



MISSION STATEMENT:

To foster collaboration between industry, education, and the community to meet the region's workforce demands.

VISION STATEMENT:

To be a catalyst for Southwest Wyoming's industrial growth, powered by a future-ready, skilled workforce. Through strategic partnerships and lifelong learning, we aim to build a sustainable talent pipeline that drives economic prosperity and provides individuals with rewarding career opportunities.

Welcome to the team of business and industry leaders who are dedicated to promoting Southwest Wyoming manufacturing, technology and workforce development.

[Visit our Website](#)

This Issue Sponsored By:



**MANUFACTURING
WORKS**

Hello JESSICA,

Welcome to the SWMP newsletter!

Have something you want to share in the newsletter?

Send info or questions to swmpnewsletter@gmail.com

**UPCOMING
EVENTS**

WE ARE EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE

COMMUNITY CARE / HEALTH FAIR EVENT



ON JUNE 21ST 9AM – NOON

WHITE MOUNTAIN MALL · ROCK SPRINGS, WY

This is a community-based event designed to offer education and information about helpful resources available to Sweetwater County residents.

We would love to have your organization be part of the event. We will be sending out flyers containing more information soon, this is just a heads up so if your organization is interested you can get it on your calendar!

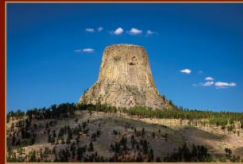




CRITICAL MINERALS LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

AUGUST 3-10, 2025 | LARAMIE, WYOMING

Assembling future leaders with diverse backgrounds to build a strong domestic critical minerals network and contribute to the build out of critical minerals industries.



The Inaugural CMLA 2025 program will consist of lectures, workshops, and field excursions in Wyoming, highlighting conventional and unconventional critical mineral research and development.

Applications will be accepted from graduate students and early career professionals invested in critical minerals research and development across the supply chain, including those working in geology, engineering, data analytics, business, community engagement, social science, law, policy, and other disciplines.

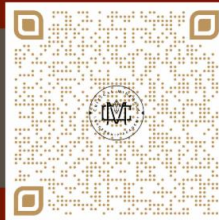
Applicants must have U.S. Citizenship.

VISIT WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION AND APPLY!

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U.S. DEPARTMENT
of ENERGY



Hosted by



UNIVERSITY
of WYOMING | School of
Energy Resources



SPONSORS WANTED!

Are you interested in sponsoring the 2025 Golf Tournament? We have plenty of different tiers to fit your

budget and understand the importance of your support. Last year's event was a great success and we hope to have you join us this year!

[Watch Video](#)

[Learn More](#)

WHAT'S

NEW



Mentorship Program has had Great Success

We recently wrapped up our final mentorship session of the school year through the Southwest Wyoming Manufacturing Partnership, and it was a moment to reflect on the growth, connections, and conversations that have taken place over the past few months.

From exploring career pathways and identifying transferable skills to practicing interview techniques and navigating workplace challenges, these students have shown incredible curiosity, resilience, and drive. But perhaps the most impactful part of this experience has been the relationships built — between mentors and students, and among the students themselves.

A huge thank you to the mentors who shared their time, expertise, and personal stories. Your guidance has made a lasting impact, and we're grateful for your commitment to shaping the next generation of workers and leaders.

Next school year, we're expanding into **more schools and more classrooms**, bringing even more real-world experiences, practical skill-building, and meaningful conversations to students across the region.

Stay tuned — we're just getting started.

Want to get involved? Reach out and see how you can contribute.



Real-World Readiness in Action

Rawlins High School Mock Interviews

Recently, Rawlins High School (RHS) seniors stepped up and participated in mock interviews to sharpen their communication and job-readiness skills. These students practiced real-world scenarios and received valuable feedback from local industry professionals across Carbon County.

Katie Smith, the Echo Springs Operations Supervisor with Williams, initially approached the school a few months ago about coordinating an event for our seniors to navigate job interviewing. With a great deal of planning and organizing with Heidi Helm, RHS Career and Technical Education (CTE) Coordinator, this event was a success. This was an amazing opportunity not only for RHS students who are graduating and going right into the workforce, but also a valuable life skill for those entering college to help prepare them for employment later in life.

