

SWEET GRASS COUNTY

BIG TIMBER

DIRECTORY | BUSINESS SPOTLIGHTS | COMMUNITY EVENTS | AREA ATTRACTIONS



BIG TIMBER MAGAZINE

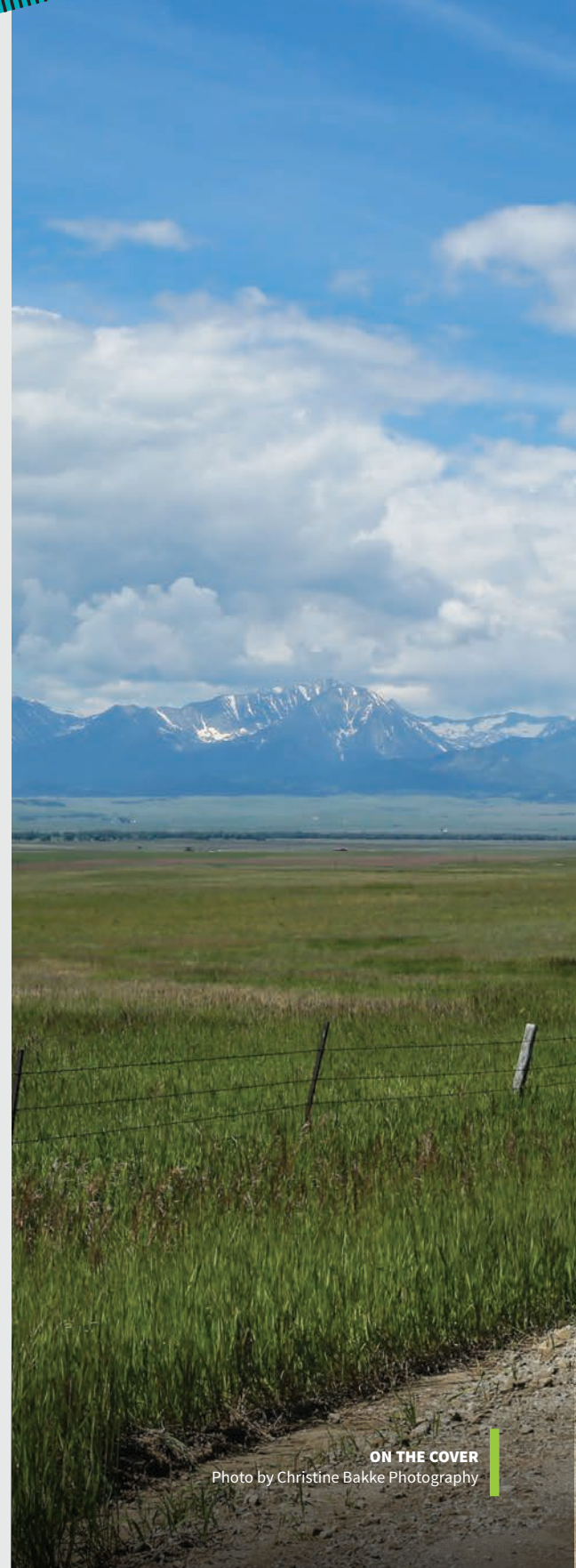
COMMUNITY GUIDE FOR SWEET GRASS COUNTY

A PUBLICATION OF SWEET GRASS COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



SWEET GRASS COUNTY

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ON THE COVER

Photo by Christine Bakke Photography

A NOTE FROM THE BOARD

Thanks for picking up the second edition of the Chamber of Commerce's Big Timber Magazine, a publication designed to spotlight the many amazing businesses, local non-profits, great annual events, and our incredible attractions. So, grab a cup of coffee and enjoy learning a bit about what Sweet Grass County has to offer. From our rich wool history celebrated during the spring at Fiber Fest, to a summer weekend full of rodeo at Sweet Grass Fest, come enjoy a family friendly time all year around in Big Timber. We have also included a section on outdoor recreation in the area, great camping locations, and other must-see attractions.

The Chamber is continuously evolving to meet the needs of our local businesses and community. We strive to stay relevant, grow and evolve, and to provide opportunities to keep Big Timber and Sweet Grass County thriving.

We look forward to serving our membership and community in the coming year. It takes a large group of dedicated individuals to keep this organization running smoothly and we couldn't do it without each and every volunteer. Thank you again for your continued support in the coming year.

Here's to Big Timber!

Thank you,

Board of Directors

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KASEY STEPHENS
KCS Fitness, LLC



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Twin Tree Services &
Big Timber KOA



ADVENTURE

Absaroka-Beartooth Outfitters

PO Box 318, Big Timber, MT 59011
(406) 579-3866
absarokabeartooth.com

Big Timber Fly Fishing

PO Box 34, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-930-1038
bigtimberflyfishing.com

Hawley Mountain Guest Ranch

4188 Main Boulder Rd., McLeod, MT 59052
hawleymountain.com

Wide Sky Adventures

316A Otter Creek Rd., Big Timber, MT 59011
(406) 931-0285
wideskyadventures.com



AGRICULTURE

Cayuse Livestock Company

316A Melville Rd, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-537-4445
bigtimber.com

Crazy Peak Cattle Women

PO Box 162, Melville, MT 59055
bigtimber.com

Halverson Land and Livestock

137 Lower Deer Creek Rd, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-6600
bigtimber.com

Indreland Ranch

170 Glasston Road, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-4232
indrelandranch.com

Johnston Livestock

Road Melville, Montana 59055
406-537-4424
bigtimber.com

Montana Wool Growers Association

PO Box 1693, Helena, MT 59624
406-442-1330
mtsheep.org

Yellowstone Feed

Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-5132/932-5182
bigtimber.com



