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W Y O M I N G

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*At a glance*

# NATRONA

*County* WYOMING

## NATRONA COUNTY

**79,858**

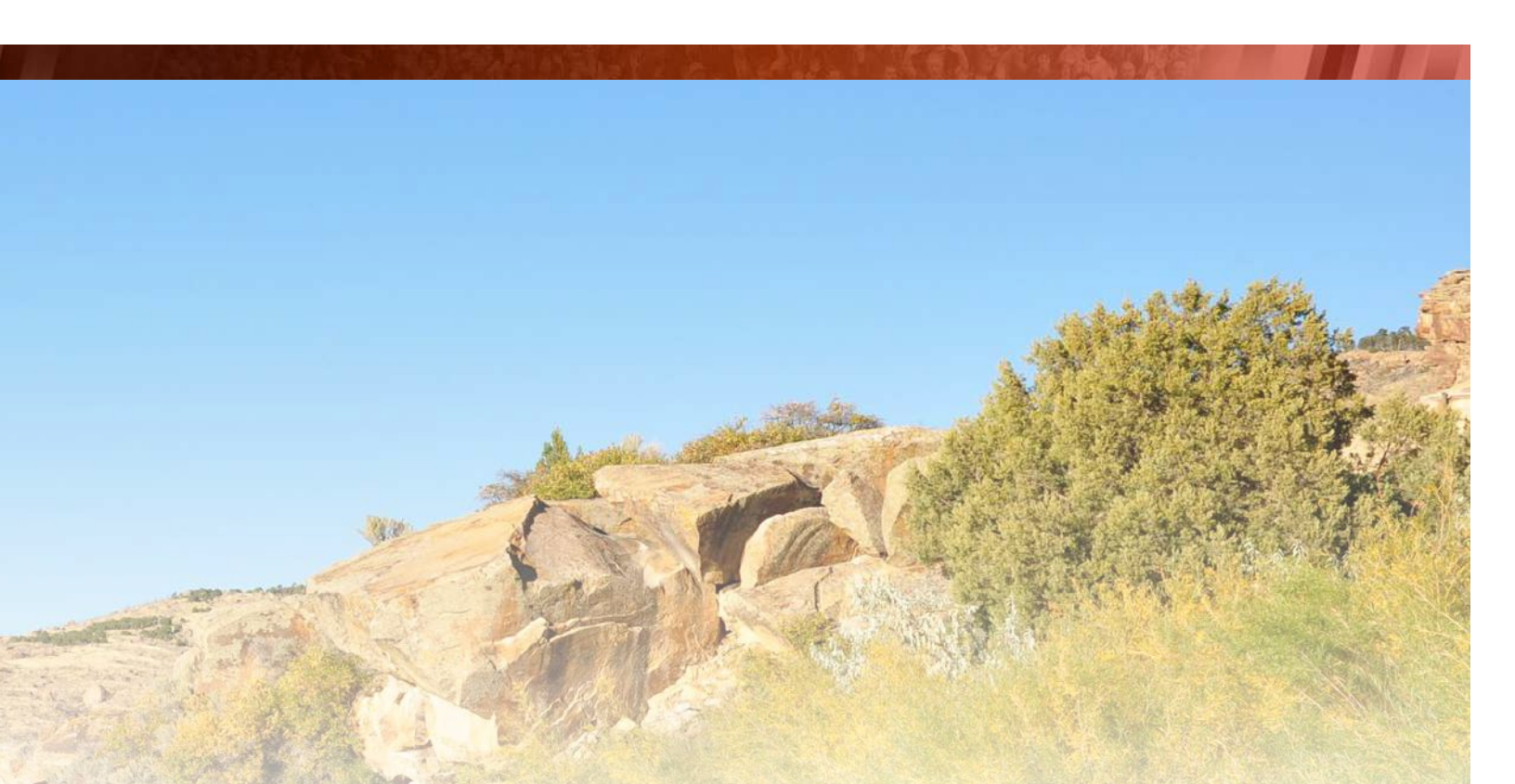
CITY	POPULATION
<b>Casper</b>	<b>58,446</b>
Mills	3,919
Evansville	2,963
Bar Nunn	2,782
Vista West	856
Red Butte	851
Casper Mountain	825
Hartrandt	808
Homa Hills	239
Midwest	233
Bessemer Bend	232
Brookhurst	180
Edgerton	153
Meadow Acres	130
Mountain View	35
Arminto	5

**NATRONA COUNTY, CO** was one of five counties organized into the Territory of Wyoming by legislation in November, 1869. The area that was to become Natrona County was part of Carbon County at that time. As lands were opened to settlement under the Free Homestead Act, signed by President Lincoln in 1862, hundreds moved into the area.

