



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:



SOUTHWEST WYOMING MANUFACTURING PARTNERSHIP

OUR MISSION AND GOALS INCLUDE:

Awareness of career opportunities.

Alignment of education and skill development for career paths.

Planning for what is needed now for future opportunities.

Results for how to measure success.



Greetings!

Welcome to the SWMP newsletter!

Send info or questions to swmpnewsletter@gmail.com

swmppartnership.org



UPCOMING EVENTS

GREATER GREEN RIVER & WIND RIVER BASINS

CORE-CM Annual Forum
October 20, 2022



UNIVERSITY
OF WYOMING



Carbon Ore, Critical Minerals (ORE-CM) in the Greater Green River and Wind River Basins: Transforming and Advancing a National Coal Asset Hosting Inaugural Forum

University of Wyoming in collaboration with Western Wyoming Community College will be hosting their first CORE-CM Annual Forum on Thursday, October 20th from 8am – 5pm at Western's Rock Springs Campus, 2500 College Drive, Rock Springs in Room 3650.

Objectives of CORE-CM in the Greater Green River and Wind River Basins:

- This project will develop and catalyze regional economic growth, job creation, and associated technology innovation in The Greater Green River Basin/Wind River Basin (GGRB-WRB) of Wyoming and Colorado.
- Growth will be achieved by increasing the supply of Carbon Ore (CORE), Critical Materials (CM), and Rare Earth Elements (REE) to manufacturers of non-fuel Carbon Based Products (CBP) and products reliant upon CM.
- The project will develop a coalition team to describe what relationships, technology, infrastructure, and scientific understanding of these resources are necessary to achieve this objective.

Project Benefits:

- Provide an economic benefit to U.S. Coal Basins by stimulating new development of resources centered around current coal mining and related industries.
- Establish strategic plans to maximize the development of potential carbon ore, rare earth elements, and critical minerals; within the creation of public-private partnerships
- Leverage highly trained workforces, existing coal technologies, energy infrastructure in entire supply chain development within coal regions.
- Bring together a committed network of stakeholders, gaining acceptance of new energy technology within coal

Calling All Employers!

Reserve your spot today, and share your career opportunities with our students!



Career Fair



in partnership with
WESTERN
WYOMING COMMUNITY COLLEGE

When: Wednesday, November 9, 2022
Noon - 4p.m.

Where: Rock Springs High School
in Tiger Arena, 1375 James Dr
Rock Springs, WY



Register Today:

<https://tinyurl.com/4rmcmht9>

If you are interested in having a booth,
please scan the QR code to request a booth.
We appreciate your support of Rock Springs
High School!



WHAT'S NEW

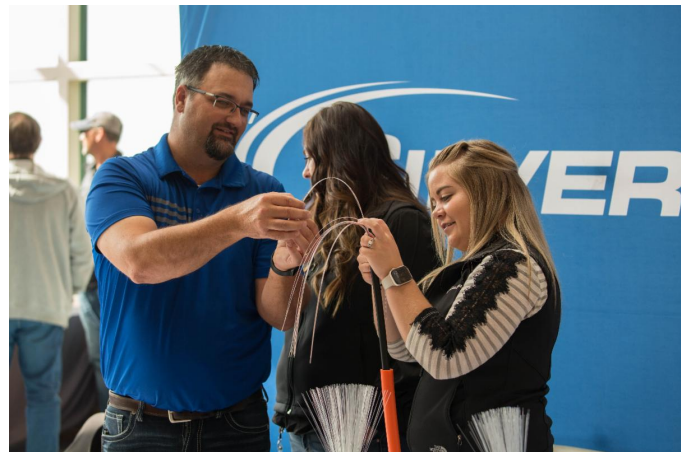
MANUFACTURING MAKES AMERICA STRONG



Manufacturing Day Event Hosts over 800 Students and Educators

Western Wyoming Community College, in partnership with Southwest Wyoming Manufacturing Partnership, hosted a Manufacturing Day event on Friday, October 7th.

It was the first time Manufacturing Day was held at the College. Students, educators, and community members had a chance to interact with area manufacturers, tour the labs as well as engage hands-on activities to spark their interest in advanced manufacturing. Regional business manager for Rocky Mountain Power and business champion for the Southwest Wyoming Manufacturing Partnership Ron Wild said the event is a good learning opportunity for the participating students.



The college and the partnership "have partnered together to bring in as many of the industries that wanted to participate to try to increase the awareness of educational and employment opportunities intertwining and supporting each other," Wild said. "We want to provide citizens in the community with a career, a future to raise families and be a part of the community."

Western's dean of outreach and workforce development, Amy Murphy, said hosting this type of event is important for the students who take part.