CHILDCARE

Big Timber Daycare

605 E 7th Ave, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-539-4786
bigtimberdaycare.com



CHURCH

Big Timber Evangelical Church

302 Bramble St, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-6843
bigtimberchurch.com

Big Timber Lutheran Church

115 W. 4th Ave, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-5723
bigtimberlutheranchurch.org



COMMUNITY

Crazy Mountain Museum

2 - I-90 Frontage Rd, Big Timber, MT 59011
(406) 932-5126
crazymountainmuseum.com

Big Timber Lions Club

PO Box 173, Big Timber, MT 59011
916-873-6033
bigtimber.com

Friends of Dornix Park

PO Box 460, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-3039
dornixpark.org

Friends of the Library

PO Box 846, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-689-6990

Hearts & Hands Hospice

301 West 7th Ave., Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-4603
bigtimber.com

Hospitality House

208 McLeod St, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-5455
bigtimber.com

Montana on a Mission

PO Box 696, Big Timber, Montana 59011
406-930-1056
montanaonamission.org

Sweet Grass Community Foundation

116 W 2nd Ave, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-3090
sweetgrasscommunityfoundation.org



DINING

Circle T Taproom

202 E 1st Ave Suite #4, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-5347
bigtimber.com

Crazy Peak Boutique

216 McLeod Street, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-3118
bigtimber.com

Crazy Peak Brewing Company

202 E 1st Ave Suite #3, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-KEGS
bigtimber.com

Greycliff Mill

11 Greycliff Creek Ln, Greycliff, MT 59033
406-930-0870
greycliffmill.com

The Grand Hotel & Restaurant

139 McLeod St., Big Timber, MT 59011
thegrand-hotel.com
(406) 932-4248

Timber Bar

Big Timber, Montana 59011
406-932-4040
bigtimber.com



ENTERTAINMENT

B Bar T Rodeo Company

Melville, MT 59011
406-537-4424
bigtimber.com

Big Timber Carnegie Public Library

314 McLeod Street, Big Timber MT 59011
406-932-5608
bigtimberlibrary.org

Crazy Mountain Museum

2 South Frontage Road, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-5126
crazymountainmuseum.com

Crazy Mountain Music

PO Box 218, Melville, MT 59055
406-537-4422
crazymountainmusic.com

Overland Golf Course

338 Big Timber Loop Rd, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-4297
overlandgolf.com

Sweet Grass Arts Alliance

PO Box 363, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-4685
sweetgrassartsalliance.org



FINANCE

American Bank

313 W 1st Ave, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-5265
americanbankmontana.com

Citizens Bank

130 McLeod St. Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-5311
ctznsbank.com

Farm Bureau Financial Services – Randy Moore, PLLC

201 McLeod St., Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-5473
fbfs.com/find-an-agent/randymoore

Opportunity Bank of Montana

101 McLeod St, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-5317
opportunitybank.com

RND Partners

PO Box 820, Big Timber, MT 59011
(406) 932-4499
bigtimber.com

Sky Federal Credit Union

301 W 1st Ave Suite D, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-4004
skyfcu.org

State Farm Insurance

125 McLeod St. Big Timber, MT 59011
(406) 932-5321
statefarm.com/agent/us/mt/livingston/
dean-hendrickson-k4q8c1ys000

Sweet Grass County Farm Bureau Federation

201 McLeod St., Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-5473
fbfs.com/find-an-agent/randymoore



FOOD TRUCK

Bills Place BBQ and Catering

5 Donald Road, Melville, MT 59055
406-537-4433
bigtimber.com



GROCERY

Earth Wise General Store

107 W 2nd St, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-6875
earthwisegeneralstore.com

Hawley Mountain Ranch

4188 Main Boulder Rd, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-5791
hawleymountain.com

Pioneer Meats

209 E 1st Ave, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-4522
pioneermeatsmt.com

Uncommon Beef

PO Box 1645, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-740-2510
uncommonbeef.com



HEALTH

ASPEN

411 E. Callender St., Livingston, MT 59047
406-222-5902
aspenmt.org

Big Timber Family Dental
315 McLeod St Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-5919
bigtimberdental.com

Crazy Mountain Chiropractic
400 W. 2nd Ave., Big Timber, MT 59101
(406) 932-5528

Janet's Spa & Salon
PO Box 1663, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-930-0833
bigtimber.com

Pioneer Medical Center
301 W. 7th Ave, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-4603
pmcmt.org

The Firehouse Gym
225 McLeod, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-6688
thefirehousefitnesscenter.com



INDUSTRY
Bobcat of Big Sky
2125 Old Hardin Road, Billings, MT 59101
406-932-4324
bobcatofbigsky.com

Brown Dirt Works
PO Box 1663, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-930-0833
bigtimber.com

BK Laser Designs
PO Box 21, Reed Point, MT 69069
406-326-2357
bklaserdesigns.com

Circle T Construction
202 E 1st Ave, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-670-4924
bigtimber.com

Golden Eagle Home Inspections
PO Box 1003, Big Timber, MT 59011
(406) 930-2389
goldeneaglehomeinspections.com

Heritage Restorations
34 Big Timber Loop, Big Timber, MT 59011
877-354-2276
heritagebarns.com

Northwestern Energy
402 E Main St Suite 3. Bozeman, MT 59771
888-467-2669
northwesternenergy.com

Oie Motor Company
119 E 1st Ave, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-5323
bigtimber.com

Proficient Plumbing
PO Box 1651, Big Timber, Montana 59011
406-930-0205
bigtimber.com

Sibanye-Stillwater
517 W 1st Ave, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-322-8700
www.sibanyestillwater.com

