Table of Contents (Click Section headings to jump to the stories in that section)

**Good News Item**
1. The PEAS farm reaches long-term lease agreement!

**Around EVST**
1. Where are they now? Alum Scott Bosse

**Featured Event** (See www.umt.edu/conservationcalendar for more events)
1. ENJOY WINTER BREAK!!

**Volunteer Opportunities**
1. Serve on one of Missoula’s many local boards or committees – apply TODAY, Dec. 15 (by 5pm)
2. Missoula’s annual Christmas Bird Count will take place – Dec. 20
3. Transition Missoula selected to pilot Transition Streets in the US – needs volunteers
4. Serve on one of Missoula’s many local boards or committees

**Educational Opportunities**
1. Beginning birder walk at Metcalf Refuge – Dec. 20
3. Workshop on intensive grazing, winter feeding and reducing dependency on hay – Jan. 15
4. Workshop on applying for renewable energy grants – Jan. 15
5. Bitterrooters for Planning annual meeting, Dec 15

**Internships**
1. Paid National Park Climate Change Internship (may lead to permanent job) – apply by Jan. 30
2. Abundant Montana Agritourism Internship, can be based anywhere, $200/month stipend
3. Kalu Yala Entrepreneurial Internships

**Jobs** (mainly local or summer jobs; for full time jobs around the US, see the envirojobs list serv)
1. Student Assistant for Archives & Special Collections – apply by Dec. 18
2. Missoula Butterfly House and Insectarium is hiring – apply by Dec. 31
3. Energy Corps program position at Glacier Institute – apply by Jan. 2
4. Garden City Harvest is hiring a Community Garden Volunteer Coordinator! Apply by Jan 5

**Funding Sources**
1. Scholarships for students working on fisheries – apply by Feb. 6
2. REAP (Rural Energy for America) grants

**Housing**

**Resources** *(websites, publications and other organizations of interest)*

1. Keeping up with the MT Legislature
2. Federal Conservation Resources for Sustainable Farming and Ranching

**Miscellaneous** *(social events, videos, and anything else that may be of interest)*

1. Story time at the Top Hat – Dec. 16
2. MPG Ranch Photography Tour – Dec. 23
3. What North Dakota Would Look Like if Its Oil Drilling Lines Were Aboveground

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**GOOD NEWS ITEM**

1. The PEAS farm reaches long-term lease agreement!

The PEAS Farm sits on 10 acres of Missoula County Public School land. Now, that land is being leased to the City of Missoula, who in turn has agreed to a 40-year sub-lease with Garden City Harvest, the organization that runs the PEAS farm in collaboration with EVST. This long-term lease has been years in the making and greatly increases the farm's level of security. Garden City Harvest and EVST are excited at the opportunity to continue to grow the PEAS farm programs and invest in infrastructure improvements.

The PEAS Farm is an outdoor classroom for students of all ages, from pre-school through university. It hosts 4,000 kids on educational farm field trips each year, grows food for the Food Bank, farm CSA subscribers, volunteer workers, and much more. As PEAS Farm Director Josh Slotnick said, "As those kids are out there and they're running past all the people I just talked about, you can see it happening right before you: real community development."

Cheers to at least another 40 years of real community development!  

[Read more](#) about this exciting development.

**Back to Top**

**AROUND EVST**

1. **Where are they now? Alum Scott Bosse**
   
   Scott Bosse ('93) is the Northern Rockies Director for American Rivers based in Bozeman. For the past five years he has overseen American Rivers' campaigns and projects in Montana, Wyoming, Idaho and southern British Columbia. He also serves on the board of trustees of the Confluence Fund, a small foundation that awards grants to advocacy-oriented conservation organizations in the Yellowstone to Yukon Ecoregion.

