

- 1 bunch cilantro
- 1 bunch parsley
- 3 limes, juice only
- 2 tablespoons honey
- 2 teaspoons salt
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- 1 teaspoon chili flakes
- 1 cup canola oil

Heat air fryer to 390 F.

To make potatoes: In a shallow bowl, combine flour, salt, garlic powder and pepper. Whisk in milk until smooth.

Place panko in a separate shallow bowl.

Working in batches, coat potatoes in batter then toss in panko until fully coated.

Place potatoes in the air fryer and cook 24 minutes, flipping halfway.

To make chimichurri: In a blender, blend cilantro, parsley, lime juice, honey, salt, pepper, chili flakes and canola oil until smooth.

Serve potato nuggets with chimichurri.



Basil Pesto Mashed Potatoes

Prep time: 5 minutes

Cook time: 20 minutes

Servings: 4

- 1.5 pounds Little Potatoes
- water
- 1 teaspoon salt, plus additional for seasoning, to taste, divided
- 2.5 cups fresh basil
- 4 cloves garlic
- 1/3 cup pine nuts
- 1/2 cup Parmesan, grated
- 2/3 cup olive oil
- pepper, to taste
- 1/2 cup milk
- 2 tablespoons butter

Add potatoes to a large pot and cover with water. Add 1 teaspoon salt and bring to a boil for 15 minutes, or until potatoes are tender.

In a food processor, place basil, garlic, pine nuts and Parmesan. Add oil and pulse until mixed then season with salt and pepper, to taste.

In a small saucepot over low heat, heat milk and butter until butter is melted and milk is steaming.

Once potatoes are cooked, strain and transfer to a medium mixing bowl.



Ready, Set, Spring: 5 Smart Early-Season Yard Tips

— Feature Impact —



As the days lengthen and warm air has you ready to get your patio furniture out of storage, that means it's time to give your yard a fresh start. With a little planning now, you'll be rewarded with a fuller, greener and easier-to-maintain outdoor space once spring is in full bloom.

1. Start With a Clean Slate

Winter leaves behind plenty of debris, including fallen branches and matted leaves. Before you start planting, take a walk around your yard and tidy up:

- Rake moisture-trapping twigs and leaves that can cause fungus
- Remove dead plants or spent annuals from flower beds
- Sweep or power wash patios and walkways

2. Tune Up Tools

Digging into yard work only to find rusty shears or a squeaky mower can prolong the task. Instead, ensure your tools are in good working order:

- Sharpen blades on lawn mowers, shears and pruners
- Install fresh string on trimmers and weed eaters
- Replace old fuel or clean air filters on gas-powered tools

3. Assess Your Lawn

Early spring is ideal for noticing how winter treated your grass. Dethatching and aeration can go a long way toward helping grass absorb nutrients. Set the stage for lush growth once warmer weather arrives by looking for:

- Bare patches that need reseeding
- Weeds making an early debut
- Compacted soil where water pools instead of soaking in

4. Give Plants the Right Start

Now's the time to prep beds for new life. Before you plant:

- Loosen soil and mix in compost for nutrients
- Add mulch around perennials
- Plan your planting based on sun and shade patterns

5. Hydrate Wisely

Strong roots start with proper hydration. Even before sprigs pop up, early spring can be dry as the sun gets higher. Remember to:

- Water flowerbeds if rainfall has been scarce
- Check irrigation systems for damage
- Mulch lightly after soil warms to lock in moisture

Getting your yard ready early in spring isn't about perfection; it's about setting yourself up for outdoor enjoyment all season long. Find more tips to get your yard in shape at eLivingtoday.com.

Photo courtesy of Shutterstock

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Noxious Weeds Notice and Support Programs

— Bonner County Noxious Weeds Department —

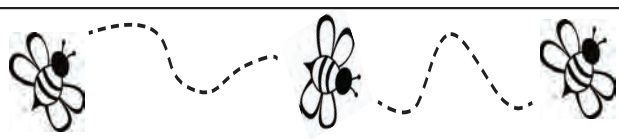


Greetings, Nickel's Worth readers. By statute, counties are required to circulate an annual noxious weeds notice. It shall contain the Idaho Noxious Weeds List and indicate those which are currently present or imminently threatening the county, and stipulate the obligation for control. The accompanying notice is included in this edition.

Statute grants enforcement authority to counties—however, many counties implement landowner compliance assistance programs as the primary tool to satisfy statutory obligations. For the EDRR (early detection, rapid response) noxious weeds, which are inventoried at low levels county-wide and meet eradication objectives, Bonner County offers targeted treatments at no charge.

For the noxious weeds that are inventoried at widespread levels, Bonner County offers a landowner herbicide reimbursement program. These are inherently ongoing programs that are primarily funded with state noxious weed cost share dollars.

Visit our website for additional information on these programs, as well as Bonner County's operational noxious weed mitigation plans, such as roadside maintenance treatments.



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Gardening & Landscaping



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SPRING IS COMING SOON. Schedule your spring clean-ups and get your yard ready for summer. Clean-ups and debris removal, regular lawn maintenance, dethatching and aeration, tree/ shrub pruning and removal, sprinkler turn-ons, repairs, and installations, paver patios, retaining walls and all other landscape projects. All your lawn care needs, JLM Lawn and Gardening, please contact Bryan Pratt, 208-755-4497

LOCAL PAPER, LOCAL people, local results. The Nickel's Worth, 208-667-0651

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Preparing Your Yard for Summer

— Jim and Wanda Martin —

Preparing your yard for summer is more than an aesthetic upgrade—it's an essential step in creating a healthy, safe, and enjoyable outdoor environment. After months of winter weather, most yards are left with a buildup of fallen branches, compacted soil, dead leaves, and other debris. This clutter doesn't just look messy; it can smother your lawn, block sunlight, and prevent new growth from taking root. A thorough spring cleanup opens the lawn back up to the elements it needs most—sunlight, air circulation, and nutrients—allowing grass to grow thicker, greener, and more resilient throughout the summer.

A well-prepared yard also plays a major role in pest prevention. Overgrown grass, neglected corners, and piles of organic debris create ideal hiding spots for insects, rodents, and other unwanted visitors. These pests can quickly spread, damaging your lawn and potentially finding their way into your

home. Regular trimming, debris removal, and proper lawn care significantly reduce these risks, helping you maintain a safer, more comfortable outdoor space for your family.

Beyond health and safety, a clean and well-maintained yard simply makes summer more enjoyable. Whether you're hosting barbecues, relaxing on the patio, or watching kids and pets play, a tidy outdoor space enhances every moment. It also boosts curb appeal and can even increase property value—an added bonus for homeowners who take pride in their landscape.

A well-cared for yard sets the tone for the entire season. With the right preparation, you can enjoy a vibrant, welcoming outdoor space that's ready for every summer activity.



Community Calendar

Theatre: A Little Princess, through April 12th at Lake City House, 1320 E. Garden Ave., CdA. Frances Hodgson Burnett's classic uplifting tale comes to life! Grab tickets for this beautiful family-friendly play at www.lakecityplayhouse.org

North Idaho Reads 1 Million Pages!, beginning March 1st and ends August 30th. All North Idaho towns and communities will work together to log pages read and celebrate the power of literacy. All types of printed pages count (audiobooks are not

'counted' in this competition at this time). Full details can be found at www.theliteracyprojectni.org

Community Car Seat Safety Check, Friday, April 10th, 2:30pm-5:30pm at Angel Wings Daycare, 204 Oregon St., Kellogg. Free child car seat checks and safe sleep education offered. Appointments are recommended; text CHECK to 844-619-2048. New, safe car seats and cribs available for those in need. Also: April 21, 3-6 pm at Cup of Grace, 32271 N. 5th Ave., Spirit Lake.

Courtesy of Coeur d'Alene Insider, cdainsider.com



PUBLIC NOTICE NOXIOUS WEEDS – BONNER COUNTY

State Noxious Weed Law: Idaho Statute (Title 22, Chapter 24) expresses that it is the duty & responsibility of all landowners to control noxious weeds on their land and property, in accordance with this chapter and with rules promulgated by the director (of the Idaho State Dept. of Agriculture)—§22- 2407. A general notice for control of noxious weeds shall contain the list of [Idaho] noxious weeds and identify those known to be in the county and shall stipulate the obligation to control—§22-2405. This published notice is considered legal & sufficient notice.

The following is the Idaho noxious weed list found in IDAPA-02.06.09, subject to the above statute: *Indicates limited presence in Bonner County, or imminently threatening **Indicates moderate or widespread presence in Bonner County ***Indicates Statewide Prohibited Genera (all species/subtaxa)

- | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Black Henbane | Hydrilla | Saltcedar *** (*) |
| Bohemian Knotweed * | Iberian Starthistle | Scotch Broom *** (*) |
| Brazilian Elodea | Japanese Knotweed * | Scotch Thistle * |
| Canada Thistle *^ | Johnsongrass | Small Bugloss * |
| Cogon Grass * | Jointed Goatgrass * | Spotted Knapweed *^ |
| Common Crupina | Leafy Spurge * | Squarrose Knapweed |
| Common Reed * | Matgrass | Starry Stonewort |
| Curlyleaf Pondweed *^ | Meadow Knapweed | Syrian Beancaper |
| Dalmatian Toadflax *^ | Mediterranean Sage | Tall Hawkweed |
| Diffuse Knapweed *^ | Milium | Tansy Ragwort * |
| Dyer's Woad | Musk Thistle | Turkish Thistle |
| Eurasian Watermilfoil *^ | Orange Hawkweed *^ | Variable-Leaf Milfoil |
| European Frogbit | Oxeye Daisy *^ | Viper's Bugloss * |
| Fanwort | Parrotfeather Milfoil | Water Hyacinth |
| Feathered Mosquito Fern | Perennial Pepperweed * | Waterchestnut |
| Field Bindweed *^ | Perennial Sowthistle *^ | White Byrony * |
| Flowering Rush *^ | Plumeless Thistle | Yellow Devil Hawkweed |
| Giant Hogweed | Poison Hemlock * | Yellow Flag Iris * |
| Giant Knotweed * | Policeman's Helmet * | Yellow Floating Heart |
| Giant Salvinia | Puncturevine * | Yellow Hawkweed *^ |
| Goatsrue | Purple Loosestrife * | Yellow Starthistle * |
| Hoary Alyssum *^ | Purple Starthistle | Yellow Toadflax *^ |
| Hoary Cress *^ | Rush Skeletonweed *^ | |
| Houndstongue *^ | Russian Knapweed | |

County Services & Contact: We offer weed identification assistance, technical assistance (control recommendations), power sprayers for rent, cost share funding, free booklets & brochures and educational presentations. Phone – 208-255-5681 ext.6 Address – 521 S. Division Ave, Ste. 216, Sandpoint, ID 83864 Website – <https://www.bonnercountyid.gov/departments/noxious-weeds/>

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ATTENTION VETERANS and active duty service members: Present your military ID or proof of membership in veterans' group at the Nickel's Worth office and get buy one get one free classified ads from that point on (ID only needed initially). Ads must run in the same week; free ad of equal or lesser value; display ads and picture classified ads do not qualify for free ads. Thank you for your service to our country!