Stephens Auto Supply
404 W 1st St, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-5136
carquest.com/stores/mt/big-timber

Sweet Grass Portables
PO Box 1305, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-930-2778
sweetgrassportables.com

Tom Roe and Son Construction
11 McLeod St, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-5171
roeandson.net

Triangle Communications
300 McLeod St, Big Timber, MT 59011
800-332-1201
itstriangle.com

Tru Green
PO Box 10364, Bozeman, MT 59719
trugreen.com/local-lawn-care/montana/belgrade

Twin Tree Services
PO Box 10, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-290-4574
bigtimber.com

Turner Mining
304 W Kirkwood Ave Ste 100,
Bloomington, IN 47404
812-277-9077
turnermining.com

Tuscano Machine LLC
100 Makers Way, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-5676
tuscanomachine.com

TY Construction
PO Box 1306, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-4524
bigtimber.com

Ullman Lumber
301 E. 1st. St., Big Timber, MT 59011
(406) 932-5332
ullmanlumber.com

Yellow Dog Rental
119 E 1st Ave ,Big Timber ,MT 59011
406-932-5323
bigtimber.com



LOCAL GOVERNMENT
City of Big Timber
03 E. 3rd Ave., Big Timber, MT 59011
cityofbigtimber.com
406-932-5610



LODGING
Big Timber KOA
693 Highway 10 East Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-6569
koa.com/campgrounds/big-timber

Homestead Bed and Breakfast
614 McLeod St, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-3033
bigtimber.com

Pinot Properties, LLC.
362 US Highway 395 N, Ste. 102-500
Gardnerville, NV 89410
916-285-9835
merlotmarketing.com

River Valley Inn
600 W. 2nd Ave, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-4943
bigtimber.com

Super 8 Motel
20A Big Timber Rd, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-203-4757
hwyndhamhotels.com/super-8

The Grand Hotel & Restaurant
139 McLeod St., Big Timber, MT 59011
thegrand-hotel.com
(406) 932-4248



MEDIA
Big Timber Pioneer
105 W 2nd Ave, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-5298
bigtimberpioneer.net

Christine Bakke Photography
406-326-2145
cbakkephotography.com

Ultra Graphics
3413 Gabel Rd. Billings. Montana 59102
406-256-4999
ultragraphicsmt.com

FM 99 - The Mountain
9 South Broadway, Red Lodge, MT 59068
406-446-1199
fm99mtn.com

Yellowstone Media Group
PO Box 2000, Livingston, MT 59047



PROFESSIONAL
Holmes and Turner
116 W 2nd, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-587-4265
holmesandturner.com

Josephson Law Firm PLLC
205 Hooper St, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-5900
bigtimberlaw.com

Key Insurance
100 McLeod, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-4014
montanainsurance.net

Sweet Grass County Farm Bureau
1155 Cremer Road, Melville, MT 59055
406-537-4481
mfbf.org



REAL ESTATE
ERA Landmark Real Estate
215 S. Main, Livingston, MT 59047
406-222-8700
eralandmark.com/era-landmark-office/215-S-Main-Livingston

Hayden Outdoors Real Estate
127 McLeod St, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-930-2379
haydenoutdoors.com

JH Real Estate
220 McLeod St, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-321-0023
johnhrealstate.com

Ruthie Johnson Real Estate
318 W 4th Ave, Big Timber, Montana 59011
406-930-1022
ruthiejohnsonrealestate.com

Sonny Todd Real Estate
301 W 1st Ave, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-1031
https://sonnytoddrealestate.com

Sweet Grass Title Company
115 W. 2nd Ave, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-930-1822
sweetgrasstitle.com

Yellowstone Real Estate Group
1019 W Park St, Livingston, MT 59047
406-333-0139
yregroup.com



RETAIL
Big Timber Ace Hardware
111 McLeod St, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-5318
acehardware.com/store-details/10091

Blake Nursery
316 Otter Creek Rd, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-4195
blakenursery.com

Community Thrift Shoppe
16 McLeod St., Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-4024
bigtimber.com

Gusts of Big Timber
200 McLeod, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-5451
gustsofbigtimber.com

The Fort
228 Big Timber Loop Rd, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-5992
thefortmt.com

Thistle Creek Mercantile
133 McLeod St, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-5665
thistlecreekmt.com

Touch of Sunshine
415 West 1st Ave, Ste 7 Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-6637
bigtimber.com

Town Pump
510 W 1st Ave, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-5349
townpump.com

Tumblewood Teas
14 Anderson St, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-9641
tumblewoodteas.com

Two Rivers Gallery
PO Box 225, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-4009
tworiversgallery.net



VET AND PET
All Creatures Veterinary Service
22 HWY 10 East, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-4324
acvsmt.com

Stafford Animal Shelter
3 Business Park Rd., Livingston, MT 59011
406-222-2111
staffordanimalshelter.org

Yellowstone Feed
127 East Yellowstone, Big Timber, MT 59011
406-932-5132
bigtimber.com

CITIZENS BANK

REMEMBERING THE PAST



FROM THE BRICK AND MORTAR of downtown Big Timber to historic cabins on old homesteads, the legacy of area founders is still seen today. This legacy not only lives on in architecture, but also in descendants and local businesses. Citizens Bank and Trust Co. is a locally owned financial institution serving Sweet Grass and Wheatland counties that traces roots to the first days of settlement of this region. While the bank currently offers a slate of modern financial services, the focus remains on ag producers, honoring a proud tradition started by Big Timber's earliest sheepherder.

We dug through the archives and found a couple of articles from the Big Timber Pioneer that offer a glimpse into what life was like in Big Timber a century ago.