Wyoming's plains are the historical home to many nomadic tribes including the Cheyenne, Arapaho, Shoshone and Sioux. Today, about 6,000 Shoshone and Arapaho continue to reside on the 2.3 million acre Wind River Reservation, northwest of Natrona County.

In 1812, John Jacob Astor established Astoria at the mouth of the Columbia and sent Robert Stuart east to start what was hoped to become a network of trading posts. Stuart found South Pass by following a Crow Indian trail and entered our region. Near Bessemer Bend, Stuart and his small band erected

For more information please visit: [www.natrona.net](http://www.natrona.net)



the first white man's hut in 1812. Although Astor's plans failed when the British captured Astoria in 1812, trappers and scouts continued to explore our high plains and develop transit routes. On July 4, 1824, some of these trappers named Independence Rock.

In 1840, Father Jean Pierre DeSmet began spreading the gospel among area Indians. Father DeSmet was the first to carve his name on Independence Rock and give it the name, "The Register of the Desert." In 1843, John C. Fremont (known as "The Pathfinder") chiseled his name on Independence Rock and later with Kit Carson as his guide, went on to explore the country along the Platte and Sweetwater Rivers.

The area's first newspaper was the Casper Weekly Mail, established in November of 1888. In 1889, a small school was started with funds subscribed

by patrons. Then, on April 8, 1890, Natrona County was officially established. The town of Bessemer challenged Casper for designation as the County seat, but lost the ensuing fraud-wracked election. The County was first managed from offices above a saloon and court was held at the Town Hall. Early courthouses were built in 1892 and 1908. Finally in 1939, the current County Building was constructed.

As the county turned 120 years old in 2010, there was a sense of optimism in Natrona County. The population was up again, to 75,450. A diverse economy, a second hospital, other new medical businesses and many cultural amenities boded well for the county's future. The resilience of the people showed through all the years of boom and bust. From early days, Natrona County was not appreciated by everyone, but those hardy enough to stay during tough times held it dear.

# CASPER

**CASPER** is the seat of Natrona County. The town began when the tracks of the Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley Railroad arrived in June 1888, and was named for nearby Fort Casper, by then a ruin. The fort had been named for Lt. Caspar Collins, killed near the fort by Indians in 1865. The Army misspelled his first name when they renamed Platte Bridge Station not long after his death.

During its first years, Casper was a rough-and-tumble town. The west side of Center Street featured numerous saloons and the raucous culture that went with them. Early law enforcement tried to keep order among rowdy cowboys, celebrating shepherders and ever-present prostitutes.

By the 20th century, an expansion of the town hall became necessary as the community and the volume of town business grew. Electricity and telephones became available in town. Dr. Frederic Salathe and banker and sheep man C. H. King worked together to build a power plant adjacent to the first oil refinery, and the first electric lights from the Casper Electric Company were lighted on June 12, 1900. Telephone service began on March 22,

1902, when Rocky Mountain Bell Telephone installed 49 telephones.

As the 1970s dawned, the U.S. Census reported 39,361 residents in Casper. The energy boom of the 1970s boosted the 1980 census to 51,016, but a steep fall in oil prices shortly afterward led a number of national oil companies to close their Casper offices, and many houses and storefronts stood empty. The population fell to 46,742 by 1990.



After nearly 20 years, the downtown is again thriving. Most commercial growth continues east, however, with a two-mile extension of East Second Street now serving new medical, automotive and big-box retail businesses.

The Amoco Refinery—successor of the early Midwest and Standard Oil refineries—closed in 1991, dealing a severe blow to Casper. These pressures forced some diversity on the local economy, but it was a 1990s boom in coalbed methane drilling in northeastern Wyoming that revitalized Casper's drilling-services businesses. Slowly, the population began to grow again, to 49,654 by 2000, and 55,316 by 2010.