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by Gary Kopervas



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* Source: Civic Economics - Andersonville Study of Retail Economics

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Caring for roses

In drier climates, the gardener must regularly provide water for rose bushes. Though generally one should water only the soil around the bushes, sprinkling water directly onto the plants keeps the foliage and blooms clean, retards powdery mildew and repels some pests. Insects that like to feed on rose bushes include aphids, Japanese beetles, spider mites and sawflies. Most of these can be controlled with neem oil or insecticidal soap; if you plant alliums near your roses, they can help repel aphids. - Brenda Weaver

Sources: gardendesign.com, garden.org

Who are Kootenai County Idaho Master Gardeners?

- The University of Idaho Extension -



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master
GARDENER

A UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO
EXTENSION PROGRAM

University of Idaho Extension trains Idaho Master Gardeners to advise local gardeners about plant selection, gardening methods, landscape design, pest management and other horticulture topics.

Do you have an insect or a plant to identify? Are you wondering how to support pollinators and other wildlife with your plant choices? Would you like to learn more about how to grow vegetables or a lawn area in our unique climate? Idaho Master Gardeners and the Plant Clinic are available to answer your gardening questions.

- You may join us in person each Tuesday and Thursday from 9am to 3pm in the Plant Clinic at our new location: 1250 West Ironwood Drive, Suite 107, Coeur d'Alene ID 83814. We have numerous resources and a lab to address your questions.
- You may visit our booth most Saturday's at the Kootenai County Farmer's Market at Prairie and I-95 from 9am to 1pm.
- You may fill out the form on our website where you may upload photos at: uidaho.edu/extension/county/kootenai/horticulture
- You may email us and attach photos at kootenaimg@uidaho.edu

The University of Idaho Extension, Kootenai County Idaho Master Gardener program is located 1250 West Ironwood Drive, Suite 107. For gardening questions or problems visit us in person or our webpage <https://www.uidaho.edu/extension/county/kootenai/horticulture> or email kootenaimg@uidaho.edu, or call 208-292-2525. IMG services are free to the public.

NOXIOUS WEED CONTROL PROGRAMS FOR NORTH IDAHO PANHANDLE

Noxious Weed Control Departments in Benewah, Kootenai and Shoshone Counties offer a variety of services, including weed identification, site visits, publications, herbicide advice, and other land management information, all free of charge. Each county offers slightly different programs, loan-out equipment, and information. Listed below are the highlights from each program, as well as contact information.

FREE EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS are offered to the public throughout the year, call your local weed office (below) for more information.

BENEWAH COUNTY PROGRAMS: Educational publications are available at the Benewah County Cooperative Extension office 208-245-2422. For more information, contact the Benewah County Auditor's Office at 208-245-3212.

KOOTENAI COUNTY PROGRAMS: The Noxious Weed Control department Equipment Loan Out Program has backpack sprayers, ATV sprayers, fertilizer spreaders, rotary seed spreaders, weed wrenches, knotweed injectors, and small harrows (harrows can be picked up on Fridays only) first come, first served, at no charge. In addition to the state listed noxious weeds, Kootenai County Noxious Weeds considers Common Bugloss and Kochia to be noxious. Please contact the Noxious Weed Control Department, 10905 N Ramsey Road, Hayden, Idaho 83835, by phone 208-446-1290, at our website www.kcweeds.com or email kcnoxiouseeds@kcgov.us with any questions.

SHOSHONE COUNTY PROGRAMS: Equipment Loan Program: various equipment is available for loan at no charge. Two additional weed species designated noxious by Shoshone County Ordinance No. 2001-08 are common Tansy and Sulfur Cinquefoil. Everyone is welcome to join the Shoshone County Weed Advisory Committee. For further information, contact Weed Superintendent, 700 Bank Street, Ste 35., Wallace, ID 83873, Phone: 208-753-5475, website: www.shoshonecounty.org.

IDAHO WEED LAW: The Idaho Weed Law (Idaho Code Title 22, Chapter 24)
Places the responsibility for controlling noxious weeds on the person who owns or manages the land. Any person with noxious weeds on their property is obligated to control those weeds.

STATEWIDE PROHIBITED GENERAL NOXIOUS WEED LIST

All plants and plant parts in the genera of Cytisus, Genista, Spartium, and Chamaecytisus additionally including "all" subtaxa of these plant genera are prohibited in Idaho.

STATEWIDE EDRR (EARLY DETECTION RAPID RESPONSE) NOXIOUS WEED LIST

Weeds listed in this section and identified within Idaho shall be eradicated during the same growing season as identified: If you find these weeds in Idaho, we need to act quickly to prevent them from taking hold.

- Brazilian Elodea
- Cogon Grass
- Common/European Frogbit
- Fanwort
- Feathered Mosquito Fern
- Giant Hogweed
- Giant Salvinia
- Goatsrue
- Hydrilla
- Policeman's Helmet
- Starry Stonewort
- Squarrose Knapweed
- Syrian Beancaper
- Tall Hawkweed
- Turkish Thistle
- Variable-Leaf-Milfoil
- Water Chestnut
- Water Hyacinth
- Yellow Devil Hawkweed
- Yellow Floating Heart
- Iberian Starthistle
- Purple Starthistle

STATEWIDE CONTROL NOXIOUS WEED LIST

Weeds listed in the control list are known to exist in varying populations throughout the state. The concentration of these weeds is at a level where control and/or eradication may be possible:

- Black Henbane
- Bohemian Knotweed
- Common Crupina
- Common Reed (Phragmites)
- Dyer's Woad
- Eurasian Watermilfoil
- Flowering Rush
- Giant Knotweed
- Japanese Knotweed
- Johnsongrass
- Matgrass
- Meadow Knapweed
- Mediterranean Sage
- Musk Thistle
- Orange Hawkweed
- Parrotfeather Milfoil
- Perennial Sowthistle
- Russian Knapweed
- Scotch Broom
- Small Bugloss
- Vipers Bugloss (Blueweed)
- Yellow Hawkweed

STATEWIDE CONTAINMENT NOXIOUS WEED LIST

Weeds listed in the containment noxious weeds list are known to exist in various populations throughout the state. Weed control efforts may be directed at reducing or eliminating new or expanding weed populations while known and established weed populations may be managed by any approved weed control methodology, as determined by the weed control authority:

- Canada Thistle
- Curlyleaf Pondweed
- Dalmatian Toadflax
- Diffuse Knapweed
- Field Bindweed
- Hoary Alyssum
- Houndstongue
- Jointed Goatgrass
- Leafy Spurge
- Milium
- Oxeye Daisy
- Perennial Pepperweed
- Plumeless Thistle
- Poison Hemlock
- Puncturevine
- Purple Loosestrife
- Rush Skeletonweed
- Saltcedar
- Scotch Thistle
- Spotted Knapweed
- Tansy Ragwort
- White Bryony
- Whitetop (Hoary Cress)
- Yellow Flag Iris
- Yellow Starthistle
- Yellow Toadflax

Please do your part to control noxious weeds. Protect the environment, protect the health of humans, livestock, and wildlife. SPREAD THE WORD, NOT THE WEED!

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SPRING IS UPON US. Ready for clean-ups, dethatching, aeration, debris removal, regular lawn maintenance, tree/shrub pruning and removal, sprinkler turn-on and repairs and other landscape projects. Call Bryan, 208-755-4497

TO PLACE YOUR ads, call Nickel's Worth, 208-667-0651

Waking Up Dahlia Tubers

Kootenai County Idaho Master Gardener

— Beckie Williams —



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Place the pots under grow lights or in a bright location to encourage sturdy growth. After green shoots emerge through the soil, begin to water sparingly. In a few short weeks, you'll have strong young plants ready to harden off and move outdoors once the danger of frost has passed.

The University of Idaho Extension, Kootenai County Idaho Master Gardener program is located 1250 West Ironwood Drive, Suite 107. For gardening questions or problems visit us in person or our webpage <https://www.uidaho.edu/extension/county/kootenai/horticulture> or email kootenaimg@uidaho.edu, or call 208-292-2525. IMG services are free to the public.



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Source: nationalrosegarden



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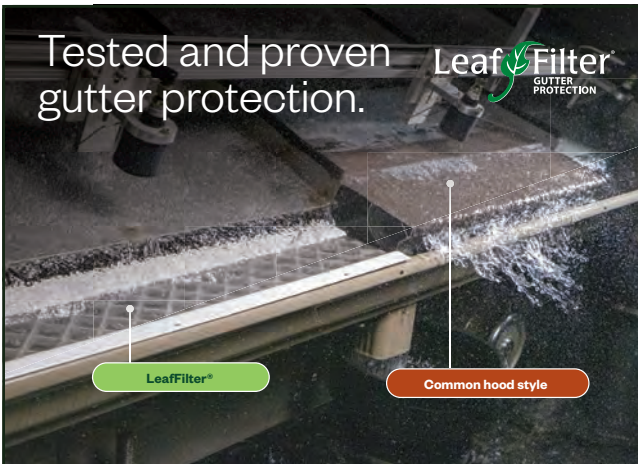
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Vermiculture: Using Worms to Compost

— By Aletha Sicurello, Veteran Master Gardener —



odor, it may even be possible to put the worm bin in your house during the winter months. However, if an offensive odor does develop, check to ensure that you are not feeding the worms too much, or adding too much water to the bedding. It is important to fluff the bedding to increase air circulation periodically.

The next thing to consider is bedding material for the worms. The bottom of the worm bin should be covered with material such as shredded newspaper, cardboard, or dried leaves two to four inches deep. Non-chlorinated water should be used to make this material as wet as a damp sponge. Peat moss can also be used as bedding material. It holds water well; however, since it doesn't have nutritional value, it needs to be used in conjunction with other bedding materials. Remember to add a handful of soil to the bedding material, since worms need the grit in soil to break down food. Your worm's food must be broken down by muscle action in their gizzards, since they do not have teeth.