The first was published in 1909, written by Chas McDonnell, who was President of the bank at the time:

"Gentlemen: In reply to your request for information about the possibilities of farming in Sweet Grass County I would say that:

One acre of alfalfa will feed 8 sheep and their lambs for six months. 40 acres of alfalfa will care for 200 sheep, which will shear 12 pounds of wool each at 15 cents per pound. The wool clip for 1909 is now being contracted for 20 cents per pound.

200 lambs raised in March will weigh 90 pounds per head in the fall of the year and at 4 cents per pound will yield \$3.60 per head. (At this date, Jan. 23, lambs are selling in Big Timber market at 5.5 cents per pound), making a total of \$5.40 profit on the 200 head of sheep which will net a clear profit of \$4.00 per head. The roughage from sheep will feed six milch cows and their butter in this market is never less than 25 cents per pound in summer and 40 cents per pound in winter.

A few acres of sugar beets will bring good returns. It is well known that hogs will keep in good order by being turned on alfalfa, and a few acres of peas or barley will put them in prime condition for the market. Chicago bacon sells here for 14 cents per pound and often higher than that. A good chicken house will enable the farmer to sell poultry and eggs enough during the winter season to pay all household expenses. Eggs today sell for 40 cents per dozen right here in Big Timber and chickens and turkeys sell for 15 cents per pound.

The balance of the 160 acres devoted to the raising of wheat, oats, hay, and garden truck will prove quite profitable.

I know from practical experience that if the above rule of diversified farming is followed the farmer need not fear for the future.

Yours truly, Chas McDonnell"

The second is an article published in November 10, 1927 that talks about the merger of Citizens State Bank and the Commercial Bank & Trust:

"At a meeting of directors of the Citizen's State bank and the Commercial Bank & Trust Co., held at the respective banking houses Tuesday evening, a plan under way for some time to consolidate these two oldest and largest banking houses of Big Timber into one organization matured. More specific details are given in notices to stockholders of each bank, published in this issue of The Pioneer. "Thank the new bank will be a power in Montana banking circles is evidenced by the reports of these institutions, published October 20th which show cash of ore than \$400,000. Under consolidation the combined cash will run over \$1,000,000."

The lobby is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, with the drive-thru open from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm. Call 406-932-5311 to reach the Big Timber branch.

MEATS OF MONTANA located in downtown Big Timber, is the storefront for the popular local processor, Pioneer Meats. In their coolers, you can find a variety of local meats and specialty treats. Owners Brian and Kary Engle have worked for two decades to build a world-class custom meat processing facility, a neighborhood butcher shop, and regional product distribution network.

If you've visited Meats of Montana recently, you may have noticed the soft launch of a brand-new venture directly linked to their parent company, Pioneer Meats - Treats of Montana - a premium line of pet treats crafted with care and conscience.

Leveraging the animal by-products of their meat processing facility, Treats of Montana is committed to minimizing waste while delivering high-value nutrition to our furry friends. What sets this new venture apart is the dedication to source locally, which ensures the animals are treated humanely throughout the process and guarantees both quality and ethics in every bite. While all of the offal typically ends up in at local composting operation, Pioneer Meats saw an opportunity to transform some of it into something of value for pets and their owners.

By repurposing this often-overlooked resource, they are not only reducing waste, but also presenting more ways to utilize livestock in the food chain by providing a nutritious alternative for discerning pet parents.

These new pet treats boast a simple yet powerful formula, with minimal ingredients sourced from our trusted in-state suppliers. Treats of Montana believes in transparency and traceability, so pet owners can feel confident knowing exactly what goes into each treat. But their commitment to sustainability doesn't stop there.

The Treats of Montana brand prioritizes sustainability at every stage of the production process. They have reduced their carbon footprint by utilizing solar power to subsidize their energy output. Since May 2023, they've saved an equivalent of about 80 trees a month worth of energy!

Further, when you buy these pet treats, a portion of sales will be donated to Montana-based nonprofit pet rehoming facilities. By choosing Treats of Montana, not only are you nourishing your pet, but you're also contributing to a greater cause. Join us on our mission to create a brighter, more sustainable future for pets and the planet with Treats of Montana, now available at Meats of Montana!

Open Monday through Friday from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm and Saturday from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm with specialty hours during hunting season. For hours, custom butchering services, or for other inquiries, call 406-932-4522 to reach the store or visit 209 E 1st Ave in Big Timber.



MEATS OF MONTANA

NOW OFFERING TAIL-WAGGING PROVISIONS

SIBANYE-STILLWATER

MINING AND RECYCLING CRITICAL MINERALS IN MONTANA FOR THE USA



SIBANYE-STILLWATER is a multinational mining and metals processing group with a diverse portfolio of operations, projects and investments across five continents. We are one of the very few U.S. producers of domestic critical minerals and are the only U.S. miner of platinum group metals or “PGMs” at our East Boulder and Stillwater Mines. PGMs are rare precious metals used in autocatalysts, as well as fuel cells, hydrogen purification, electronics and other applications.

The Group is also one of the foremost global recyclers of PGM autocatalysts and has interests in leading mine tailings retreatment operations. Sibanye-Stillwater has been recycling PGMs at our metallurgical complex in Columbus, Montana for over twenty years and operate one of the most technologically advanced and environmentally responsible PGM recycling facilities in the world.

At Sibanye-Stillwater’s US PGM operations, we are proud to mine and recycle critical minerals in Montana for the USA. With pristine rivers, majestic mountains and vibrant communities surrounding our operations, we are dedicated to environmental stewardship, economic vitality, and safe, sustainable production to support our people and places for generations to come.