Numerous industry representatives took time out of their week to present to and interview RHS students

and build this partnership for future events. On Monday, Katie Smith and Missy Turney and Ashlie Pacheco with the Department of Workforce Services (DWS), presented to RHS seniors on how to build a resume. On Tuesday, Katie, along with Shawn Moore and Thomas Gamblin, also from Williams, and Jacqueline Wells with Public Health, who are all RHS graduates, made up an interview panel, where they provided students with answers to behavior-based interview questions.

On Wednesday & Thursday, employees from Williams, HF Sinclair, Crowheart Energy, LLC, Rawlins Fire Department, Rawlins Police Department, Wyoming Workforce Services, WLC Engineering and Surveying, Public Health, Memorial Hospital of Carbon County, Wyoming Construction Coalition, Credit Service Company, Diane Kulmus and Amy Canaday, local business owners, and RHS staff then did mock interviews with RHS seniors.

Each interviewer was given a list of behavior-based questions and a scoring rubric to use during the mock interview. After the interview, the students were given both verbal and written feedback from the interviewer. Several of the interviewers approached RHS staff after the event regarding their interest in doing an actual interview with some of the students because they would be employable in their company.

Special thanks to:

- Katie Smith (Williams) for initiating the event
- Heidi Helm (RHS CTE Coordinator) for organizing logistics
- All the professionals who gave their time and insight
- Jennifer Moore, MBA Moore at Carbon County Higher Education Center for sharing this update

**This is SWMP's mission in action—building strong pathways between
students and the industries shaping Wyoming's future**



Voices of Business Echo Across Southwest Wyoming

The Wyoming Business Alliance recently brought its "Voices of Business" series to the communities of Pinedale and Kemmerer, continuing its mission to connect with local leaders, listen to community challenges, and spotlight collaborative efforts that are making a difference across the state.

At both forums, housing shortages and "brain drain"—the loss of young talent to out-of-state opportunities—were identified as critical barriers to economic growth. Business owners, educators, and community

stakeholders shared stories of struggling to attract and retain skilled workers due to the lack of available and affordable housing, as well as the ongoing trend of students leaving Wyoming after graduation.

Despite these challenges, a strong sense of optimism emerged—driven in large part by the successes of the **Southwest Wyoming Manufacturing Partnership (SWMP)**. This coalition of industry leaders, educators, and community partners is turning the tide by actively bridging the gap between education and workforce development.

The SWMP's collaboration with **K–12 schools** and **Western Wyoming Community College** is creating clear and engaging pathways for students into technical careers. Programs such as industry-aligned curriculum, mentorships, hands-on training, and early college credit have already shown measurable results. Students are gaining awareness of local career opportunities, and businesses are seeing a rise in qualified applicants who are both skilled and committed to staying in the region.

“These conversations reinforce the value of community collaboration,” said an attendee from Pinedale. “By listening to the voices of local business leaders and highlighting partnerships like the SWMP, we can better understand what’s working—and what still needs attention—to support Wyoming’s long-term prosperity.” As the “Voices of Business” tour continues across the state, the Wyoming Business Alliance remains committed to advocating for practical solutions and celebrating the people and partnerships building a brighter future for the Cowboy State.





Unlock the Next Generation's Potential: Become a Mentor

Are you ready to make a meaningful impact in the lives of high school students? Join us as a mentor next semester and guide a small group of eager, young minds through an inspiring journey from January to May. We're looking for industry professionals who are passionate about sharing their expertise and empowering the next generation.

What's Involved?

- **Commitment:** Meet in-person once per month with your student group, January through May.
- **Support:** We provide you with comprehensive mentoring guidance material, making it easy to engage and connect with your students.
- **Impact:** Help unlock each student's potential and open doors to opportunities they never imagined.

This is your chance to give back to the community, shape future leaders, and share your career wisdom. Join us in this rewarding experience and be the inspiration these students need to see the possibilities ahead.