"Manufacturing Day is really important because it gives us an opportunity to celebrate and share how far manufacturing has come. In addition, this event provided the awareness of the various careers available within the manufacturers and the businesses that are here in the community. It's also helpful to understand what's needed to get those careers and the education that goes along with it," Murphy said.

The event was held for 8th-12th grade students and over 800 students were expected to have been part of this. The following schools participated in the event:

- Carbon County Higher Education Center
 - Evanston Middle School
 - Expedition Academy High School
 - Farson High School
 - Green River High School
 - Horizon Jr./Sr. High School
 - Kemmerer Junior/Senior High School
 - Lincoln Middle School
 - Pinedale Middle School
 - Rock Springs High School
-

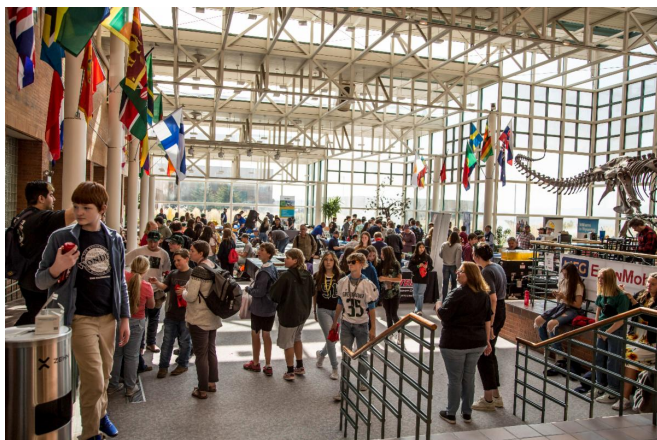


"The earlier you can educate them on what's important to do and what classes they need to take in high school, the better. If they need to further their education, they know what the pathway to do that is," Murphy said. "On behalf of education and industry, we have an obligation and responsibility to provide them with the possibilities, as well as the environment to learn and build the skills needed to be

successful."

Wild said that the event was also important for people that have already left high school.

"Regardless of what grade you're in, even if you've graduated and you're just raising kids, always continue your education," Wild said. "It's only through additional education and learning that we can position ourselves for a better future."



[Click here to view the full gallery of photos.](#)

SPECIFIC PURPOSE TAX NOVEMBER 8

What it is *and* how it will be used.



ROAD REPAIR & REPLACEMENT



WASTE WATER TREATMENT FACILITY



AGING INFRASTRUCTURE



WATER AND SEWER LINES

State law allows counties, in cooperation with cities and towns, to fund specific projects through a voluntary sales tax. Counties, cities, and towns pass resolutions that include proposed projects and amounts needed to complete those projects. Voters are then asked to vote on supporting those projects. If approved by the majority of voters, a "Specific Purpose" sales and use tax is added to your purchases. This is not a "General Purpose" tax and must be used for the projects listed on the ballot. The last Specific Purpose Initiative was on the ballot in 2012, where voters chose to approve 2 of the 3 projects. These projects were completed successfully.

This Specific Purpose Tax will have an estimated life of 5 years and will be raised until the total project amount listed on the ballot is collected. The amounts collected will be posted on the County's website so constituents can see how close we are to obtaining our goals. Once the funding amount is reached, the Specific Purpose penny will stop being collected. For every dollar spent there is only one additional penny going towards the specific projects. However, all those single pennies add up to make great improvements to our community.

SPECIFIC PURPOSE TAX

What is a Specific Purpose Initiative?

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Residents and Visitors Contribute

This is the tax you pay to support other communities when you make purchases outside of our County, and it is the tax you and visitors pay when making purchases within our County.

If approved, it is estimated that the average household will pay around \$250 per year. Even the tax on big ticket items from industry helps us to reach our goal.

Many infrastructure projects have been funded using Specific Purpose Taxes

2012 Specific Purpose Tax Initiative (included but not limited to):

- Funded the repair and replacement of sidewalks, curbs, gutters, sidewalks in Superior, Wamegan, Green River, and Rock Springs.
- Funded the development and construction of the old DeWaterson Center building in Rock Springs and Green River.
- Funded the replacement of street lights, water & sewer lines to new school, and franchise upgrades in Orange.
- Funded renovations and upgrades to Memorial Hospital at Sweetwater County, the jail, and Santa Rosa Hospital District.

This is project specific

ROADWORK
Quality roads are the foundation of a community. Projects proposed within the communities of Sweetwater County include: repairing streets, pavement preservation treatments, and other street repair projects.

SEWER AND WATER LINES
Core infrastructure like water and sewer lines will be replaced during many proposed street projects to save money and address aging lines. Water and sewer line projects are proposed in Bannock, Green River, Superior, Rock Springs, Wamegan, the North Sweetwater Water and Sewer District, and the Jamestown-Rio Vista Water and Sewer District. These are not only intended to address immediate infrastructure needs, but will also assist in economic development efforts.