COMMITTED TO ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

We are committed to rural vitality and consider it a great privilege to operate in what we think is the most beautiful place in the world. We are fortunate to have been a party to our Good Neighbor Agreement for almost twenty-four years. This agreement is a legally binding contract that assures responsible mining practices by requiring that we go above and beyond state and federal environmental regulations, that we commit to social manifests like limiting traffic counts and not housing employees and contractors outside of existing communities, and that we give the Northern Plains Resource Council, Cottonwood Resource Council, and the Stillwater Protective Association a seat at the table in our mine and business planning. This collaboration has resulted in shared ideas and a shared vision for continuing rural vitality through the Good Neighbor Agreement.

In 2023, the American Exploration & Mining Association (AEMA) recognized Sibanye-Stillwater’s US PGM operations with the Environmental and Sustainability Excellence Award. The organization recognized the US PGM operations for its environmental compliance and stewardship at the East Boulder and Stillwater Mines, noting that Sibanye-Stillwater goes above and beyond with its duties and permit requirements through the Good Neighbor Agreement.

The AEMA acknowledged that the company’s foresight in prior years to build durable tailings facilities that exceeded local regulatory requirements were successful in ensuring that the historic 2022 flooding in Montana did not negatively impact the protection of the environment or the footprint of the mines on the local ecology.

CONTRIBUTING TO THE STATE’S ECONOMIC VITALITY

Sibanye-Stillwater’s US PGM operations in Montana are one of the largest private sector employers in the state with more than 1,700 employees. Moreover, according to a 2022 report from the University of Montana’s Bureau of Business and Economic Research, the company supports thousands of jobs statewide across a range of occupations and industries, and economic output in Montana is higher annually because of the company.

SUPPORTING THE AREA’S VIBRANT COMMUNITIES

Through the Community Giving Program, each year Sibanye-Stillwater donates to local charitable and non-profit organizations in the areas of rural and emergency medicine, education, community improvement activities and environmental stewardship. It also provides community and dependent scholarships to graduating high school seniors from schools across Montana.

In Big Timber, the company partners with many local charitable organizations including Big Brothers, Big Sisters of Big Sky Country, the Sweet Grass Community Foundation and Big Timber After School Club. In addition, with its partner Wheaton Precious Metals, the company has helped support other key organizations and projects in the area including the American Legion, Sheepherder Square, Big Timber Hospitality House and Big Timber Civic Center.

The company is also proud to have many employees who volunteer for local charitable organizations, dedicating their time and talents outside of work to help improve the wellbeing of their communities.

DEDICATED TO SAFE PRODUCTION

Everyone Goes Home Safe Today is the motto at the forefront of Sibanye-Stillwater’s operations, and safety is one of the company’s core values. Ensuring the health and safety of its employees is a critical part of the business. Maintaining safety standards and protocols is a complex task in the mining environment, but one made easier through the company’s ongoing implementation of safety training, new technologies specifically designed to improve safety and ensuring it’s in compliance with state and federal safety regulations.

Visit sibanyestillwater.com to learn more about the environmental reporting, Good Neighbor Agreement, economic impact, and employment opportunities.

IN 2023, TRIANGLE COMMUNICATIONS celebrated their 70th year of business. Cooperatives embody a unique sense of community, collaboration, and shared purpose much like the rural communities they serve. Since 1953, through the joint efforts of their members, employees, and community partners, they have overcome challenges and transformed the landscape to have world-class services in rural Montana.

Triangle prides themselves on providing high-quality, local customer service and tech support to their members. Their employees live and serve in the very communities that they provide service to. As part of their commitment to Sweet Grass County and their surrounding areas, they opened a second customer service location in Big Timber in 2019. Their office on McLeod St. has top-notch staff ready and able to assist with payments, signing up for service, streaming questions, general internet questions as well as installation questions.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Their commitment to our communities goes beyond providing communication and broadband services. Triangle is proud to support our communities, businesses and area youth with various scholarships and grants to help keep this area thriving. Triangle has scholarships, school technology grants, STEM grants, DC Youth Tour trips, and grants to help support community projects. Triangle is a sponsor of the annual Sweet Grass Community Foundation fundraising drive. Check out the many opportunities that are available at www.itstriangle.com/community.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Triangle recognizes and partners with the local volunteer fire departments and ambulance services. These volunteers show up to serve our communities night and day in all kinds of emergency situations. There are 52 volunteer fire departments in Triangle's service area and Triangle provides a yearly grant to each department as well as a grant for training that the departments can apply for. There are 15 volunteer ambulance crews throughout Triangle's service area and Triangle provides a yearly grant to the crews as well as aids with training expenses for courses to help the crews stay certified and assist with training expenses for new volunteers. Any volunteer departments that would like more information, please reach out to community@itstriangle.net.

LOOKING AHEAD

Triangle has been busy deploying a Fiber Network across their service area in Montana. In fact, the amount of Fiber they've installed can cross the U.S. more than twice! Entering their final year of installation, they are very proud of their employees and contractors for working so hard to bring fiber optics to Sweet Grass County, and they are super appreciative to their members and landowners who they have worked with over the years during these upgrades. They truly appreciate your patience as they finish connecting members to a better and more reliable phone and internet service.

Our unwavering commitment to our cooperative's core values will guide us as we strive to make rural Montana a place to live, work and play with world class communication services.

To view services offered or to join the cooperative, visit itstriangle.com or stop by the Big Timber office at 300 McLeod St. in Big Timber.



TRIANGLE COMMUNICATIONS

LOCAL CO-OP PROVIDING "MONTANA-SIZED INTERNET"

BIG TIMBER FLY FISHING



FISHING BROUGHT Rachel Cullen and Doug Ayers together. Turning a personal passion into a professional project, the pair purchased Big Timber Fly Fishing in 2019. The company offers decades of combined experience and a high caliber crew. Custom tailored fishing experiences are available for both individuals and groups of all experience levels.