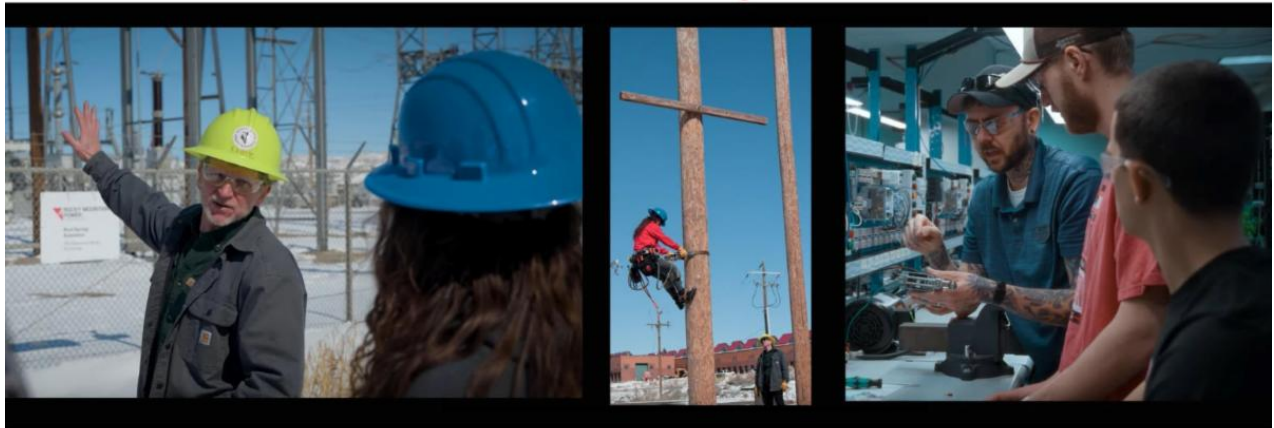
Interested in joining or learning more?

Take the survey below.

<https://forms.office.com/r/XcZvB08USG>



Teachers
Wanted



Substation Technology - Powerline Technician - Electrical & Instrumentation
Join a great team, and train the future workforce!

Apply Today!

<https://www.westernwyoming.edu/about/employment/faculty.php>

Western Wyoming Community College is looking for individuals who want to give back to their profession. Current openings for a Substation, Powerline, Industrial Maintenance and/or Electrical and Instrumentation Instructors. If you or someone you know would be interested, please apply online at <https://www.westernwyoming.edu/about/employment/faculty.php>

Western has a great team, and we are looking forward to adding talented faculty members who want to share their expertise and knowledge with the future workforce.

How Business and Industry Help Prepare

Students for Success

Preparing high school students with critical professional skills is vital for their success after graduation. Businesses and industries can play a pivotal role in this process by engaging with schools to create opportunities that go beyond traditional classroom learning. These collaborations bridge the gap between academic knowledge and practical skills, ensuring that students graduate with the tools they need to thrive in their careers.

Read below to discover ways that business and industry can directly impact how students are prepared for successful future careers.

Internship and Apprenticeship Programs

Establishing internship and apprenticeship programs allow students to gain hands-on experience in a professional environment. Businesses can partner with schools to provide structured programs where students earn credit while working alongside professionals to learn practical skills and gain insights into various industries.

Mentorship Initiatives

Providing high school students with professional mentors in a chosen field of interest can provide them with invaluable guidance and connections. Mentorship activities, which may consist of regular meetings,

discussions, and shadowing experiences, provide students with a realistic understanding of different career paths and the skills necessary for success in those fields.

Workshops and Skill Development Sessions

Organizing workshops on essential professional skills such as communication, teamwork, problem-solving, and time management can greatly benefit students. Industry professionals can lead these sessions, sharing their expertise and real-world insights.

Guest Lectures and Career Talks

Inviting professionals to speak at high schools can broaden students' horizons, and inspire them to explore various career options. These talks can cover industry trends, career pathways, or the importance of specific skills.

Real-Life Projects and Challenges

Collaborating with schools to present students with real-life projects or challenges to solve in coursework. This type of hands-on experience encourages critical thinking, problem-solving, and innovation, while exposing students to the dynamics of working on practical tasks.

Industry-Relevant Curriculum Input

Partnering with schools to align high school curricula with the skills and knowledge required in the job market can help ensure that students are learning relevant information to attain in-demand skills.

Networking Opportunities

Facilitating networking events where students can interact with professionals from different industries helps them build connections and interest early on. These interactions can provide insights, potential career opportunities, and valuable contacts for the future.

Scholarships, Grants, and Sponsorships

Supporting scholarships, grants, or sponsorships to fund new programs encourages students to pursue higher education or certifications in their chosen fields.



Unlock Your Future: Share Your Internship Interests!

We want to hear from you! Help us tailor our internship programs to better suit your career aspirations and interests. Your insights will guide us in creating opportunities that align with your goals and passions. Take a few minutes to complete our survey and shape the future Southwest Wyoming's internship offerings. Your feedback is invaluable!

[Click for Survey](#)

Shape the Future of Internships: We Need Your Expertise!