WASTE WATER TREATMENT
New construction will utilize solar and industrial effluent treatment to dry and process biosolids produced from the wastewater treatment process. This, along with the installation of air scrubbers, will reduce the odors during the operation.

PAID-OF LIFE INFRASTRUCTURE
The Wataha irrigation system (1977), the Rock Springs Family Re-Center's ice rink compressor (1984), and the Wataha softball fields (1978) are original equipment that is starting to fail. They are also the lifelines of these recreational areas.

The Specifics

BANNOCK \$2,319,215

- Repair/replacement of water and sewer lines.

ORANGER \$1,343,148

- Pave the currently unpaved town streets with 3" asphalt, including curbing and gutters.

GREEN RIVER \$22,827,827

- Pave, curb, gutter, sidewalk, and rehabilitation of water, sewer, and storm sewer infrastructure in various locations on the following streets: Riverside Drive, Bridge Drive, Faith Drive, Evans Drive, Gay Drive, Wilkes Drive, and Indian Hills Drive. Curb and selected streets to preserve the integrity of the asphalt surface.

SUPERIOR \$1,098,604

- Water system upgrades and improvements including water well testing and maintenance.
- Replace red clay sewer pipe and waterline. Curb, gutter, sidewalk and pavement for 7 blocks.

WAMEGAN \$4,405,395

- Water reclamation facility odor control and improvements.
- Design interior barriers near Century Park and Killebrew Creek to reduce flooding.
- Replace the original 1977 irrigation system at Wataha Recreation Area that irrigates parts of the golf course, softball complex, picnic area, driving range, and clubhouse grounds.
- Replace the original 1984 ice compressor at the family Recreation Center ice rink.
- Retain/rebuild water, sewer, and storm sewer infrastructure at various locations.
- Restore original light fixtures on three outdoor softball fields at Wataha Recreation Area.

SWEETWATER COUNTY \$16,537,680

- Jamestown Rio Vista Water & Sewer District: Installation of a sewer line to connect to the City of Green River's sewer system that is essential to community expansion.
- North Sweetwater Water & Sewer District: Replace 50 year old lagpipes and replace 12,000 linear feet of collection system piping.

NOVEMBER 8

sweetwatercountywy.gov
(307) 872-3970

Thank you to those who support the efforts to make our communities better now and for years to come.

Counties: Sweetwater County • City of Rock Springs
Cities: Green River • Town of Bannock • Town of Garfield
Towns: Wamegan • Town of Bannock

Download the Printable Flyer

Teacher Spotlight



Derek Jacobsen
*Instructor,
Plant Operations*

Highlights

Derek Jacobsen holds a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry from the University of Utah in Salt Lake City and an Associate of Science in Multidisciplinary Studies from Western, and is currently pursuing an Associate of Science in Mathematics and a Bachelor of Applied Science in Organizational Management from Western. Derek has been self-employed since July 2021 as a Wellsite Consultant for workover and completion operations in Granger, Wamsutter, and Rock Springs with Jacobsen Consulting LLC.

Prior experience includes serving as an Operations Specialist with Bison Management LLC in Denver, CO from January – July 2020, as a Workover/Completion Foreman with Southland Royalty LLC in Rock Springs and Wamsutter from July 2016 – January 2020, as a Subsurface Lead/Optimizer with Anadarko Onshore E&P LLC in Granger, Wamsutter, and Rock Springs from October 2013 – July 2016, and as an Area Manager with AMW Oilfield Services in Granger and Rock Springs from May 2009 – October 2013.



Just four hours a month of an adult's time can make a lifetime of difference for a student and strengthen the entire community.

She was a sophomore in high school, struggling with her classes and visiting the counselor's office seemingly every day.

Then Disability:IN Uinta County paired her with an adult mentor and changed her life. She raised her grades to As and Bs. She got a job and set up a savings account so she could buy a car. After two years in the nonprofit's NextGen mentoring program, she graduated high school and said she couldn't have done it without the guidance of her mentor.

Disability:IN Uinta County is a 23-year-old nonprofit based in Evanston, Wyoming, that provides programming to help employers hire people with disabilities. Their NextGen project includes two programs – one-on-one mentoring and employment mentoring, both of which help young people prepare for jobs, families and other challenges they'll face in adulthood.

Employment mentoring matches students with local businesses to learn about career exploration, summer employment, mock interviews and other life skills.

The one-on-one program brings a young person together with an adult mentor. The mentors play a particularly important role in the life of their mentees. The best ones

are good listeners who build trust by giving young people a chance to say what they may not be able to say to anyone else.

“The biggest thing is being non-judgmental,” said Bethany Shidler, who coordinates the NextGen mentoring programs, “And what I've heard from a lot of our youth is that they just love having somebody that they can talk to and that they feel safe with.”