“You can count on our trustworthy, fun-loving guides to lead you on your fly fishing adventure,” explains Cullen. “We take great pride in providing an experience that goes beyond the cast. Our adventure-seeking team will always uphold quality, integrity, and safety as the cornerstones of our job.”

Blue-ribbon trout fishing pairs with jaw-dropping views of the iconic scenery: the Crazy Mountains, Beartooth Mountains, and expansive Yellowstone Valley. Eagles, moose, bear, antelope, and deer appear across these landscapes and skylines - where rugged mountains meet wild rivers.

Half or full-day trips can be walking, wading, or floating. Full-day excursions include amenities like shuttles, picnics, and refreshments. Beginners or seasoned anglers can book personalized sessions or group lessons. Clients are guided through the Yellowstone, Boulder, and Stillwater rivers along with a variety of tributaries, depending on the season and situation.

“We understand the importance of finding the ideal combination of venue and guides who will assure a thrilling adventure. We would love to visit with you about the unique experiences available.” Cullen offers, “let us answer your questions, trade some fishing stories, and book your next trip.”

Since 1986, Big Timber Fly Fishing has welcomed anglers, newbies, and floaters from across Montana and the world to the region. To book a trip or refer a fisherman friend, the company can be reached by email at info@bigtimberflyfishing.com or phone at 406-930-1038.

Learn more about Big Timber Fly Fishing at
bigtimberflyfishing.com. Doug Ayers Outfitter #52335

BOBCAT OF BIG SKY



BOBCAT OF BIG SKY, located in Billings, serves the Big Timber area with quality customer service. Customers across the region access a complete line of Bobcat equipment including compact track loaders, skid-steer loaders, excavators, telehandlers, and attachments. New and pre-owned loaders, compact tractors, utility products, mowers and more are also available. The full-service dealership builds customer relationships around sales, parts, service, and rentals.

Since 1958, Bobcat Company has been empowering people to accomplish more. As a leading global manufacturer of compact equipment, Bobcat has a proud legacy of innovation and a reputation based on delivering smart solutions to customers' toughest challenges. Backed by the support of a worldwide network of independent dealers and distributors, Bobcat offers an extensive line of compact equipment. Headquartered in West Fargo, North Dakota, Bobcat continues to lead the industry, all while helping people succeed and build stronger communities and a better tomorrow.

Bobcat partners with many organizations and supports projects in the communities where customers, dealers, and employees live and work.

In 2022, Bobcat employee Jack Keller volunteered with his wife Mikayla Keller at the Big Timber Farmers Market and Sweet Grass Brewfest. Bobcat of Big Sky supports community events in Sweet Grass County by sponsoring the Chamber of Commerce.

To see the current lineup of new and used Bobcat equipment, visit the store off I-90 just east of the Lockwood exit in Billings. Call 406-252-0822 to reach the store or visit bobcatofbigsky.com to browse available products and services. For Bobcat equipment rentals in Big Timber, call Yellow Dog Rental at 406-932-5323.

CIRCLE T CONSTRUCTION



CIRCLE T CONSTRUCTION is a general contracting company owned by Colter and Kendra Todd. With 13 years of experience under their belts, they now seek out unique and specialized projects ranging from commercial to residential.

In 2024, Circle T Construction plans to expand operations and employment opportunities. Due to an influx of commercial and residential needs in Sweet Grass County, Circle T is excited to help shape the future of Big Timber and the surrounding areas.



Circle T is always looking for hard-working individuals to join the team. If you enjoy physical work, consider joining this fast-growing, ever-evolving company.

Whether you're an experienced individual or looking to learn a trade, Circle T Construction welcomes you. Please contact us directly if you'd like to learn more.

Call 406-932-5612 or email circlet2011@gmail.com to inquire about your next project or to apply to join the team.

CIRCLE T TAPROOM



CIRCLE T TAPROOM opened in December 2019 with the goal to serve as a family-friendly community gathering place for locals and visitors alike. It's important to owners Colter and Kendra Todd to create a space where family and friends can gather, children can play, and real-life connections can be made.

The taproom features 12 craft beer options on draught as well as wine, seltzer, cider, soda, and other non-alcoholic beverages. They also serve pizza, wings, and other snack food options alongside locally made jerky, pepper sticks, and BBQ pork bites.



In the fall and winter, the indoor seating options are filled with many local patrons from all walks of life, many of whom are a part of the "Crazy Peak Collective," a unique taproom membership.

Patio season brings an influx of travelers, tourists, fishermen, hunters, hikers, and campers who are looking for places to stop along their Montana journey. Wherever you're coming from, the Circle T Taproom welcomes you!

Visit 202 East First Ave in Big Timber for a beer or a bite or call 406-932-KEGS(5347) for more information.

GREYCLIFF MILL



THE GREYCLIFF MILL is housed in a newly erected timber-frame barn, dated before the American Revolution, and is home to a water-powered gristmill and coffee and sandwich shop.

Initial construction of the barn started late in the year 2020, and the gristmill opened the end of May 2021.

Over the last few years the area around the Greycliff Mill has expanded to include orchards, a cheese cave, an underground creamery, market, and a Walipini greenhouse.

Recently, they have expanded further constructing unique nightly rentals in completely renovated grain silos. There is also an event center, many local crafts, and beautiful gardens.



Greycliff Mill also offers regular Farm-to-Table dinners featuring various cuisines with unique menus that the whole family will enjoy. You can learn about their upcoming dinners and offerings on their website.

The Greycliff Mill is centrally located between Billings and Bozeman just off Interstate 90. A wonderful stop that offers a little something for everyone.