For more information please visit: [www.casperwy.gov](http://www.casperwy.gov) and [www.wyohistory.org](http://www.wyohistory.org)

# WYOMING

**TODAY** there's many ways to get involved and things to do in Casper both indoors and out.

**Keep Casper Beautiful** has several different ways to become involved in litter cleanup. Keep Casper Beautiful believes that Casper and Wyoming are beautiful places. We think everyone deserves to feel that their state, county, town, and neighborhood are wonderful, beautiful places. We inspire and educate people to take action every day that improves and beautifies their community environment. Keep Casper Beautiful beautification efforts include: Public Art, Tree planting, and Flower planting.

Whether you seek the peacefulness of walking the pathways and parks along the North Platte River, the adventure of skiing or snowboarding, traveling time back to the Wild West in the 1800's, spending a relaxing day out on the golf course, indoors ice skating, or splish splashing in a pool, Casper offers something for everyone.

Casper continues as a retail, medical and energy-industry service hub for the surrounding region and for much of Wyoming, and has continued to grow and diversify in the 21st century. Interstate 25 and the Casper/Natrona County International Airport are the town's major connections to the outside world.

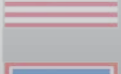
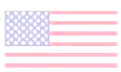
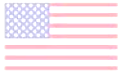
## DID YOU KNOW?

Several area residents have gained national recognition. Former Vice President Richard Cheney and his wife, Lynne, grew up in Casper. NBC news correspondent Pete Williams is a Casper native. Mike Sullivan, former Ambassador to Ireland and former Governor, and former Ambassador to Guatemala Thomas Stroock are from Casper. Father and son, Neil and Mick McMurry, construction and energy entrepreneurs raised their families here.

The True family, long-time petroleum operators reside in Casper. Edness Kimball Wilkins and Verda James both served as Speakers of the Wyoming House, the only two women to hold that office. Cincinnati Reds pitcher Tom Browning played youth baseball here, as did Colorado Rockies Mike Lansing and LA Dodger Mike Devereaux. Sharon Brondos, a Harlequin novel author, lives in Casper. C.J. Box, best-selling author of popular fiction books based around Wyoming, grew up in Casper.

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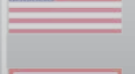
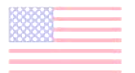
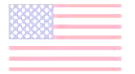


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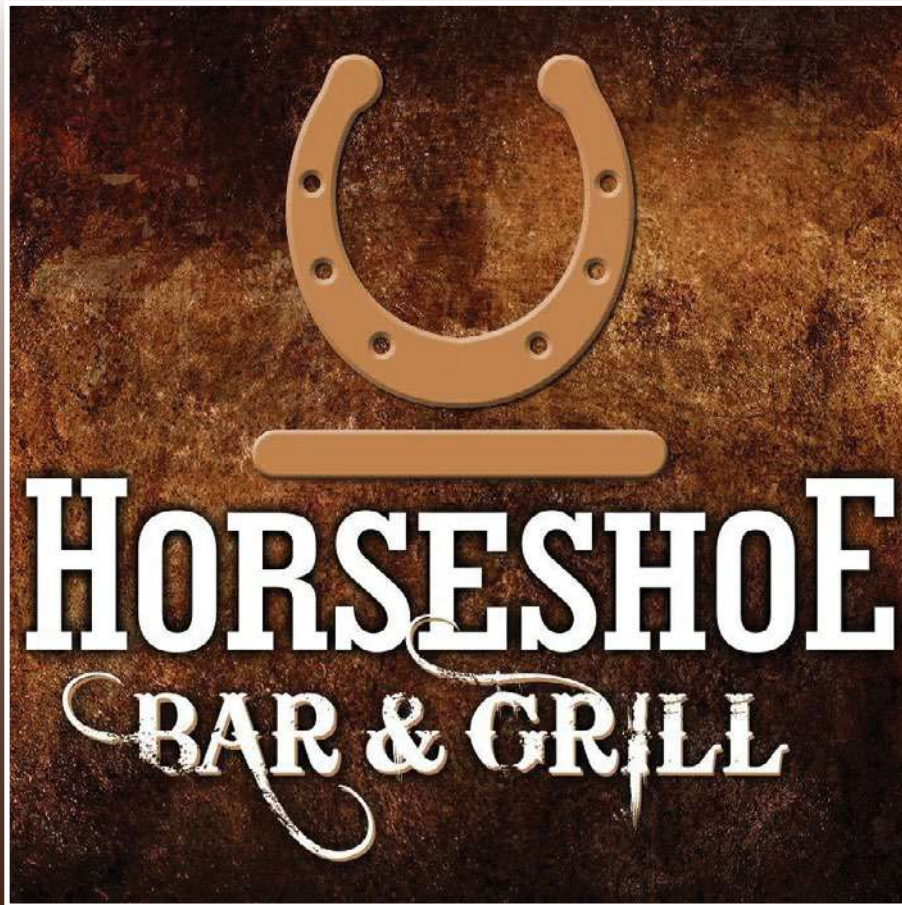
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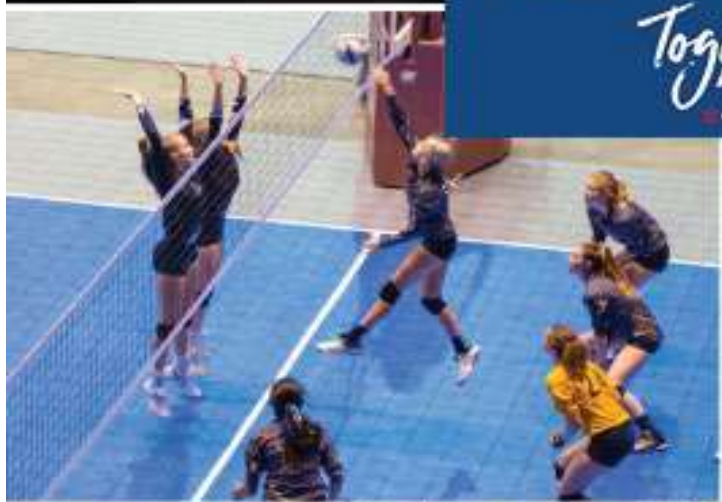
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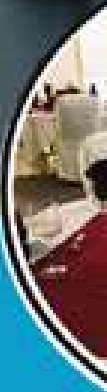
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# How To Create A DIY Planter Box