[Back to Top](#)
**FEATURED EVENT** (See [www.umt.edu/conservationcalendar](http://www.umt.edu/conservationcalendar) for more)

1. **ENJOY WINTER BREAK!!**

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

1. **Serve on one of Missoula’s many local boards or committees – apply TODAY, Dec. 15 (by 5pm)**
   Missoula County Commissioners are seeking applicants for currently vacant board and committee positions that will be expiring on December 31, 2014. Applications are available at the County Commissioners Office located in the Admin Building at 199 West Pine, or [online](http://www.bcc@co.missoula.mt.us). Currently, [Commissioners seeking applicants for vacancy on Missoula Consolidated Planning Board](http://www.bcc@co.missoula.mt.us). Deadline for applications: 5 pm, Monday, December 15, 2014.

   Members may be needed on the following boards – the office is currently assessing vacancies:
   - Health Board (City-County)
   - Historical Museum Board
   - Local Emergency Planning Committee
   - Lolo Mosquito Control Board
   - Missoula Development Authority
   - Missoula Urban Transportation Board
   - Open Lands Citizens Advisory Committee
   - Planning and Zoning Commission
   - Weed Control Board

2. **Missoula’s annual Christmas Bird Count will take place – Dec. 20**
   Help count our feathered friends so we can see how they are doing. If you’d like to help with the field count, contact Larry Weeks at 549-5632 (cell 540-3064) or email him at bwsgenea@gmail.com. If you’d like to be a feeder watcher, contact Rose Leach at 370-1999 or email rleach-2@bresnan.net. Results will be tabulated that evening at a potluck.

3. **Transition Missoula selected to pilot Transition Streets in the US – needs volunteers**
   Transition Missoula is the local chapter of the international Transition Town movement. Transition towns are grassroots efforts to make a community more self-sufficient and sustainable, less reliant on fossil fuels. A new project in the Transition movement is called **Transition Streets** which has been successful in Great Britain and Australia. The goal is to help groups of people (neighbors on a street, or other associates) to meet 7 times as they make practical changes related to food, consumption, conservation and other pro-active efforts to reduce their personal carbon footprint, save money and become more self-sufficient and interdependent with other community members. **Transition Missoula has been chosen to be one of the towns that will pilot this effort in the USA.** We will receive guidance, and report our experiences — including any innovations and insights we come up with. If you would like to work with Transition Missoula on this effort, contact Claudia at [info@transitionmissoula.org](mailto:info@transitionmissoula.org) or 531-7587 - or alternately Teresa, 251-6450

**EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**

1. **Beginning birder walk at Metcalf Refuge – Dec. 20**
Get out and about with the birds of Metcalf refuge on a walk for beginning birders. Learn basic skills such as use of binoculars and field guides, key field marks, and much more. Binoculars are available if needed. Families are welcome. Minimal walking is involved. For more information contact Terry at 214-1194.

**When:** Saturday, December 20, meet at 10am. Field trip lasts 2 hours  
**Where:** Lee Metcalf NWR headquarters

2. **Knapweed’s impact on native communities and bird diversity – Jan. 12**  
In the natural world, “everything is hitched to everything else.” Forest Service ecologist Yvette Ortega tells a surprising story of the Rippling Effects of Knapweed Invasion on Native Communities and the Erosion of Bird-song Diversity. This is a joint meeting of Montana Native Plant Society (MNPS) and Montana Audubon. All welcome.  
**When:** Monday, January 12, at 7:30 pm (note different day and place from the usual)  
**Where:** Rm 123 Gallagher Business Bldg, UM Campus

3. **Workshop on intensive grazing, winter feeding and reducing dependency on hay – Jan. 15**  
Jim Gerrish, rancher, author, and researcher specializes in reducing input expenses on the ranch and building value on forage-based operations. One of the goals of the workshop will be to explore strategies in grazing management to ultimately reduce hay dependency. RSVP by January 12 with Ben Montgomery, NRCS, 676-2841, ext 111  
**Where:** Ruby’s Inn and Convention Center, Missoula (North Reserve Street)  
**When:** Thursday, January 15, from 9am to 4pm  
**Cost:** $15 (includes lunch)