Located at 11 Greycliff Creek Ln, Greycliff, Montana, visit Monday through Saturday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. For more information, visit greycliffmill.com, call 406-930-0870, or email info@greycliffmill.com.

THE GRAND HOTEL & RESTAURANT



THE GRAND HOTEL is gearing up for another fantastic year as the local hangout spot, a must-visit for tourists, and a cozy stopover for hunters. This boutique hotel consists of 14 distinct and cozy rooms that invite guests to rest after a day of adventure, hunting, or travel.

However, the Grand is much more than overnight stays because its warm welcome starts with a stunning fine dining room, a friendly saloon, and a welcoming lobby. The chefs are excited to introduce a new country classic menu to honor the flavors of Montana.

The year started off with an all-staff meeting in the dining room where every associate shared what the establishment means to Big Timber: Historic, iconic, a place to celebrate milestones, memorable, unique, special are words that kept coming up. This served as both a reminder and commitment to keep doing their part to make this the “grandest” landmark in town.

This year, they are planning to bring more live music, concerts during the Sweetgrass Festival, and even more events to the community. They continue to look for ways to be a destination for both locals and tourists.

The owners are very appreciative of local patrons for their continued support and willingness to share their “Grand” stories as a reminder of history that lies within the walls, with the hopes that new memories are made with each visit.

The Grand is always seeking to grow its team with service-minded individuals who want to be a part of this special establishment.

To get a taste of the Grand experience, stop in or visit thegrand-hotel.com or call 406-932-4459. If you’re interested in joining our team, send your resume to Emily@thegrand-hotel.

OPPORTUNITY BANK OF MONTANA



CONVENIENTLY LOCATED in the heart of Big Timber, the team at Opportunity Bank of Montana stands at the forefront of the surrounding community. Actively engaging in volunteer initiatives, contributing to community projects, serving on boards of local nonprofits, and providing financial guidance, they empower their neighbors to pursue and achieve their aspirations.

In 2023, the bank supported various Big Timber organizations, including the Sweet Grass Community Foundation, the Montana FFA Foundation, Crazy Peak Cattlewomen, Hospitality House, Overland Recreation Association, B Bar T Rodeo, 4-H Council, Sweet Grass County High School, and the Sweet Grass County Fair Board. Their contributions totaled over \$4,300, reinforcing their commitment to the well-being of the local area.

The staff at the Big Timber branch embody the essence of “of Montana” in the bank’s name, with many having hometown roots. The branch is managed by Kelli Jo Schriver, a Big Timber native who returned to the community in 2015.

“I am thankful to be able to raise my kids in the same wonderful place that I grew up in,” she expressed. Her community involvement extends to the American Legion Auxiliary, the annual Chamber of Commerce Car Show, and the Band Boosters.

Opportunity Bank of Montana is a leading Farm Services Agency guaranteed lender, offering a full range of commercial, agricultural, residential, and consumer lending and deposit accounts, as well as digital banking services. Based in Helena since 1922, Opportunity Bank of Montana is the fourth-largest bank headquartered in the state, boasting over \$2 billion in assets. The bank operates 29 full-service branches across Montana.

The lobby is open from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday, with a drive-up window available until 5:00 pm and a convenient walk-up ATM available 24/7. To connect with the branch, call 406-932-5317 or visit the bank online at [opportunitybank.com](https://www.opportunitybank.com). Member FDIC, Equal Housing Lender. NMLS #412554

RUTHIE JOHNSON REAL ESTATE



BORN AND RAISED in a small town in Utah to a large family of 12. Ruthie Johnson moved to Big Timber with her family when she was 14. The family was in need of an easier way of life. Ruthie raised two girls and a boy in Big Timber. She started a cleaning business in 1996 and ran it successfully for 15 years. She then went to work for a local real estate company in 2005 and has been in real estate ever since. It is her passion!

She loves her home that she raised her children in and has owned for 26 years. The Yellowstone River and the Crazy Mountains are home to her. Rafting, mountain biking, and traveling are her passions. Ruthie is getting married in June and plans to continue her Real Estate career and enjoy the Yellowstone River Valley, which she has called home for 40 years.



She is now a Broker/Owner and running her own real estate business in a community that has been so good to her.

Ruthie Johnson Real Estate serves buyers and sellers across Montana in ranch, residential, recreational, and commercial real estate services. The company contributes to the community and will work hard for the small town that has given so much back to the Brokerage. Ruthie is grateful for Big Timber and the support they have shown her over the years.

To learn more or see Johnson's current listings, visit [ruthiejohnsonrealestate.com](https://www.ruthiejohnsonrealestate.com) or call 406-930-1022.

STEPHENS AUTO SUPPLY



WITH THEIR FATHER MARK, Chance and Chase Stephens are the fourth generation owners of Stephens Auto Supply. Their main focus for the business? Reliability.

“We want to keep people’s vehicles on the road,” says Chance, “keep people ranching and keep the good that Big Timber was in the 1940’s when our great grandpa opened this place.”

“We want Montana and Big Timber to compete and keep up with the rest of the world,” Chase adds, “but we want to keep our business the same as it’s always been: reliable. We just want to keep Big Timber great.”

For the agriculture, construction, mining, and automotive repair industries, the company is a cornerstone of the community. For decades, friendly staff have offered guidance on parts and supplies.

Marv Stephens is a second generation former owner who bears witness to the shift in the local economy. “All of it has changed,” Marv explains, “The customers have really changed. There used to be a lot

of ranchers here and we used to do a lot of business with them. We still do businesses with the ranchers, but there’s not as many. The cost of parts has gone up. Things were much simpler in the old days: the cars, trucks, and tractors - they are all computerized now. We still had filling stations back then too...”