Worms eventually digest this bedding material, but they also need food to survive. A good rule of thumb is that two pounds of worms will need one pound of kitchen waste per day.

Eggshells are also recommended for worms. They are a good source of calcium, increase the pH of the bin and promote reproduction. Eggshells from hard-boiled eggs can be crushed and put directly into the worm bin. However, raw eggshells could carry diseases that are harmful to your worms and will stink when they rot. Boiling the empty eggshells for five minutes will prevent these negative effects from occurring. Worms will eat any kind of raw fruit and vegetables, except for acidic ones. Chop fruit and vegetable scraps up into small bits, to speed their decomposition. Worms also like to eat regular cornmeal, without salt or other additives. There are some kitchen scraps that should never be fed to worms. For example, fats and oils lower the pH, stink when they rot, and may attract undesirable pests. Meat and dairy products in the worm bin will result in the same negative effects.

Feeding the worms is easy. Simply pull back the bedding, add chopped up food scraps, and then cover up the scraps with the bedding. Bury the scraps in a different location each time.

When the bedding starts to look like dark, fertile soil, it can be used in your garden. This is an important step; because the finished worm compost will become toxic to the worms if they are left in the worm bin too long. (Not to mention you want to use this wonderful soil in your garden.) One way to harvest the soil is by moving the bedding to one side of the worm bin and adding new bedding and food to the other side of the bin. In about a month, most of the worms will have migrated to the area with fresh bedding and food. Another way to harvest the worm soil is to simply dump material that the worms have processed on a tarp outside. Wait an hour or so for the worms to go down to the bottom of the pile to avoid the light. Take the soil, retrieve the worms and place them in your worm bin with fresh food and fresh bedding to start the process over again.

The soil produced by the worms can be used in many ways. For example, the worm's harvest can enrich potting soil at a ratio of ¼ worm castings to ¾ potting mix. One-fourth inch of this material can also be added to the top of houseplants every 45-60 days, removing some of the houseplants' soil if necessary. A sprinkling of worm castings can also be added to the bottom of a seed row or put in the hole when you are transplanting. To use around trees and mature shrubs, merely put the castings around your tree, two to three inches from the base of your tree and continue out to the drip line, working the worm castings into the soil and water after application.

Using worms to make rich, fertile soil is easy and fun to do. Once you've tried doing it, you will undoubtedly become very enthusiastic about its benefits to both the environment and your garden.

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Do you know that the average family of four wastes an estimated 122 pounds of edible food every year? This uneaten food does not have to become part of our landfill. Red worms can change some of that organic waste into rich soil that is full of nutrients. There are many advantages in using worms to assist in the composting process or vermicomposting. For example, worms can reduce composting time from 240 days to just 30 days. They also produce healthy soil that is full of microbes, and microbial activity. Worm castings are rich in humus, and provide the soil with important nutrients of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium. In addition, the nutrients in worm castings are readily available to plants and serve as a "time release" of these nutrients. Putting these worms to work, or vermicomposting, is a simple process and can become a gardener's best friend. Given a home, appropriate bedding, and proper food, red worms will thrive and will soon produce soil that will be the envy of your neighborhood.

Any wooden box, or rigid plastic container can be used for a worm bin. A wooden container should be made of untreated wood. Chemically treated wood may be harmful to the worm or leach into the compost material. It is acceptable to use a big Rubbermaid type bin, or an old drawer to provide a home for your worms.

With a bigger container, more red worms can be harbored. A good rule of thumb is one pound of red worms for every square foot of surface area. The depth of this container should be no more than 8 to 12 inches. Red worms are not burrowing creatures and will not go below this point. A bin that is deeper than that may result in compaction of the bedding and food. This compaction leads to anaerobic (lack of oxygen) conditions and unpleasant odors.

It is also important that the worm bin is well ventilated. Several 1/8-inch holes should be drilled in a plastic container four inches from the bottom. If this is not done, the worms will stay at the bottom of the container and may drown. If the container is made of untreated wood, drilling holes is unnecessary. Proper ventilation is provided by the structure of the wood.

Since worms need a moist, dark area, a cover on the bin will help ensure these requirements are met. The lid should be removable and can be made of canvas or burlap held in place with a bungee cord or a piece of wood. If it is not feasible to make a bin, a bin can be easily purchased from an Internet site.

When considering where to place your worm bin, remember that the optimum temperature for worms is between 60-80 degrees Fahrenheit. Since a properly maintained worm bin will not have an offensive

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Bringing Fishers Home to the Panhandle Region

— Idaho Dept. of Fish & Game —



Project aims to augment fisher populations in North Idaho.

Idaho Fish and Game — in cooperation with the Coeur d'Alene Tribe, U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, and Idaho Trappers Association — completed the first year of a project to move fishers, a member of the weasel family related to wolverine and marten, from the Clearwater Region to Panhandle Region.

The Coeur d'Alene Mountains in the Panhandle contain good fisher habitat, but the area currently only supports a very small and isolated number of animals. Fish and Game initiated the project to increase the local fisher population and improve connectivity between fisher populations in the Cabinet Mountains to the north and the St. Joe-Clearwater-Nez Perce fisher population to the south.

The project will also gather information on movements and sites used for resting and denning. This information will be used to develop forest management strategies to benefit fishers and other wildlife.

Fishers rely on mature forested habitats, requiring large trees and snags for resting and denning.

About the project

Trappers with the Idaho Trappers Association began live-trapping for fisher in early-November and continued through mid-December. Participating trappers were reimbursed through an Idaho Fish and Game Commission Community Challenge Grant. In addition, trappers were also reimbursed by the Upper Snake River Trappers, National Trappers Foundation, and Montana Trappers Association.

All captured fishers were taken to a temporary holding facility where they were housed, fed and monitored to minimize stress. Before being released, animals were anesthetized, processed for biological samples and then fitted with satellite GPS collars to track their movements and habitat use.

In total, 11 fishers were released into Unit 4 of the Coeur d'Alene Mountains, including seven males and four females. Fish and Game, along with partners, plan to continue the project for one or two more years, with the goal of moving up to 30 fishers.

The project aims to ensure healthy fisher populations for future generations.



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Community Group Aims to Improve and Enhance a Special Local Gem

— Friends of WaterLife Discovery Center —



Have you ever been to the WaterLife Discovery Center on Lakeshore Drive in Sagle? It is on the grounds of the 'old fish hatchery'. It is a special gem in Bonner County with wonderful exhibits, a viewing pond, nature trail, and historic cabin for all to come and enjoy.

The property is owned by Idaho Fish and Game and cared for by the Pend Oreille Chapter of Idaho Master Naturalists. However, sadly, time is beginning to take a toll on this special facility.

That's where "Friends of the WaterLife Discovery Center" comes in. A group of caring, dedicated individuals formed a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization to help improve and enhance this community treasure. They are raising funds to create new exhibits, improve safety by painting a crosswalk on Lakeshore Drive, and purchase new windows for the cabin to replace the leaky ones. There is a big dream to someday build a community center on the site.

If you haven't been to the 'WDC', the grounds are always open. The cabin is open with Naturalists on Duty during the summer months. If you would like to help with improvements or to learn more, please visit the website: friendsofwdc.org.



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F&G To Host Hybrid Public Meeting For Negotiated Rulemaking On April 15

— Idaho Dept. of Fish & Game —



This rulemaking is being initiated to explore the opportunity to expand electronic tagging (e-tagging) options for game birds.

Idaho Fish and Game will hold a public meeting in-person and virtually to take comments on upcoming proposed rules on Wednesday, April 15. The meeting will be held in person at Fish and Game Headquarters, located at 600 S. Walnut St. in Boise. Those interested in attending or providing comments can also tune in via Zoom at us06web.zoom.us/j/83077793532.

The proposed rulemaking aims to explore the opportunity to expand electronic tagging (e-tagging) options for game birds (see more at idfg.idaho.gov/about/rulemaking/13-0109-2601). By allowing e-tagging validation, Fish and Game is attempting to modernize processes and eliminate the need for a paper tag in the field for those interested. This will help mitigate the trouble of faded, washed-out, or lost paper tags.

Fish and Game is interested in e-tagging validation for turkeys and Wildlife Management Area-planted pheasants, initially, with potential to expand programming to cranes, sage-grouse, and swans. The rulemaking would allow for e-tagging and create provisions around the application of the e-tagging validation methodology.

Electronic tagging (e-tagging) is currently a method for anglers to tag their harvested salmon/steelhead electronically rather than with the traditional paper permits or tags. E-tagging allows the angler to e-tag their harvested fish via smartphone and electronically submit their harvest information.

Rulemaking is different than season and bag limits set by the Fish and Game Commission. Rulemaking involves different procedures and involves legislative approval.

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McGill Spur Access Site On Clearwater River Closed Until Further Notice

— Idaho Dept. of Fish & Game —



Due to extensive storm damage and unstable terrain, the McGill Spur Access Site, which provides public access to the Clearwater River west of Ahsahka, is closed until further notice. Recent torrential rains caused the creek adjacent to the site to flood out of its channel, carving a new flow path through the access area. Concurrently, three landslides occurred on the property, depositing material throughout the site and significantly altering the stream's original course.

This combination of flooding and hillside movement has resulted in unsafe conditions at the site. The public is strongly encouraged to stay out of the area until it is officially reopened for use.

Unfortunately, the scope of the damage and ongoing instability mean that site repairs cannot be completed in time for the April 25 Chinook salmon season opener. Anglers planning to fish during the

spring Chinook season are asked to use other access locations until further notice.

Crews from the Idaho Fish and Game Access Site program and Fisheries staff are working diligently to repair and stabilize the site as safely and efficiently as possible. We apologize for the temporary inconvenience and appreciate the public's patience and understanding.

For updates on site status and river access information, visit the Idaho Fish and Game website or contact the Clearwater Region office.



Tools & Building Materials



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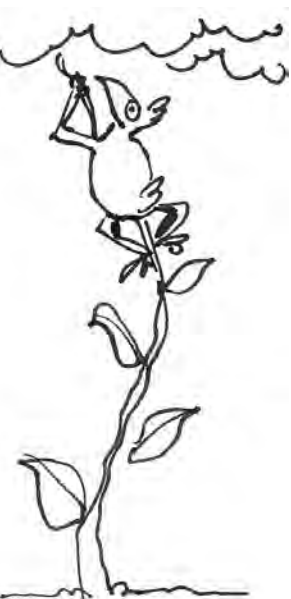
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You can email (articles@nickelsworth.com), text (208-667-0651) or mail (Nickel's Worth, PO Box 2048, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83816). Please have everything in by Monday, May 25th and call 208-667-2408 if you have any questions.