## For Growing Your Summer Herbs

(BPT) - Do-it-yourself projects are more popular than ever, and it's no wonder why; they make for a great weekend activity and are a creative way to add handmade touches to your space. Whether it's gardening, cooking, or simply being creative, summer is the perfect time to combine your favorite passions into a DIY project.

Chris Lambton, garden and yard care expert, suggests a seasonal project to kick off the summer months that is not only fun to create, but also will be useful for months to come.

"A great summer DIY project is creating an herb planter box," Lambton says. "Not only can you choose your favorite herbs to grow, but you can reap the rewards by adding them to new culinary creations all summer long."

All it takes is a few simple steps and tools to create your own custom DIY planter box.

### ASSEMBLE AND PREPARE YOUR MATERIALS.

First, gather the wood to make your planter - you'll need five separate pieces: two for the sides, one for the base, and two for the front and back. Measure your pieces to the dimensions of your choosing and cut them to size. Once your base piece is cut, you'll want to add a few drainage holes to keep the herbs' roots healthy. Use a manual drill like the Fiskars Precision Hand Drill for more precise, controlled power.

### CONSTRUCT YOUR PLANTER.

Next, nail the pieces of the planter together. Use the Fiskars Precision Hammer to nail the pieces together at right angles. This hammer is specifically designed for DIY projects in terms of weight and size, so it's easy and comfortable to use. After your box is assembled, add some personality, such as

a fresh coat of paint or stain, just be sure to sand it down before painting to ensure the color will stick. For a more rustic aesthetic, leave the wood bare.

### SELECT YOUR HERBS.

Now comes the fun part - selecting your herbs. Basil, cilantro, chives, oregano, rosemary or thyme are great options, as they easily grow in a planter and are a great addition to any summer dish. You can purchase herbs from a local garden store and transplant them into your planter box. Or, you can grow the herbs from seeds, which is more budget-friendly and will allow you to choose from a wider selection of plant varieties.

### PLANT THE HERBS.

Once you have your herbs, it's time to start planting. Lambton recommends having Fiskars Multipurpose Garden Snips handy to quickly cut through soil bags and seedling containers. First, add a layer of dampened soil, then, drop in your seeds. Depending on the types of herbs you're using, you'll want to make sure they are spaced far enough apart to allow for plenty of sunlight and airflow. Next, lightly cover with soil.

### WATCH YOUR PLANTER GARDEN GROW.

Now that you've planted your herbs, it's time to nourish them and watch them flourish! Most container herbs do well in a sunny location, so be sure to place your planter box in a well-lit area. They prefer not to be overwatered, so be sure to do so sparingly and slowly. Once they are thriving, harvest the fresh leaves regularly to promote growth so you can use them in your recipes all summer long.