One-on-one mentoring is a long-term program that can last for up to five years and helps students aged 10 through 21 graduate from high school. Mentors work with mentees in four areas: life skills, healthy relationships, employment readiness and community involvement. Goal-setting is a top priority.

Mentors meet their mentees for four hours a month to plan for jobs and college. They go on hikes, do homework, catch a movie or maybe cook together. Disability:IN also sponsors award celebrations and other activities.

The annual budget for the two programs is \$49,000, which includes ongoing support from the Rocky Mountain Power Foundation. So far, five students have graduated from the one-on-one program, including four who have gotten jobs and one in college.

This is incredibly important work. A study by [Mentor: The National Mentoring Partnership](#) found that young adults who work with a mentor are 55% more likely to enroll in college, 81% more likely to participate in extracurricular activities and 78% more likely to volunteer in their communities.

The NextGen programs have a profound impact on young people, their families and the entire community.

“When we invest in our youth,” Shidler said, “we are investing in their future and our future.”



Opportunities we can offer to media:

- Interview with Disability:IN Uinta County to learn about the work happening locally through the NextGen program.
- Interview with a NextGen graduate (and their mentor?) to hear how NextGen is making an impact for local

youth--the first paragraphs in the story idea would be specific to a mentee we can highlight.

- Interview with Rocky Mountain Power Foundation about their support for this programming as part of their commitment to support educational opportunities in the community.

How we could support:

- We'll manage all pitching to media and interview/story coordination – we'd try to do many things virtually for interviews, and help work with you on anything that may happen in person.
- Help with managing visuals to offer to a reporter
- Provide links from stories to share on social media
- Coverage on Rocky Mountain Power social channels – posting stories and/or photos

What we need from you:

- Let us know who would be best to offer for interviews, Bethany or Wanda.
- Connection to a NextGen graduate and mentor, if possible.



Become a Business Champion!

It's simple to sign up!

Send us a short write-up, 3-4 photos, your logo, and contact information.

Email us @ swmpnewsletter@gmail.com
-or call 307-389-1510

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

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



Williams handles 30% of the natural gas in the United States that is used every day to heat our homes, cook our food and generate electricity. We work with customers to provide infrastructure that addresses unique challenges to serve growing markets and safely deliver natural gas products to reliably fuel the clean energy economy.



Williams owns and operates a variety of energy infrastructure in Wyoming including natural gas gathering and processing and transmission facilities. Primarily serving producers in the Greater Green River Basin. With 4,602 miles of total pipeline in Wyoming, Williams delivers value to our employees, investors, customers, and communities by running our business with authenticity and a safety-driven culture.

Our 191 employees in Wyoming have district offices in Opal, Wamsutter, Green River, Big Piney, and Kemmerer.

Williams is also a key supporter of a new center dedicated to applied hydrogen research at the University of Wyoming School of Energy Resources (SER). We've committed to giving \$500,000 over five years to support the center and growing hydrogen industry in Wyoming. In the fall of 2021, Williams was a recipient of a grant from the Wyoming Energy Authority as part of the Wyoming Hydrogen Pilot.

Learn more at williams.com

Friendly Reminder

What is our Purpose and How do we Get There?

Purpose:

Improve outcomes for our students and those seeking career changes

· **Business, Educators, Government Services and the Community working together to improve**

- **Awareness** of career opportunities
- **Alignment** of education and skill development for career paths
- **Planning** for what is needed now and for future opportunities
- **Results** for how to measure success
- **Awareness**
 - Increase awareness of career opportunities within our community
 - Students, Educators, Counselors, Government Agencies, Parents and the Community
 - Engagement events and opportunities
 - Career Fairs,
 - Jr. High and High School events
 - Mentoring and job shadowing etc.
 - Engagement & Dialog with the stakeholders
- **Alignment to better prepare our students for careers in our community and beyond**
 - Direct from high school including career technical training
 - Secondary education, certificate programs, two-year degrees, CTE
 - University alignment (pathways and career paths)
- **Planning**
 - What is needed now,
 - Where will the opportunities be
 - What will we do to prepare and fill the pipeline?
 - Promotion, Communication processes, Scholarships, etc.
 - Measurements; Create metrics such as % Secondary Education, % successful career changes
- **Membership**
 - **Southwest Wyoming: Carbon, Fremont, Sublette, Sweetwater, Uinta, Lincoln**

Membership:

Core Business Champions: Fred von Ahrens, Ron Wild, Craig Rood, Matt McQueen, Carl Lembke, Lauren Schoenfeld, Kim Dale, Kelly McGovern, Craig Barringer, Joan Evans, Jed Vigil, Marty Carollo

Core Co-Conveners: Bridget Stewart, Lacey Bluemel, Tosha Garner



Rock Springs, Wyoming
Phone: 307-251-3980

Get In Touch