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NOW HIRING!

Grow Healthier Plants (and Use Less Water) by Improving Your Soil

— Feature Impact —



Almost every gardener knows the frustration: One corner of the garden bursts with life while another struggles to hang on. Flowers are slow to open, vegetables disappoint and the soil seems to drink up water and ask for more.

However, seasoned gardeners know the difference between a struggling garden and a thriving one almost always comes down to what's beneath the surface.

Success Runs Soil Deep

The change in seasons can leave soil compacted and depleted, so spending some time giving it a boost can set the stage for strong, healthy plants. It may also be easier than many gardeners think to give soil the help it needs. Blending in amendments like biochar improves soil health, helps retain water and locks in nutrients.

An easy-to-use yet powerful conditioner that helps balance soil pH, Wakefield BioChar boosts soil fertility and supports stronger, healthier plant growth. Once it's mixed into soil, biochar becomes a powerhouse worker. It holds onto water like a sponge, slowly releasing and making the water accessible, so plants continually receive moisture and gardeners need to water less. It also makes nutrients more available to plants, resulting in healthier gardens and greener lawns.

An Easy-to-Use Boost

When planting in the garden or pots, biochar should make up approximately 10% of the soil mix. If you're setting up a garden bed, mix it into the soil to a depth of 4-6 inches (1 cubic foot is plenty for a 4-by-8-foot garden bed). For trees and shrubs, adding biochar directly to the roots helps them get off to a strong start and supports healthy growth.

It's also a natural way to improve a lawn's look and performance. To add biochar to your lawn to prepare for warm weather, spread it evenly across the grass, either by hand or with a broadcast spreader for larger areas. Aim for a thin, even layer to ensure all parts of your lawn benefit from its properties, improving long-term soil health. For newly planted lawns, mix 1 cubic foot of biochar into every 100 square feet of soil, making sure it penetrates 2-4 inches deep.

No matter where you use biochar, water regularly for the first week to activate its benefits. Watering helps biochar settle into the soil and start working, as its porous structure holds moisture, helping keep gardens and lawns hydrated.

Sustainable from the Ground Up

Not only does biochar deeply nourish your garden or lawn, it also helps create a more sustainable environment for years to come. It's made by heating natural materials, such as organic wood waste, in a way that stores carbon rather than releasing it into the atmosphere as greenhouse gases.

The process - called pyrolysis - locks carbon into a stable form that doesn't break down as quickly as mulch or compost and transforms into a light, porous material that stays active, season after season, to ensure nutrient-rich soil for years to come.

Beyond the Lawn

It isn't just for providing plants with healthier soil. Bring biochar along on camping trips, as it also works well for composting toilets and has the added benefit of controlling odors and absorbing waste, making it a sustainable option that can be composted afterward.

It can also be used as livestock bedding as it absorbs liquids, neutralizes odors and can be mixed with manure to create a more nutrient-rich compost for plants and crops.

Learn more about planting healthy gardens and green spaces at WakefieldBiochar.com/grow.

Photo courtesy of Shutterstock

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LAND PRIDE 84" HR3584 hydraulic box scraper, \$4195. Coeur d'Alene Tractor, 1112 W. Appleway Ave., 208-765-2315

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Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

1. TELEVISION: What is Ron Swanson's favorite food group in the sitcom "Parks and Recreation"?
2. GAMES: In Scrabble, how many tiles does each player get to start?
3. GEOGRAPHY: Dubai is in which Middle Eastern country?
4. MOVIES: What is Neo's real name in "The Matrix"?
5. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president was born with the name Leslie Lynch King Jr.?
6. LITERATURE: Which 19th-century English novel introduces the character Mr. Rochester?
7. FOOD & DRINK: Cornelius Rooster is the mascot of which cereal brand?
8. SCIENCE: What is the process called when water evaporates from plants?
9. CHEMISTRY: What is the most abundant metal in Earth's crust?
10. ANATOMY: How many vertebrae are in the human spine?

- Answers**
1. Meat.
 2. Seven.
 3. United Arab Emirates.
 4. Thomas Anderson.
 5. Gerald Ford.
 6. "Jane Eyre" by Charlotte Bronte.
 7. Kellogg's Corn Flakes.
 8. Transpiration.
 9. Aluminum.
 10. 33.



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In person: 107 N. 5th Street, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814 **By email:** ads@nickelsworth.com

By phone: 208-667-0651 or 208-667-2408 (display) **By text:** 208-667-0651

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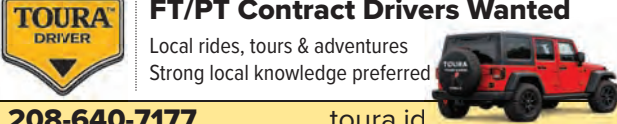
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EXPERIENCED MID/ Heavy duty diesel technician wanted! Wage DOE: \$25-\$35 hour. Full time Monday-Friday, full benefit package. Must be: a capable independent worker, diagnostic adept, Cummins experience (preferred), proficient in reading and writing. Call 208-263-4643, email brownscounter@gmail.com, Bonner County

NEED GARDENER TO plant some flowers and do some flower bed/ landscape maintenance. Part-time, occasional work only, \$19-21 hour DOE and efficiency. Paid by check end of each week. Prefer someone who lives in CdA area. Reply to 208-699-9487 with qualifications, age, availability, and phone number

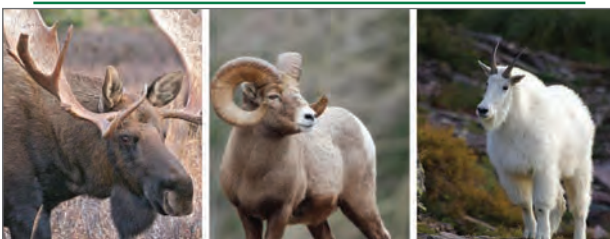


MOUNTAIN METAL AND Cedar is a successful custom sheet metal and roofing business in Coeur d'Alene. We are currently hiring dependable roofers that want a reliable income throughout the entire year. We work through most weather conditions so there is no "down time." We offer competitive pay based on your experience, \$23-\$45 hour. We are hiring experienced roofers but we also love the new eager employee. If you are interested in being a part of a great team and a great company, please call and speak with Tony Frye today! 208-770-0343

NICKEL'S WORTH advises everyone to use caution when responding to employment listings. All employment inquiries should be free; if you have to pay to request information regarding a job opportunity, there's a good chance it's a scam

Moose, Bighorn Sheep, And Mountain Goat Controlled Hunt Application Period Opens April 1

— Idaho Dept. of Fish & Game —



To apply, each applicant must possess a 2026 Idaho hunting or combination license.

The application period for moose, bighorn sheep, and mountain goat controlled hunts opens April 1 and runs through April 30. Hunters can apply online, at any Fish and Game office, license vendor, or by calling 1 (800) 554-8685.

Apply online at GoOutdoorsIdaho.com.

Resident and nonresident can apply for moose, bighorn sheep, and mountain goat hunts, but nonresidents are limited to no more than 10% of the total number of tags for each species. To apply, each applicant must possess a 2026 Idaho hunting or combination license. There is a nonrefundable application fee of \$16.75 for residents and \$45.75 for nonresidents.

Moose, sheep, and goat hunt applicants must pay the tag fee along with the application fee when they apply. The total application fees for moose, bighorn sheep and mountain goat are:

- Residents under Price Lock: \$183.50

- Residents without Price Lock: \$216.50
- Nonresidents: \$2,672.50

Moose, sheep, and goat drawing results will be online in early June. Tag fees will be refunded to those who did not draw, but hunting license and application fees are non-refundable.

Hunters are reminded that moose, bighorn sheep, and mountain goat controlled hunt tags are excluded from designation by any parent or grandparent to their minor child or grandchild.

A person is allowed to apply for one of these three species in a year, and those who apply for a moose, sheep, or goat hunt are ineligible for most deer, elk, and pronghorn controlled hunt drawings.

For more information, review the 2025-2026 Moose, Bighorn Sheep, and Mountain Goat Seasons and Rules booklet, which is available online at idfg.idaho.gov/rules/moose-sheep-goat, at Fish and Game offices, and license vendors.

Moose, sheep, and goat tags are among Idaho's most coveted hunts and also among the most successful for harvest.

In 2025, hunter success was:

- Moose: 87%
- Bighorn Sheep: (California = 71%; Rocky Mountain = 81%)
- Mountain Goat: 100%

Moose hunters are reminded that in addition to the controlled hunts, there are four moose tags available through Fish and Game's Super Hunt program. Details on the Super Hunt program can be found on Page 42 of the 2025-26 Moose, Bighorn Sheep, and Mountain Goat Seasons and Rules booklet. The deadline for entries for the first Super Hunt drawing is May 31.

PART-TIME/ FULL-TIME yard clerk needed, \$20+ DOE, hiring immediately. Must have customer service/ cash handling experience. Loader experience not necessary, will train. Please apply in person at North Idaho Landscape Supplies or call 208-772-1883

Fairway Floor Inc.



Abby Carpet & Floor

LICENSED CARPET, VINYL and tile installers needed! Busy flooring store looking to add new sub-contractors for the Inland Northwest area. Start today! We offer competitive rates, call 208-777-7711

LAWN MAINTENANCE and gardening, 25 hours per week, now through late fall. Owner has all equipment. CdA, Rathdrum, Post Falls, Hayden locations. 208-640-4180

A **LOCALLY OWNED AND** operated construction company is now hiring. Our growing company has several positions to be filled immediately. Competitive wages, excellent daytime hours with occasional weekend or evening work available. Projects include decks, fences, remodels, tile, flooring, paint, siding and more! We are a great, close-knit company that provides work-life balance and an opportunity for growth and advancement for the right candidate(s). Please submit your resume or work history to Jobs@almightyconstructionllc.net. We look forward to hearing from you!



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WOOD WASTE DISPOSAL PAD OPERATOR

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- Strong Work Ethic & Reliable
- Able to Work Outdoors

APPLY IN PERSON!

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Post Falls, ID

Join Our Team & Grow With Us!

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Celebrate YOUR GRADUATE

Your high school graduate has worked hard to get here, celebrate their achievement with a picture in the first-ever Nickel's Worth Graduate Showcase! We'll print local graduates' pictures with their names, schools and a short message in our May 28th issue. It's only \$25 to have your graduate included, and we have an easy online form for submissions at bit.ly/4mabJL1. Please have everything in by Thursday, May 21st, and give us a call if you have any questions!