We're reaching out to industry leaders like you to help us design internship programs that truly prepare the next generation of professionals. Your insights and experiences are invaluable in creating opportunities that align with industry needs and expectations. Please take a few minutes to complete our survey and share your thoughts. Together, we can build a brighter future for interns and the industry alike!

[Click for Survey](#)

Remembering the Fallen: The True Meaning of Memorial Day

By Ron Wild

"It is foolish and wrong to mourn the men who died. Rather we should thank God that such men lived." — Gen. George S. Patton

Their names are written in stone. But their stories are carried by us.

Memorial Day is not just a holiday. It is a heartbeat — quiet and solemn — pulsing with the memory of heroes who gave everything.

*Each year, as flags flutter in the breeze and bugles play "Taps" in distant cemeteries, we are called to remember: **Freedom is not free.** It is earned, over and over again, by those who laid down their lives so others could rise each morning in peace.*



A Sacred Debt

We walk freely because they stood firm.

We speak freely because they were silenced.

Memorial Day began in the wake of the Civil War, when families wept over nameless graves and laid spring flowers as offerings to the fallen. Today, the tradition continues — not out of duty, but out of love.

From World War I trenches soaked in rain and blood to today's desert outposts, each cross, each star, each stone marks a soul that left home and never returned.

Their dreams were put on hold so ours could continue.

More Than a Moment

It's easy to lose the meaning; Parties, Sunshine. Barbecue smoke drifting across quiet neighborhoods.

But at 3:00 p.m., wherever you are, stop. For sixty seconds, feel the weight. Let the silence speak louder than words.

Honor them — not only with a pause, but with a promise:

That we will live lives worthy of their sacrifice.

Let Us Remember, and Live Well

This day is not about glorifying war. It is about honoring the warrior.

Let us not waste the peace they bought. Let us build a nation that values the things they died to protect — courage, unity, freedom, and the dignity of every life.

This Memorial Day, let us do more than rest.

***Let us remember — with hearts full and heads bowed.
Let us remember — and live lives they would be proud of.***

Explore the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services website for current job openings or to post an opening within your company.



Thank you to our Sponsor



About Manufacturing Works

For over two decades, Manufacturing-Works has been a driving force behind the success of Wyoming's manufacturing sector. With a mission to empower local businesses to achieve their maximum potential, Manufacturing-Works provides a comprehensive suite of services tailored to the unique needs of each client. We focus on delivering value through customized support, innovative technology, and expert-led solutions that help Wyoming businesses thrive in today's competitive market.

Our team, with offices in key locations across Wyoming – Laramie, Casper, Cheyenne, Riverton, and Sheridan – collaborates with an extensive network of partners to provide unmatched expertise in areas ranging from technical and engineering solutions to marketing strategy and financial advice. Through broad technical assistance, we address the core challenges faced by manufacturers, producers, and entrepreneurs, helping them grow revenues, enhance productivity, and strengthen their global presence.

What truly sets Manufacturing-Works apart is our unwavering commitment to Wyoming's community of businesses. Our dedicated professionals, stationed throughout the state, bring decades of experience to help companies innovate, streamline processes and create sustainable growth. Our work is more than just consulting; it's about building long-term relationships with Wyoming's businesses and delivering solutions that foster wealth, job creation, and economic resilience.

As Wyoming's most trusted resource for manufacturing support, Manufacturing-Works continues to lead the way in powering the state's manufacturing success. We understand the distinct challenges of operating a manufacturing business in Wyoming and develop tailored solutions to meet those needs. Together, we're creating a vibrant future for Wyoming's economy, one business at a time.

If you have any questions visit our website at www.manufacturing-works.com/ or contact Sage Kohr, the project manager for Southwestern Wyoming, at skohr@uwyo.edu.



**COMING
SOON!**

**INDUSTRY
TRAININGS**

Manufacturing Works is excited to announce we will be sponsoring industry-driven trainings in the Southwest. The trainings will aim to address the needs of the manufacturing community in Rock Springs and Green River.

**WYOMING
MANUFACTURERS
TRAININGS**

Supply Chain Optimization • Leadership
Solidworks • Cybersecurity • Lean Manufacturing

Check out our website for more info!

www.manufacturing-works.com



What is our Purpose and How do we Get There?



Southwest Wyoming Manufacturing Partnership | 123 | Rock Springs, WY 82901 US

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