4. **Workshop on applying for renewable energy grants – Jan. 15**  
The USDA & MT DEQ are offering workshops on how to apply for grants for energy conservation or renewable energy projects. The focus is on REAP (Rural Energy for America) grants, but workshop speakers are good resources on other opportunities. These FREE workshops are aimed at rural small business owners, ag producers, renewable energy installers, lenders, grant writers and other parties interested in grants for energy conservation or renewable energy projects. Funding levels for 2015 are expected to far exceed those of the past, and we hope to have lots of applications for Montana projects. Come to the workshop to learn more. Morning is an overview of the USDA program and other resources, and the afternoon will dive in to the details of how to write the application. For more info contact Kathy: kmontgomery@mt.gov  
**When:** Thursday, January 15, from 8am to 2pm  
**Where:** HomeWORD, 1535 Liberty Lane, Missoula  
(There will also be a workshop in Kalispell, Jan 16)

5. **Bitterrooters for Planning annual meeting, Dec 15**  
BFP Annual meeting is this Monday (December 15th) at the Historic Signal Bar and Grill at131 W. Main in Hamilton. Begins with a social hour at 6 pm with Signal beer and pizza (on BFP of course). Around 7 pm the business meeting begins which will include (1) updates on the state of BFP and a review of BFP lawsuits, and (2) elections of directors and officers. Following the business meeting, George Ochenski is the featured speaker. For more info, contact kelsey.milner@gmail.com

[Back to Top](#)
**INTERNSHIPS**

1. **Paid National Park Climate Change Internship (may lead to permanent job) – apply by Jan. 30**
   This is a great opportunity, as students who complete the internship will be granted non-competitive hiring status for NPS and other Department of the Interior agencies upon completing their degree. Eligible students are highly accomplished graduate students and upper-level undergraduates (juniors and seniors). Twelve positions are offered in parks and program offices around the country for the summer of 2015. For further information visit the [program website](#).

2. **Abundant Montana Agritourism Internship**, can be based anywhere, $200/month stipend
   Work with AERO to update, populate and market the online [Abundant Montana Directory](#). The Abundant Montana Intern will assist with outreach to map and identify agritourism activities throughout Montana, assist with the launch of the new site as well as marketing and promotion post-launch, and, finally, the Intern will create a survey for Directory users to inform future phases of the project. [Click here](#) for more details, or see the flyer posted on the Opportunities bulletin board near the EVST bull pen. Contact [ingacwallace@gmail.com](mailto:ingacwallace@gmail.com) with questions. **A stipend of $200 a month for up to 6 months will be provided, and the position can be based anywhere.**

3. **Kalu Yala Entrepreneurial Internships**
   Kalu Yala is a new sustainable town being built in Panama. Sustainability-Focused Entrepreneurial Internships are offered in this community in seven different program areas: Outdoor Recreation; Biology; Community Outreach & Education; Agriculture; Farm-to-table Culinary Arts; Business; Health & Wellness. 2015 Spring, Summer, and Fall sessions are now open for Applicants. [Click here for more info](#)

**EVST and the International Programs office are not familiar with this program so we cannot vouch for it. Please let us know if you or someone you know has had an experience and would like to share.**

Back to Top

**JOBS** *(mainly local or summer jobs; for full time jobs around the US, subscribe to the envirojobs list serv by emailing vicki.watson@umontana.edu)*

1. **Student Assistant for Archives & Special Collections – apply by Dec. 18**
   Archives and Special Collections of the Mansfield Library is the department charged with collecting and providing access to historic and valuable primary source materials including rare books, photographs, maps, letters, and financial records of Montanans as well as the records of the University. The student assistant’s responsibilities may include providing reference assistance at the department reference desk, photocopying and filing, transcribing oral history recordings, organizing original historic paper and photographic materials, and inventorying incoming collections. See details posted on the EVST Employment Opportunities bulletin board by the bull pen, or apply though [Griz eRecruiting](#).