208-667-0651 • 208-667-2408
www.nickelsworth.com

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GARDENING SPECIAL ISSUE 2026



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PLAN AHEAD-COME SEE US



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110, 250
& 450
CT125



YZs
WR125
TW 200
TT-R50
TT-R110

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2023 CFMOTO CFORCE 600. 151 miles on it. Heat Demon hand and thumb warmers. Unit runs great, \$4500; \$4000 without the plow. 208-687-9609

TWO 3-WHEEL E-BIKES, nice condition, \$950 each. Three Honda Trail 90 parts bikes, \$750 for all. Three 1970s Suzuki TS125 parts/project enduros, \$1650. Rokon Scout, runs good, \$5400. Credit cards accepted, 208-762-5651



2022 SPORTSTER Forty-Eight, 1200cc, last year for the air-cooled Sportster. 705 original miles, all stock, with owner's manual. Always garaged, like new, \$8950. No test rides without cash in hand. Trades considered. Call 208-755-6773

BLACK SHEEP SPORTING Goods. Home of the lowest prices on all things outdoors. In the Silver Lake Mall, 200 W. Hanley, CdA. 208-667-7831; www.BlackSheepIdaho.com

1966 HONDA CT200 TRAIL 90 project bike, \$950. 1982 Honda CT70 Passport, runs good, \$1400. 2 Honda XL175 Project bikes, \$960. 2009 Polaris 500 X2 Sportsman 4-wheeler, nice condition, \$6200. 1986 Honda Fat Cat TR200, runs good, \$3600. Racing go-kart with Yamaha IT100 engine, \$2000. 1963 Honda Trail 55 project, \$2000. Rokon Scout, runs good, \$5400. Credit cards accepted. 208-762-5651

1979 CHRYSLER SNO Runner Sno-Rabbit, original Running Survivor snow bike, \$4250. Brand new 21 MPH ebike pit bike, \$650. Good running XR50R kids off-road 4-stroke dirt bike, \$950. Nice 100cc mini-bike, \$550. Nice 200cc mini-bike, \$860. Accepting credit cards, 208-755-6656

1987 HONDA XL600 ON/Off-road, nice original condition, \$3700. 2012 Polaris RZR 800 side-by-side, runs great, salvage title, \$6600. 1984 Yamaha Tri-Zinger 60 3-wheeler, \$1650; 40cc 4-stroke pocket bike, \$400. Honda eu2000i inverter generator, \$800. 2007 Harley Softail Chopper, nice condition, \$7700. 2003 Road King, nice condition, \$9750. Accepting credit cards, 208-762-5651

Mother Earth

— Marilyn Giuliani —

My temperature's rising
Some lands are parched, drying.
Concern my glaciers receding,
and it's frightening.
Forests are burning, and wildlife dying
Oceans are warming, precipitating
storming and flooding.
Fuels are clogging air
There's coughing and allergies
pollution everywhere.
Mother's scolding, warmings are heard
For she always knows best.
These lessons learned and followed through.
Will gratify and give her rest.
We'll lessen pollution, clean up our messy rooms
Maintain our forests, protect our waters.
for they have been blessed
Motherly wisdom passed on
Protecting the gifts she bestows upon.

We do it right the first time and stand behind our work with a written guarantee.

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AUTO BODY & RV 
(208) 457-4040 MONDAY-FRIDAY 7AM-5PM
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Recreational Vehicles

2006 25' SAFARI Airstream, 75th Anniversary model. Roof is refurbished, new fantastic fans, new skylight, and new flooring. Excellent condition! \$42,000. 208-818-1746 or 208-818-4236

RV LOT FOR RENT, \$975 monthly. Located in CdA, call 406-521-0289

BIG HORN RV, 34', electric and propane heat, fireplace, 3 tip-outs, washer/ dryer, king size bed, \$17,000 OBO. 208-627-7487

2020 STARCRAFT 21' CAMP trailer, great condition, used very little, really must see, has extras. Call Dennis, 208-763-4559, 9am-7pm

(2) GOODYEAR Endurance, 215/75R14, 10-ply, brand new, \$250 for both. 208-699-2196, Sagle

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... 10signs.org



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Bidding starts
8am Apr. 11th
Bidding ends
6pm Apr. 18th



LPOIC.org

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From custom made fishing poles & lures to resort stays

Sporting & Outdoor



(2) BICYCLES. MAGNA Fugitive men's mountain bike, 18 speed, blue, gel cushion on seat, rear view mirror, water bottle holder. Avalon 6001 women's cruiser bike, purple, 7-speed, zipper bag for personal items, steel cable key lock. Professional tune-ups done last year. \$50 each or \$85 for both. Additional pics at nickelsworth.com. Call or text 208-661-5771, Post Falls

RUGER 10/22, CAMO Stock, threaded barrel, three high-capacity magazines, \$350. Russian M44, like new condition, \$350. Savage Enfield, like new condition, \$550. 208-651-6609, all rifles come with ammo. Bonners Ferry, text is best

TOP DOLLAR PAID FOR quality firearms and related items. Old gold and silver coin, wanted. Call or text 208-661-4598

PHOTOS WANTED! HAVE some beautiful pictures of local scenery? Wildlife of the area? If you'd like to share them with the community, please send them to articles@nickelsworth.com or text 208-667-0651

AW, YOU REALLY LIKE US "I live in Western Montana but I get a lot of calls from CdA! This dog breeder in Western Montana loves the Nickel's Worth!" James, Sept. 2025

PAIR OF FREE SPIRIT double ski water skis, like new, \$100. 208-255-7316, leave message

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THULE BIKE RACK, HITCH mounted, holds 3 to 4 bikes, gently used, good condition, \$75. See additional photos online at nickelsworth.com. Call or text 208-661-5771, Post Falls

Expand Your Menu with a Versatile Enchilada Recipe

— Culinary.net via Family Features —



An easy recipe that can serve your family or a crowd is a perfect solution for any cookbook. Look no further than this Easy Enchilada Casserole, an ideal fit for family dinners or hosting a group when served as a dip. Visit Culinary.net to discover more versatile recipe ideas to keep on hand.

Easy Enchilada Casserole

Recipe courtesy of "Cookin' Savvy"

Servings: 6 (12 as appetizer)

- 1 pound ground beef
- 1 tablespoon minced onion
- 1 tablespoon garlic powder
- 1 cup rice
- 1 can (14 1/2 ounces) diced tomatoes
- 1 can (10.7 ounces) enchilada sauce
- 1 can (15 ounces) rinsed black beans
- 1 can (15 ounces) whole corn
- 1 1/2 cups shredded cheddar cheese, divided
- 2 tablespoons mesquite seasoning
- cilantro, for topping (optional)
- green onions, for topping (optional)

1. Heat oven to 350 F.
2. In skillet, brown ground beef with minced onion and garlic powder. Drain and set aside.
3. Cook rice according to package instructions.
4. In casserole dish, mix meat, tomatoes, enchilada sauce, black beans, corn, rice, 1 cup cheddar cheese and mesquite seasoning. Bake, covered, 20 minutes.
5. Top with remaining cheese, cilantro and green onions.

RIVER CITY PAWN FOR your guns, knives, gun transfers, and always buying gold. Check them out at 505 E. 6th Ave. in Post Falls, ID 83854. 208-457-9299

REMINGTON MODEL 700 30-06 Springfield bolt action rifle, Armsport 4x32 scope, walnut stock, leather sling, \$400, can send pics, 208-660-6825

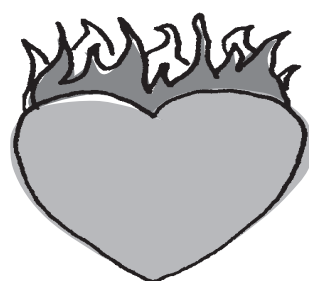
CHRISTY CARRIAGE, LIKE new. Comes with 7/8" or 3/4" swedge, about 1000 ft., \$3000 OBO. Can send pics if interested, 208-660-4744

372 HUSKY CHAINSAW. New 28" bar and chain, extra new chain and chain breaker, \$675 OBO. 208-875-9411, Potlatch

STIHL 18" MS 170 chainsaw, \$260. Near new 25 ton towable log splitter, \$1400. Osburn pedestal style woodstove, \$950. Stihl 16" gas chainsaw, \$175. Huge Stihl 084 chainsaw power-head, runs great, \$1450. New Alaskan chainsaw mill, \$260. Stihl 044 Magnum chainsaw, \$900. Stihl 029 25" chainsaw, \$470. Echo 14" top handle chainsaw, \$280. Like new medium size 6.5HP 13 ton log splitter, \$850. Replacement cylinder and piston kits, carburetors, files, bars and chains for many chainsaws. Tune-up and repair on saws. Visa, MasterCard, Discover accepted, 208-762-5651

STIHL MS 462 R Chainsaw, excellent condition, \$1250. Brand new Husqvarna 562 XP 24" chainsaw, \$880. 572 XP 28", \$1080. Like new 16" Stihl chainsaw, \$200. 4000 watt Champion generator, \$400. Like new Kohler wheelbarrow air compressor, \$1000. Like new medium size 6.5HP 13 ton log splitter, \$850. Tune-up and repair on chainsaws and snowblowers. Accepting credit cards. 208-762-5651

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NOW APPROVED IN Washington! Lower your heating bills and enjoy smoke free indoor comfort with the proven technology of a Classic Edge Titanium HDX Outdoor Wood Furnace. For a limited time, up to \$3400 in savings. Call DIWH Heating today for details! 208-946-5550

SHORT LOGS, THREE cord loads, \$300, \$400, \$500, \$600 per load, custom cut, call for details, 208-660-4740

STIHL 046 MAGNUM chainsaw, \$895. Small Quadra-Fire 2000, \$1150. Large Fisher Grandma Bear fireplace in sert/ wood stove, \$1350. New 20" bar and chain combos to fit Husqvarna and many other saws, \$60. New chainsaw safety chaps, \$85. New Craftsman electric chainsaw, \$60. Stihl 039 gas chainsaw, \$650. Lennox oil furnace, \$600. Older Riteway wood furnace, \$980. Nice Vermont Castings Aspen 1920 wood stove, \$1750. Tune-up and repairs on chainsaws and snowblowers. Accepting credit cards, 208-762-5651

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 seafood, and so much more!
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PUREBRED DUTCH rabbits, limit one per family \$5 donation. Phone calls only, 208-625-9762

BLACK BALDY BEEF steer calf, born on 3/10/26, currently raised on hay and milk replacer at 1-1.5 gallons per day. \$1200 before 4/18/26. Mike Ripatti, 208-267-5997

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BRAND NEW CORRAL panels, medium weight, excellent for horses, 12'x5', \$110 each. Discounts available on purchase of 100+, call for details. Cash only. No texts, phone calls only, 208-651-8698

BRAND NEW 12' STEEL corral panels, portable, green in color, \$110 each, until sold. 208-651-8698, calls only, no texts

BLACK ANGUS/ WAGYU bull coming, 2 year old, \$3000. 208-660-8438, Sagle



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**DIGGING
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 DONE?**
 Find it in the
 Nickel's Worth

National Gardening Day April 14th

— National Day Calendar —



National Gardening Day on April 14th encourages gardeners and would-be gardeners to pick up a shovel, plant some seeds, and kick off a beautiful year of homegrown bounty.

