

PRAIRIE NEWS

<http://SD-PheasantHunting.com>
1-855-SD Lodge

Second Quarter 2015

35451 253rd Street
Kimball, SD 57355

Habitat Update:

The highlight of this spring has been planting our new tree line. Approximately 1,000 feet long with five rows of trees and shrubs, the trees curve slightly to provide shelter from both the north and west. The outer row consists of sumac and chokeberry shrubs, and then the next two rows are pine and junipers to provide a solid snow and wind barrier. In the middle, we left a gap to make walking through the tree line more manageable, and this space is wide enough to plant a few rows of corn or sorghum as well. The fourth row is cedar trees, and the final row is currant and buffaloberry bushes.

If we can prevent the deer and rabbits from nibbling too much, we should have a very hospitable winter shelter for pheasants in the next few years. Right now, the trees and shrubs are only about a foot tall so they don't provide any cover just yet. In several years, they should resemble the following view:



Sumac



Pine



Juniper



Cedar



Buffaloberry

Closer to the Lodge, we also planted a few aronia and lilac bushes. Aronia berries have the highest antioxidant capacity among all berries and fruits currently evaluated due to their phenolic compounds, and the lilacs can be cut for fresh flowers in the Lodge. For specimen trees, we now have Canadian red oak, black cherry, cottonwood, sienna glen maple, and American linden immediately around the Lodge.

Pheasants Forever Programs:

We are pleased to announce that the Lodge has been approved for the Honey Bee and Monarch Butterfly Partnership. This collaboration provides high quality, high diversity foraging habitat for honey bees, Monarch butterflies, native pollinators and other wildlife. The seed mixture designed for this program is also well-suited for pheasants, and we are planting slightly more than ten acres with this mix of grass and flowers.



Fishing Update:

As of May 11, 2015, new rules are in place to help slow the spread of aquatic invasive species in water bodies across South Dakota. These new rules require boaters and anglers to clean all vegetation and aquatic invasive species from a boat, trailer or other watercraft. The rules also require all drain plugs or similar devices to be opened or removed; except when in the boat ramp parking lot or when the boat is being launched or loaded. A boat may have these devices closed or in place while en route to a fish cleaning station immediately adjacent to where the boat was loaded, but they must be opened or removed before leaving the fish cleaning station.

Transporting bait or fish in water taken from a lake, river or stream is not allowed. Bait may only be transported in water taken from a lake, river or stream while en route to a fish cleaning station located immediately adjacent to the lake, river or stream, but must be drained prior to leaving the fish cleaning station. Anglers may still transport bait away from a lake, river or stream if bait is in well water or treated tap water.

For more information on the newly effective aquatic invasive species rules, please refer to the following website: <http://SDLeastWanted.com>

Prairie Puzzle:

The answer to last quarter's question about the cities hosting the Pheasants Forever convention was all of them. Congratulations to Mr. Kinnally of Illinois and Mr. Smith of Wisconsin for winning our Prairie Puzzle.

2nd Quarter 2015 question: ***Which of the following are invasive aquatic species?***

- a) zebra mussel
- b) silver carp
- c) Asian clam
- d) European rudd
- e) all of the above

Please submit your answer by June 1, 2015 to be included in the prize drawing for a free Dakota Prairie Lodge hunting hat. Responses will be accepted via mail, phone, or email. Good luck!