For more DIY inspiration and ideas, from gardening and home improvement to crafting and cooking, visit [Fiskars.com](https://www.fiskars.com).

# Places to visit

*and things to do*

## **National Historic Trails Interpretive Center**

1501 N Poplar St  
Casper, WY 82601-1375  
(307) 261-7700

## **Tate Geological Museum**

124 College Dr  
Casper, WY 82601-4611  
(307) 268-2447

## **Fort Caspar Museum and Historic Site**

4001 Fort Caspar Rd  
Casper, WY 82604-2923  
(307) 235-8462

## **Garden Creek Falls**

Garden Creek Road  
Rotary Park  
Casper, WY 82609

## **Werner Wildlife Museum**

405 W 15th St  
Casper, WY 82601-4132  
(307) 268-2100

## **Platte River Trails**

1775 W. First St  
Casper, WY 82601  
(307) 577-1206

## **Casper Planetarium**

904 N Poplar St  
Casper, WY 82601-1348  
(307) 577-0310

## **Casper Events Center**

1 Events Dr  
Casper, WY 82601-1380  
(307) 235-8441

## **Morad Park**

2800 SW Wyoming Blvd  
Casper, WY 82604  
(307) 235-8281

## **Hogadon Ski Area**

2500 Hogadon Road  
Casper, WY 82601  
(307) 235-8499

## **Wyoming Veterans Memorial Museum**

3740 Jourgensen Ave  
Casper, WY 82604-1681  
(307) 472-1857

## **Natrona County Public Library**

307 E 2nd St  
Casper, WY 82601-2505  
(307) 237-4935



# WYOMING

## Natrona County

### **Nicolaysen Art Museum**

400 E Collins Dr  
Casper, WY 82601-2815  
(307) 235-5247

### **Stage III Community Theatre**

900 N Center St  
Casper, WY 82601-1276  
(307) 234-0946

### **The Bishop House**

818 E 2nd St  
Casper, WY 82601-2623  
(307) 235-5277

### **Frontier Brewing Company and Taproom**

117 E 2nd St  
Casper, WY 82601-2501  
(307) 337-1000

### **The Science Zone**

111 W Midwest Ave  
Casper, WY 82601-2423  
(307) 473-9663

### **Horse Palace**

4100 W. Yellowstone Hwy., Inside The Beacon  
Club, Casper, WY 82604  
(307) 237-0322

### **Haven - Art Walk**

316 W Yellowstone Hwy  
Casper, WY 82601-2443  
(307) 337-3734

### **Skull Tree Brewing**

1530 E Burlington Ave  
Casper, WY 82601-2109  
(307) 277-3764

### **Casper Theater Company**

735 Cy Ave  
Casper, WY 82601-4163  