#NationalGardeningDay

Whether you want to grow vegetables, fruit, flowers, houseplants, or anything in between, National Gardening Day celebrates a satisfying pastime that you will enjoy for decades.

Growing your own food also provides fresh and natural nourishment for your family and saves you time and money at the grocery store.

As many gardeners know, the benefits of gardening come from more than the produce. Spending time in the garden also provides physical activity and an opportunity to join with nature.

The day is a call to action to get out and grow flower or vegetable gardens. No matter how you garden, plant in the ground, in containers, in straw bales or in a square foot gardening box. Just garden!

8 WAYS TO CELEBRATE GARDENING DAY

1. There are many ways that you can celebrate the day, including:
2. Find the right book, guide or resource for your needs at Cool Springs Press, county extension service, the local bookstore or library.
3. Look for a community garden in your area.
4. Organize a seed and perennial plant swap with neighbors and friends.
5. Join a garden club. There isn't one near? Start one!
6. Visit your local nursery or garden center—you will be amazed and excited by all the beautiful options

7. Visit Quarto Homes on Facebook and Instagram for more gardening information
8. While you're gardening, be sure to share your experience with others on social media using #NationalGardeningDay, #garden and #gardening.
9. Educators and family, check out the National Day Calendar Classroom for fun projects designed to #CelebrateEveryDay!

NATIONAL GARDENING DAY HISTORY

Cool Springs Press, an imprint of The Quarto Group, founded National Gardening Day on April 14 to celebrate gardening and to encourage home gardeners and students to learn more about how to garden.

In 2018, the Registrar at National Day Calendar® proclaimed the day to be observed annually on April 14th.

About Cool Springs Press

Celebrating over twenty-five years of inspiring gardeners, Cool Springs Press is a leading publisher of best-selling gardening books with titles that cover all facets of plant cultivation and gardening techniques, both indoors and out.

Gardening FAQ

- Q. Can anyone celebrate National Gardening Day?
- A. Yes! Anyone can celebrate the day, even apartment dwellers. Container gardening and cooperative gardening make it possible for people without a yard to garden too.
- Q. I don't have a green thumb. How can I learn to garden?
- A. Green thumbs are not required to learn to garden. Attend gardening seminars to gain knowledge. Read up about the plants that thrive in your zone. Start with some easy plants to grow such as:

- Radishes
- Lettuce
- Potatoes
- Herbs
- Zinnias
- Pansies
- Bachelor Buttons
- Marigolds

Community Calendar

Experience the Outdoors, Friday, April 10th, 8am-4pm at Lookout Pass Ski & Snowboard Resort, I-90 at Exit 0, Mullan, free of charge, compliments of Parker Subaru. Vouchers prior to this day can be picked up at the dealership located at 314 W. Clayton Ave., CdA. Present pass at Lookout's ticket booth for a free lift ticket to be used April 10 only. Vouchers are limited - first come, first serve. More info at skilookout.com/event/parker-subaru-ski-free-day.

Spring Craft Fair & Market, Saturday, April 11th,

9am-4pm at Lake City HS, 6101 N. Ramsey Rd., CdA. Support local artists offering homemade goods, spring decor, and more - over 100 vendors. Note admission is \$3 for adults; free for children ages 5 and under. Proceeds benefit LCHS's Class of 2026 Safe & Sober Grad Party.

Bloom Into Spring Craft Show, Saturday, April 11th, 10am-3pm at Rathdrum Lions Club, 16141 N. Meyer Rd., Rathdrum. Presented by Rathdrum Craft & Farmers Market for your enjoyment.

Courtesy of Coeur d'Alene Insider, cdainsider.com

Hay & Feed

BARN STORED BIG Square grass, \$125 bale. 2 year old grass, \$100 bale; canary grass, \$80 bale. Cash, 509-995-4824, 509-995-4823

BARN STORED, LADY sized, 70 lbs. Orchard grass or Timothy, \$300. 509-445-1148, Usk, WA

SMALL SQUARE BALES of straw, \$6 bale. Wheat and barley. Will machine load flat beds. 208-661-6616, south of Bonners Ferry

TOP QUALITY FIRST AND second cutting irrigated alfalfa. Regular 70 lb. bales, also lots of round bales. \$200-\$275 per ton, load by appt., Post Falls. 208-964-4902, 208-659-2846

YOU'LL ALWAYS TALK TO a real person at the Nickel's Worth! Never automated! 208-667-0651

ALFALFA, BARN STORED, \$10 bale, 4x5 round bales, \$100. 208-773-3663



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 DONE?**
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 Nickel's Worth

Horses & Tack

AMERICAN 4 HORSE trailer, well taken care of interior, needs TLC, \$4000. 208-627-7487

MOTIVATE OUR 60,000+ readers to check out your business! Place an ad in the Nickel's Worth, 208-667-0651

Pets

SEEKING LOVING Forever homes for our beautiful Maine Coon kittens! Available now. 1 polydactyl. 208-704-2295, call or text for info, photo on nickelsworth.com



WHITEWOLF HUSKY Haven Rescue. Husky pups, shelter rescues. All ages. Call for details, 208-597-5509

AKC MINIATURE Schnauzer male puppies ready 4/28. 2 salt and peppers and 1 black and silver. Tails and dew-claws done. Vaccinated and vet health check by 7 weeks. 30 years raising minis. Will meet in WA and parts of OR for delivery. I don't ship. Text or call 509-778-1584. Tri-Cities

SECOND CHANCE PETS, Inc. All dogs spayed or neutered. Floki, 2 year purebred male Catahoula, gorgeous, black and rust coat, one person dog; Eb, 2 year male black German Shepherd, great friendly dog! Freckles, 10 month female purebred Bluetick Coonhound: friendly, social, wonderful family dog option; Mitzi, 1 year female Black Lab/Whippet mix, super athletic and well behaved; Penny, 8 year old female Shepadoodle, grey non-shedding wire coat, great with all; Tikka, 7 year old female Corgi/ Cattle Dog mix, best as an only dog, but loves people; Deacon, 7 year male liver/ white wirehaired Pointing Griffon, well trained, great dog! Preacher, 7 year old male purebred wirehaired Pointing Griffon; Lily, 2 year female silver Miniature Schnauzer, 10 lbs.; Hank, 8 year male Shih Tzu/Poodle mix, 15 lbs., non-shedding curly gray and white coat, no tail; Tilly, cute 5 year female Havanese/Yorkie mix, 20 lbs.; Max, 3 year male blue merle and white Aussiedoodle, non-shedding curly coat, 50 lbs. You can search for Second Chance Pet Rescue, Hayden, ID on petfinder.com, or email idahocoondog@yahoo.com for information

IRISH SETTER PUPPIES. Born 3/27, will come with 1st shots and deworming. \$250 deposit to hold, \$500 total. Call or text 509-439-7281. Sunnyside

FRENCHTON PUPPIES: 3 puppies left, 3 months old. Black/ brindle with white male, \$1500. Black/ white male, \$1500. Merle female, \$2000. Up to date on shots (2 right now), dewormed, sweet and loving puppies! Come with puppy starter pack. I have references and repeat customers. Text or call 509-607-8111



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PERFECT PUPPY FRENCH Bulldog mix with 12% Shiba Inu produced this wonderful boy with none of the typical Frenchy health issues. Athletic, affectionate, funny, gentle, and intelligent. Wormed, vaccinated, fully housebroken, \$500. Taking deposits on litter of similar pups available 5/1. 208-217-0177. Online pictures at nickelsworth.com

AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD puppies, males and females. Also, Border Collie/ Aussie mix puppies, males only. Merles and black tris. \$350. 208-964-2508



WE HAVE TWO Beautiful puppies for sale. They're Australian Shepherd and Border Collie mix. Male is \$350 and female is \$450. 208-755-4943, Hayden, ID

SHOSHONE PET RESCUE! Darrin, young male black Shepherd/ Husky; Justice, senior male German Shepherd; TukTuk, young medium sized mixed breed male; Corky, 2 year Shepherd mix male puppy; Russo, 7 month male Husky mix puppy; Topsy, 6 month female Lab/ Pit Bull/ Hound mix puppy; Ellie, young adult female black Lab; Molly B'Golly, senior special needs miniature Pinscher mix; Domino, young adult male American Bulldog mix; Finn, young adult male Australian Cattle dog/ Blue Heeler. More info at www.spr.petfinder.com or call 208-512-3401

FEMALE YORKIE TERRIER puppies. Vet checked, first shots. Call 208-699-0621

AIREDALE 5 YEAR OLD intact female. Loves cats, children, dogs. Gentle, loving, house trained, grooms well; papered. St. Maries, 208-245-5750, lounsburyc361@gmail.com



F1B MINI Goldendoodles born December 1st: Non-shedding, hypoallergenic, sociable, vet health check, vaccinations, \$700. Text 406-830-7854, pawsfur-ever.com

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Pets of the Week: Deena and Murphy

— Companions Animal Center —



Deena is a sweet six-month-old bunny who is available for adoption to a loving and sweet home.



Murphy is an 11-year-old male who is a gentle, sweet senior pug looking for a calm and loving home to spend his golden years. He may be 11, but he still has plenty of love to give and enjoys short walks, cozy naps, and being close to his favorite people.



Companions Animal Center is located at 10275 N Atlas Rd, Hayden, ID. We are open to the public Tuesday-Saturday noon-6pm, Sunday noon-4pm, and closed Mondays. Visit www.companionsanimalcenter.org or call 208-772-4019 for more information.

MINI BOYKINDOODLE puppies: 1/2 purebred Boykin Spaniel, 1/2 purebred Miniature Poodle. Ready for their forever homes weekend of April 18th. Hypoallergenic, very smart and easy to train. Tails are docked, up to date on shots and deworming. We have medium curly and extra curly coats. Colors are black with white tips on paws and chest. 3 females and 2 males. \$600 each. \$200 non-refundable deposit to reserve your puppy. We are in the Yakima Valley area. For more info, call or text 509-301-3855

POMSKY PUPPIES available: 5 females, ready to go 3/31, vet health checks. Will travel to deliver. 509-491-0784, texts are welcome!

