

April 5, 2017

To: All Interested Parties

From: Director Ben Thomas

Re: Montana Department of Agriculture Advisory Councils

The Montana Department of Agriculture administers advisory councils that are appointed by the Department Director to provide advice to the Department concerning administration of Noxious Weed Programs. The Department is currently recruiting for open positions on the Noxious Weed Management Advisory Council.

Members of the Council provide guidance to the Noxious Weed Trust Fund grant program, which assists counties, local communities, tribes, researchers and educators in efforts to combat noxious weed problems in Montana. Council members dedicate many hours to reviewing Noxious Weed Trust Fund grant applications and attending the five-day grant hearings held annually in March. Following the hearings, funding recommendations are made by the Council and presented to the Director for approval. The Council also meets for one day in January and June of each year.

The following council terms expire June 30, 2017:

- Agriculture Crop Production
- Herbicide Dealer or Applicator
- Biological Research and Control Interests
- Western County Representative
- Livestock Production

If you are interested in service on the Noxious Weed Management Advisory Council, or would like to nominate a Montanan to serve on the Council, please submit a letter of interest to agr@mt.gov or Montana Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 200201, Helena, MT 59620. In your letter please indicate the council position you are interested in filling, and describe the qualifications and expertise that you or your nominee will bring to the Council. If you are making a nomination, please be sure that your nominee is interested in serving on the Council. Nominations may be made by members of the group that will be represented and should be submitted by May 19, 2017. For additional information please contact Dave Burch at dburch@mt.gov or 444-3140.