2. **Missoula Butterfly House and Insectarium is hiring – apply by Dec. 31**
The new Missoula Butterfly House & Insectarium will be a living educational museum here in Missoula. It is due to open in January 2015, and they are currently calling for applications for 3 positions. Here are links to job descriptions. More info on MBHI.
- MBHI Administrator - 20 hrs/week
- MBHI Museum Educator - full time
- MBHI Animal Keeper - 20 hrs/week

3. Energy Corps program position at Glacier Institute – apply by Jan. 2
The Energy Corps member will be responsible for evaluating the institute’s existing buildings, identify opportunities for efficiencies, as well as joining the team as a teacher/naturalist. Click here for more details.

4. Garden City Harvest is hiring a Community Garden Volunteer Coordinator! Apply by Jan 5
This job balances working with a diversity of gardeners, volunteer garden leaders, community volunteers, and staff members. It will include some garden maintenance, project management and evaluation, community building, communications, and education. Benefits (health, dental, holidays) included in this seasonal position. Application due January 5, 2015. Full job description, application information and details here!

Back to Top

FUNDING SOURCES

1. Scholarships for students working on fisheries – apply by Feb. 6
Two Wally McClure Scholarships will be awarded to individuals pursuing a graduate or undergraduate degree in aquatic natural resources from a University/College in Montana. The graduate award is now $1,250. Visit the MTAFS website for further scholarship, membership and meeting details.

2. REAP (Rural Energy for America) grants
These are grants for energy conservation or renewable energy projects. Funding levels for 2015 are expected to far exceed those of the past, and we hope to have lots of applications for Montana projects. Workshops are being held in Missoula and Kalispell to provide more information. Click here.

Back to Top

HOUSING

Master bedroom/suite for rent ($700 + utilities) in a beautiful mid-Rattlesnake 3 bedroom house – see http://missoula.craigslist.org/roo/4785288001.html
RESOURCES

1. **Keeping up with the MT Legislature**
   Montana’s upcoming legislative session will present many opportunities to express your views on energy policies. How to keep on top of all those bills flying through so fast? The [Northern Plains Resource Council](http://www.nprc.org) carefully tracks energy related legislation, as does the [Montana Environmental Info Center](http://www.meic.org). You can also track state legislative initiatives from the coal industry standpoint at [America’s Power](http://www.americaspower.org) and the gas industry federal legislation tracker at [American Public Gas Association](http://www.apga.org).

2. **Federal Conservation Resources for Sustainable Farming and Ranching**
   The “Federal Conservation Resources for Sustainable Farming and Ranching” publication is an overview of those programs and acts as a guide for navigating the often complex and difficult application process. The publication is available at [www.attra.ncat.org](http://www.attra.ncat.org).

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS AND OTHER FUN EVENTS

1. **Story time at the Top Hat – Dec. 16**
   Tell Us Something - Live Storytelling. This month’s theme: These Dreams. Stories are true, told from memory, and last ten minutes. 9 storytellers share their true stories. 406.546.3855 or psst.tell.us.something@gmail.com
   When: Tuesday, December 16, at 6 pm
   Where: The Top Hat

2. **MPG Ranch Photography Tour – Dec. 23**
   Visit MPG for the opportunity to photograph wildlife and scenery. Start along the river and move to higher country in search of light, vistas, and critters. Plan to spend time walking and dress for the weather. The event is limited to 6 participants. 1pm - 4:30pm
   Contact Joshua Lisbon to register & get directions: jlisbon@mpgranch.com; 406-396-6285.

3. **What North Dakota Would Look Like if Its Oil Drilling Lines Were Aboveground**

This Newsline prepared by Vicki Watson and Kim Gilchrist. Please send any comments [here](mailto:).