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TWO MALE FRENCH Bulldogs, full AKC reg. Up to date on vaccinations. 11 weeks old. Located in Pasco, WA. \$1700. For more info, call or text 509-274-0860

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AKC SHIH TZU MALE puppy: He's joyful and loves attention! 9 weeks. Had his first vaccination, dewormer and wellness checkup done on 3/30/26. He's pad trained. Will be a great companion. AKC limited reg, \$2000. For more info: 541-720-7332

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FRENCH BULLDOG PUPS, AKC, 2 blue males, 1 cream female ready to go May 14th. Vet checked, first shots, wormed, puppy package and one year health guarantee. Beautiful puppies raised in our home; very socialized. \$2500 males, \$3000 female. Call or text 509-560-9028, 509-994-8762, CdA area. Additional photos online at nickelsworth.com

DACHSHUND PUPPY, male, 8 weeks, black and brindle, short hair, vet checked, 1st round of shots, non-registered. Asking \$1200. 208-582-8274 St. Maries

MINIATURE BULLDOGS available for their new homes. Up to date on shots, ready to go now. Asking \$1000. 208-416-3237

SNOW BENGAL KITTEN: Born 2/2/26, male, hand raised in home, paperwork available on request, 1st vaccine and deworming, \$900. Text 509-362-0363

SILVER VALLEY CAT Wranglers: Several nice adult cats plus kittens available now. We are always in need of foster homes and volunteers. Text or call 208-446-7131. Facebook.com/SilverValleyCatWranglers

CHOW CHOW PUPPIES! Ready for new homes on 4/4, born 2/14/26, 1st shots and wormed, \$375. Both parents on site. 509-528-0652

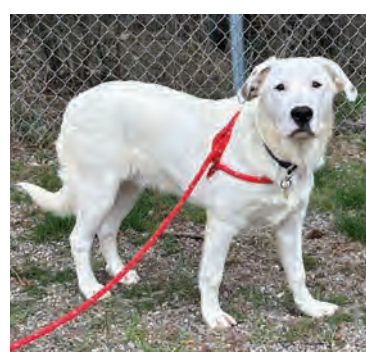
CHIHUAHUAS: ADORABLE 2 month old Chihuahua puppies ready for their new homes! If you've been looking for the perfect tiny companion, I have 2 beautiful Chihuahua puppies, 1 male and 1 female, who are ready to bring joy into their new families. They're healthy, playful, and full of personality. Both puppies have their 1st shots, are eating well, and are already showing that classic Chihuahua charm: loyal, alert, and incredibly loving. These little ones are perfect for anyone wanting a small, affectionate dog that fits easily into any home or lifestyle. Whether you're looking for a snuggly lap buddy or a lively little shadow who follows you everywhere, these pups are ready to bond with their forever person. I'm asking \$800 each, which reflects their care, shots, and quality. Serious inquiries only. Contact Vivianna at 509-975-4111. If you're ready to meet your new best friend, reach out today. These sweet babies won't be available for long

Pets of the Week: Orchid and BamBam

— Priest River Animal Rescue —



Orchid is a gentle and sweet cat seeking a patient, understanding home. As he's new to our shelter, Orchid is still adjusting and remains shy and a bit tense. However, he's already showing signs of progress—recently accepting a chin scratch, which is a big step for him. Orchid will flourish in a calm, cat-savvy household where he can take his time to settle in. With patience and care, he's sure to blossom into a loving and loyal companion.



BamBam, sponsored by Cheri, is a gentle seven-month-old pup who arrived with his siblings after growing up outdoors. Though initially timid, BamBam's sweet personality shines as he learns to trust people through gentle socialization and leash training. He'll thrive in a quiet, patient home with a securely fenced yard. With continued positive reinforcement and kindness, BamBam will blossom into a loyal, affectionate companion. If you're interested in meeting BamBam or his siblings, please complete our online application for approval before visiting.



Phone: 208-448-0699 | Email: pranimalhouse@hotmail.com
Website: pranimalrescue.org | Address: 5538 Highway 2, Priest River, Idaho

Our hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 11:00am to 4:00pm. Walk-ins are welcome to see the adoptable animals. We have a wonderful Critters Thrift Store full of hidden treasures.

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2001 FORD F250 SUPER Duty, extended cab, 4x4, automatic, XLT, AC, 7.3 diesel, 165,000 original miles, very clean pickup truck, \$20,000. More pictures at www.GreatNorthernEquip.com. Calls only, 509-535-4427, Spokane

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2008 DODGE RAM 2500 4x4 Crew Cab. 6-speed manual transmission, 290,000 miles, 6.7 Cummins, \$11,500. 406-529-3820, Sanders County, MT

2005 FORD SUPER DUTY F350 4x4 crew cab long bed, 6 .0 diesel, needs some work; has winch and snowplow, 350K miles, \$8850. 208-762-5651

Fried Chicken from the Comfort of Home

— Culinary.net via Family Features —



If frying chicken at home seems too daunting of a task, rest assured – these homemade Fried Chicken Tenders take the guesswork out of a comforting favorite. With buttery flavor and less mess, going out for fried chicken will be a thing of the past. To find more ways to bring your favorite flavors home, visit Culinary.net.

Fried Chicken Tenders

Recipe courtesy of "Cookin' Savvy"

Servings: 4

Oil of choice, for frying

1/2 stick butter



- 2 eggs
- 2 cups milk
- 3 pounds chicken breast, cut into strips
- 2 cups flour
- 1/4 cup barbecue seasoning of choice
- 1/4 cup mesquite seasoning
- salt, to taste
- pepper, to taste
- dipping sauce of choice (optional)

1. Fill Dutch oven or large frying pan halfway with oil and butter; heat over medium heat.
2. In large bowl, mix eggs and milk then place chicken strips in mixture.
3. In separate bowl, mix flour, barbecue seasoning and mesquite seasoning. Add salt and pepper, to taste.
4. Remove 4-6 chicken strips from milk mixture and cover completely in flour mixture.
5. Drop pinch of flour in hot oil; if it crackles, it's hot enough. Once hot, fry battered chicken 4 minutes then, using tongs or fork, turn over and fry 4 minutes. When done, chicken will be golden and almost float. Remove from frying pan and repeat with remaining chicken.
6. Serve with dipping sauce of choice, if desired.

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Biologists Observe Leks To Estimate Bird Populations

— Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks —

Spring is well-known to be the season of breeding, especially for birds. Grouse, however, take it to another level.

One thing that makes grouse breeding strategies unique is the use of a lek. A lek is defined by Merriam-Webster as "an assembly area where animals gather for competitive courtship displays." Male grouse use these leks to attract females, usually in the early morning and evenings of early spring. Biologists use these leks as a convenient way to count birds.

Mountain grouse males, such as the dusky grouse, ruffed grouse and spruce grouse, perform their breeding displays in forested areas, usually on their own or in small groups, and aren't really "leks" per se. Biologists can do general counts for these birds, listening at certain distance increments for evidence of a display taking place.

For prairie grouse like sharptails and sage-grouse, on the other hand, the lek display and area is more of a region-wide social event. Prairie grouse leks are large, accommodating dozens of birds, and are often found on fairly flat, elevated areas with sparse vegetation, allowing biologists to observe numbers from afar without disturbing the dance.

This prairie lek site gives eager males a proper stage to strut their stuff, display, make noise and occasionally "fight" to try and impress the females, who are the ones that do the choosing. Statistics show that a very small percentage of the males mate with the majority of the females.

The displays are different depending upon the species. Male sharptailed grouse are very active – think

a rave-type club – where they stomp their feet up to 40 times per second with tails erect looking like little wind-up toys, inflate colorful neck sacs and make many different sounds to show their worth.

Male sage-grouse are more subtle – think a jazz lounge – where they perform a booming "wet-blurp" sound and showcase a prominent air sac and colorful feather display, mostly by puffing up their chest and strutting around with their tail feathers fanned out.

Birds return to lekking grounds, for the most part, year after year and sometimes for decades. Occasionally, birds will abandon a lek, especially if populations become low or if there are constant disturbances or threats. However, as things change over years, old leks will become active again.

FWP staff, other land agencies and some volunteers stay busy every spring counting prairie birds in the early morning hours on specific long-studied leks, while keeping their eyes and ears out for new or yet undiscovered leks. These efforts give biologists a general idea of population trends from year to year.

Keep in mind, however, that although the number of birds on the lek is important for estimating current populations, even more important for upland bird season forecasts are the success of nesting, chick-rearing and brood survival throughout the spring and summer.

All birds seen on spring leks are at least 1 year old and considered adults. During hunting season, juvenile birds are more frequently harvested than adults, so a good bird season really depends on good brood survival AFTER the lek.

If you ever get a chance to observe a lek, arrive at least 45 minutes before sunrise, be a good distance away and remain in your vehicle if possible, stay quiet and avoid disrupting the lek at all costs. If the party gets busted, it could significantly set back breeding opportunity.

Pickups & Vans



1999 FORD F-250. V-10, 142K miles, auto transmission, 4x4, 8' Rhino lined bed with flip back cover, AC, power D&W, cruise, trailer mirrors, seat covers, new headliner, aluminum wheels, tires 90%+, front and rear work lamps, new head and turn signals, very well maintained. \$13,000 OBO. Keith, 208-964-2634

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SALE: 1951 CHEVY Fleetline 2-door. Too much to list. Needs work; have parts. Calls only, 208-582-2699, no text

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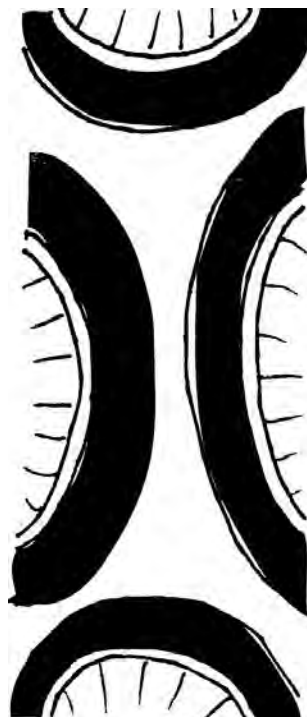
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CHRISTENSEN ARMS Ridgeline FFT rifle, 300 PRC, fluted bolt, carbon wrap barrel, Sitka optics Subalpine dip stock, \$2000. Call or text 208-661-2280, Hayden, ID

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GLOCK 43x WITH Holosun 507K green dot sight, two mags, threaded and standard barrels, extended mag release, extended slide release, Atex trigger, box of ammo, \$950. Pics available. Gary, 208-659-6936

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Cooney Comeback: State Park Reservoir Repairs to be Completed Spring '26

— Montana Fish, Wildlife, & Parks —

BILLINGS, Montana — June 2022 will long be remembered for catastrophic flooding on the Yellowstone River and its tributaries. Many communities in southern Montana suffered significant damage, and several continue to repair infrastructure.