(307) 267-7243

### **Mike Sedar Aqua Park**

781 College Dr  
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### **Backwards Distilling Company**

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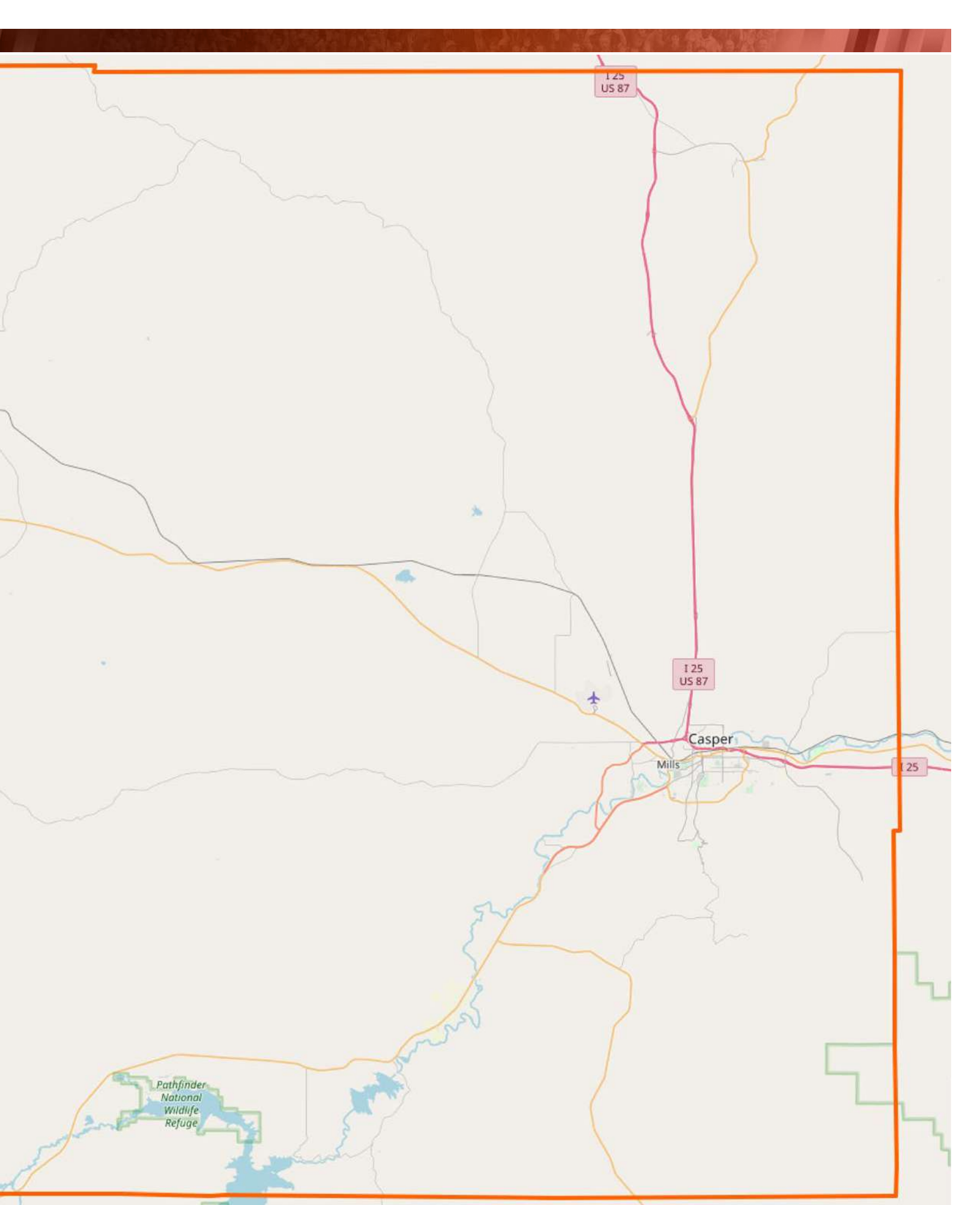
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# WYOMING

*Natrona County*



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Casper

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Casper, WY 82601  
(307) 235-9444

## **Clerk**

200 N. Center, Room 157  
Casper, WY 82601  
(307) 235-9206

## **Clerk of District Court**

115 N. Center, Room 100  
Casper, WY 82601  
(307) 235-9243

## **Coroner**

6550 Wildcat Rd  
Evansville, WY 82636  
(307) 235-9458

## **County Attorney**

200 N. Center St., Room 300  
Casper, WY 82601  
(307) 235-9460

## **County Commissioners**

200 N. Center, Room 115  
Casper, WY 82601  
(307) 235-9202

## **Fire Protection District**

P.O. Box 820  
Mills, WY 82644  
(307) 234-8826

## **Help Desk**

200 N. Center St, Room 105  
Casper, WY 82601  
(307) 235-9351

## **Human Resources**

200 N. Center, Room 300  
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(307) 235-9460

## **Natrona County Adult Drug Court**

500 South Wolcott, Room 100  
Casper, WY 82601  
(307) 235-2000

## **Planning & Development**

200 North Center St., Room 202  
Casper, WY 82601  
(307) 235-9435

## **Building Department**

200 N. Center St., Room 205  
Casper, WY 82601  
(307) 235-9435

## **Code Enforcement**

200 N. Center St., Room 202  
Casper, WY 82601  
(307) 235-9435

## **Roads, Bridges & Parks**

538 S.W. Wyoming Blvd.  
Mills, WY 82644  
(307) 235-9311

## **Sheriff**

201 N. David, Second Floor  
Casper, WY 82601  
(307) 235-9282

## **Detention Center**

1100 Bruce Ln.  
Casper, WY 82601  
(307) 235-9524

## **Emergency Management**

201 N. David, Second floor  
Casper, WY 82601  
(307) 235-9205

## **Juvenile Detention Center**

1120 Bruce Lane  
Casper, WY 82601  
(307) 235-9234

## **Treasurer - Motor Vehicle**

200 N. Center, Room B32  
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