When such disasters strike, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks strives to safely maintain access at its sites. Occasionally, this requires major construction. At Cooney State Park south of Billings, sustained high water and destructive wave action from the flood caused severe erosion and washouts at multiple sites along the shoreline, limiting access to the park's abundant recreational resources.

This spring, FWP will complete a shoreline restoration project to preserve the park's infrastructure and ensure quality, safe experiences for current and future park visitors. Visitors can still enjoy all Cooney has to offer during the construction, which is scheduled to run from April 6 to May 13, but visitors should expect increased equipment and truck traffic.

"No one likes construction traffic and noise, especially when trying to relax at the lake," said Ryder Pagen, Region 5 recreation manager. "However, sometimes a project of this nature and scope is necessary to maintain and protect our sites."

Created in 1937, Cooney is a 733-acre irrigation reservoir that sits on Red Lodge Creek, a tributary of Rock Creek. Although the primary purpose of the reservoir's stored water is irrigation, Cooney boasts abundant recreational opportunities. The area

became a state park in 1969 and, today, consistently ranks among one of the busiest in Montana.

In 2024, 186,672 visitors came through Cooney State Park. Visitors to the park enjoy a variety of recreational opportunities, most notably walleye and rainbow trout fishing, boating and camping. Currently, the park manages and maintains 82 campsites, three boat ramps, several day-use areas with vault latrines, a comfort station and a fish-cleaning station. Facilities are typically full every weekend between Memorial Day and Labor Day.

Since the 2022 flood, erosion and damage has accelerated along Cooney's shoreline, encroaching on the park's infrastructure and at times limiting recreational opportunities at this popular park. Due to the soil composition of the area and significant wave energy during high winds, Cooney's shores are especially susceptible to erosion.

The construction project this spring will re-establish and stabilize eroded shoreline at Marshall Cove and Red Lodge campgrounds and along Lake Shore Road near Fisherman's Point Campground. Rock riprap and gravel will be used to maintain and protect the campgrounds and county road, improve environmental conditions at the lake and plan for future flood control. In Marshall Cove Campground, there will be additional construction to raise the height of the shoreline road and boat ramp and a new access road into the day-use area will also be constructed.

Construction will take place when the water level in the reservoir is low to allow crew access to the project sites without causing significant water turbidity. Restrictions will be in place at 17 campsites within Marshall Cove and Red Lodge campgrounds, and the Marshall Cove boat ramp will be closed for the duration of the project. Otherwise, the park will remain open to visitors and all use.

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ROCK-OLA M1 .30 carbine, USGI, 4.5mm, 1943-44, made by the Rock-ola Music Co., probably early in 1944. The receiver has the original gray-green parkerized finish, which perfectly matches the finish on the Rock-ola marked barrel. I am of the opinion that the barrel is original to the receiver. The bore is bright and shiny and the muzzle wear measures at 1.8 on my gauge. No import marks, \$800. Location, Montana. Text or call 406-208-6937

AMMO. 500 ROUNDS 300 Blackout, \$300. Remington 1889 double barrel 12 gauge, \$500. Glock 19 Gen5, new, \$600. CMMG 22LR AR conversion kit, \$100. Rathdrum, ID, 907-982-5415

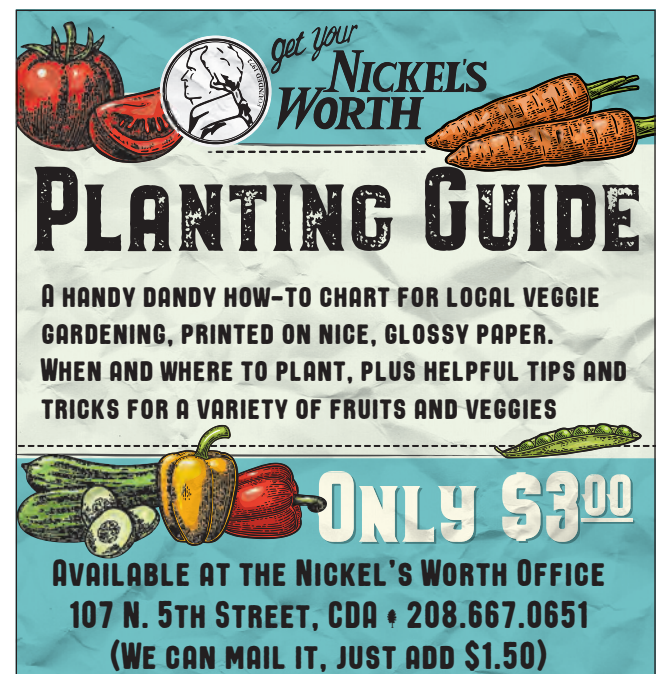
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Mix Up the Everyday: New Ways to Elevate At-Home Cooking

— Family Features —



Most families know and love their tried-and-true family traditions, especially when it comes to the secret sauces, time-tested techniques and recipes that deserve to be passed down from generation to generation. No matter how legendary the home cooks, though, there's always room for new tricks, whether it's a fresh spin on a classic dish or a smarter tool that makes the after-dinner cleanup effortless.

Incorporating new techniques and fresh ideas can invigorate your everyday cooking in unexpected ways. Consider these grandma-approved twists on tradition from the experts at Finish, who offer winning ways to enhance cleanup no matter what techniques you turn to in the kitchen.

Plan Ahead

If you're used to throwing together dinner at the last minute, learning to meal prep can help with trying new recipes. Take a look at what you have on hand before scouring a few cookbooks (or cooking websites) for appetizing dishes to try then head to the store to fill in the missing ingredients. Meal planning may save you time, money and, perhaps, a little sanity – and potentially help you branch out your menu, too.

Club It Up

Joining a cookbook club allows you to flex your social muscles and sample new recipes and techniques from different cultures with fellow foodies. For example, this savory, meat-free Lubiye recipe just may become a new household favorite. Featuring stewed green beans simmered in a vegan broth with the added kick of Aleppo pepper and sweet red pepper paste, it's both bright and rich, and pairs well with rice, lavash or thin pita with a smattering of raw onions for a little extra punch.

Simplify Cleanup

Once the cookbooks have been shelved and the plates have been cleared, tackle the cleaning jobs with an option like the new Finish Ultimate Quantum – their breakthrough dishwashing detergent with Finish's most advanced formula yet – offering an unbeatable clean even on tough stains in hard water (220 PPM). This grandma-approved technique can help you conquer clean dishes, so it makes sense to switch.

Veg Out

If meat is in constant rotation at your house, consider rotating in a Meatless Monday meal like pasta primavera, or celebrate your own version of Taco Tuesday with bean- or lentil-based tacos instead of chicken, pork or beef. Opting for vegetarian or vegan meals utilizing hearty veggies like squash, eggplant and potatoes can help you save money at the grocery store and nourish your body with heart-healthy nutrients.

Grow a Garden

Starting a garden may seem like a daunting task, but it doesn't have to be. You can begin with a few

herbs growing on a windowsill before embarking on a bigger outdoor gardening project, where transforming a small patch of earth for growing vegetables, herbs or berry bushes can be just the thing to elevate eating at home.

To learn more, visit finishdishwashing.com.

Lubiye

Lebanese Green Beans Stewed with Tomatoes and Garlic
Recipe courtesy of Jeanette Chawki and the League of Kitchens on behalf of Finish

Servings: 4-6

- 2 pounds string beans or flat green beans
- 1/8 pound garlic (about 18 medium cloves)
- 7 1/2 cups water, divided
- 1 1/4 pounds plum tomatoes (about 5)
- 1 tablespoon sweet red pepper paste
- 1 1/2 teaspoons tomato paste
- 1/2 teaspoon white sugar
- 1/2-1 teaspoon crushed Aleppo pepper flakes
- 1/2 cup extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 tablespoon kosher salt, or to taste
- 1 large white or yellow onion, for serving

thin pita, lavash or another flatbread, for serving (optional)

1. Trim ends of string beans or flat green beans. Put beans in bowl. Use hands to break beans into 2-3 pieces about 1 1/2 inches long.
2. Peel garlic. Trim rough or damaged root ends and cut large cloves in half lengthwise.
3. In medium saucepan, bring 6 cups water to boil. Once boiling, carefully add plum tomatoes and cook just until skins begin to break, 4-5 minutes. Turn off heat and drain. When tomatoes are cool enough to handle, remove and discard skin.
4. Cut tomatoes into rough 1/2-inch chunks, removing any white or green parts near stem. Put tomato chunks in bowl. In separate small bowl, stir sweet red pepper paste, tomato paste, white sugar, crushed Aleppo pepper flakes and 1/2 cup water until paste is dissolved into liquid; set aside.
5. In large wok or skillet with deep sides over high heat, heat extra-virgin olive oil.
6. Add garlic and fry, shaking pot occasionally, until cloves lightly brown, about 90 seconds. Add green beans and stir with wooden spoon. Turn heat to medium-low and stir in kosher salt. Add 1 cup water and stir. Raise heat to high to bring water back to simmer then lower to medium-low. Cover and cook, stirring occasionally, just until beans are cooked through, about 20 minutes.
7. Stir in tomatoes and pepper paste mixture, increase heat to high and cook until liquid boils. Cover pot, keeping lid slightly ajar, reduce heat to medium-low and cook until tomatoes are soft, sauce has thickened slightly and garlic is tender, about 20 minutes. Taste for salt and add if needed. Keep warm until ready to serve.
8. Put down clean dish towel and place onion on top. Smash onion with heavy cutting board 2-5 times then peel it.
9. Squeeze whole onion over sink between hands to remove some juices. Wash onion under cold running water, squeeze it between hands again then pull it apart into pieces, removing roots and any stem, and put it on small serving plate.
10. If using pita, separate circles into two thin pieces. Bake or toast thin pita, lavash or other flatbread until crispy or blackened in spots. For sandwiches, warm bread.
11. Serve stewed green beans and raw onion with pita, lavash or other flatbread, either open-faced or rolled into sandwich.

Source: Finish – www.finishdishwashing.com

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