While friendly, old-school, local reliability remains, the company has added modern services. As a CarQuest supplier, Stephens Auto offers in-store pickup for online orders. Customers can select the right part or product and get it delivered to the shop in Big Timber.

Stephens Auto frequently donates to local causes, supporting Herder sports, youth agriculture, and community events. Whether customers are looking for basic products or need expert advice, the reliable staff at Stephens Auto offers their services to locals and travelers.

Located at 404 W 1st Ave, Big Timber, MT 59011, visit the store Monday through Saturday from 7:00 am to 6:00 pm or call 406-932-5136 for more information.

TUSCANO MACHINE



TUSCANO MACHINE is an advanced machine shop that combines traditional machining with leading-edge additive manufacturing to make high-precision parts and prototypes for a broad range of industries and applications. While rural Montana may seem like an unlikely setting for an advanced machine shop, owners Wesley Tuscano and David Coulter thought otherwise.

“We created Tuscano Machine not only to offer a different level of machining capabilities to customers, but also to make a difference in our community,” explains owner Wesley Tuscano. “We started our business as a show of faith in the potential of rural economies and to help ensure that American manufacturing remains vital and innovative.”

To help create the next generation of skilled workers, Tuscano Machine offers internship and apprenticeship programs that provide

on the job training to people who want to build careers in high-end machining.

“Education is an integral part of our strategic plan,” says CFO Julie Johnson. “We work with the local high school to educate students about job opportunities in manufacturing, we travel around the state to career fairs, and we make our technology available to universities.” Both Wesley and Julie sit on statewide manufacturing boards and strongly believe that manufacturing plays a key role in Montana’s economic success.

Located at 100 Makers Way, Big Timber, MT 59011, open Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm. Visit tuscanomachine.com to learn more or to request a quote.

SWEET GRASS SOLUTIONS

ALL THE SERVICES YOU NEED, JUST ONE CLICK AWAY

THERE IS SOME EXCITING NEWS

that promises to enhance the quality of life for everyone in Sweet Grass County.

We are proud to introduce "Sweet Grass Solutions," a newly launched resource website dedicated to bringing together the diverse and valuable offerings available in our community. Sweet Grass Solutions aims to be the one-stop destination for all your local resource needs.

Visit sweetgrasssolutions.org to explore services offered in Sweet Grass County. Services listed range from healthcare services, emergency services, faith-based organizations, food, housing, pet and livestock services, transportation, support groups, veterans' services, and more!

Sweet Grass Solutions is a testament to the power of community collaboration. A dedicated volunteer committee has worked tirelessly to compile this comprehensive directory, and we invite you to make the most of this valuable resource.

If you represent a local service or organization and would like to be included in the Sweet Grass Solutions directory, we welcome your participation. Simply visit the website at sweetgrasssolutions.org and find the "Would you like your organization added to our directory" link on the home page. Your inclusion enriches the resource pool and helps make our community even stronger.

If you want to visit with someone from the committee to learn more, click on the "Contact" tab on the website, leave your email or phone number and someone from the committee will reach out to you.

We encourage you to explore Sweet Grass Solutions, share it with your friends and neighbors, and make it your first stop when seeking local services. A well-informed community is a resilient and thriving community.

Thank you for your support, and we look forward to seeing Sweet Grass Solutions become an asset to our community.



SHEEPHERDER SQUARE

A CROSSROADS OF THE COMMUNITY



LOCATED IN THE HEART OF DOWNTOWN

Big Timber, Shepherd Square is a crossroads of the community. Situated between the Civic Center and the Carnegie Library - two of our town's most visited buildings - the new square will round out a dynamic triangle of civic engagement. The Square will be a "living room without walls" for the whole town. It is a reimagined and revitalized central public space that harkens to our history and defines our future as a year-round outdoor gathering space for neighbors and newcomers of all ages.

With amenities that reflect community needs and span seasons, it will support both organized and casual events with an open-air atmosphere that encourages people to sit and stay awhile, reveling in each other's company and all that Big Timber offers. Key features of the square will include:

- Amphitheater for outdoor performances;
- Summer splash fountain that morphs into a winter ice skating rink;
- Veteran's memorial & flag lawn to honor our heroes;
- Memorial/history walk to connect us to the history of the site and the town;
- Fire pit area for cold weather celebrations;
- Multiple seating areas and flexible gathering spaces to maximize appeal and usage;
- Park-like atmosphere with native trees and plantings for year-round aesthetic; and
- Added parking for downtown businesses.

These features and the entire space are designed to complement Big

Timber's charming downtown. As a result, Shepherd Square will immediately be appreciated as both an extension of and reflection of the essence of Big Timber – a small town with deep roots, strong connections, and a commitment to preserving our history while fostering community-wide growth and progress.

Shepherd Square Foundation, the Chamber, and other groups are currently holding a few events in the undeveloped square. For several years, a large Christmas tree has illuminated the dark winter nights. Sheepshearing demonstrations and fiber arts classes welcomed locals and tourists for the annual Crazy Mountain Fiber Festival. There have been food trucks and horse-drawn carriage rides. Christmas markets feature 4-H bake sales and local artisans and the annual homecoming celebration includes a massive bonfire and car smash for the youth of the community.

Construction of the initial phases of the Square, including amphitheater, restrooms, and picnic area, is slated to begin in the spring of 2024 with \$1M of the \$3M total build out cost raised by the end of 2023. A groundbreaking/ribbon cutting celebration is scheduled for June 1, 2024, in conjunction with the first annual Shepherd Festival. The festival will include fun activities for the whole family, food trucks, live music and an authentic sheep wagon exhibit.

Please visit our website at shepherdersquare.com to check on construction progress, current schedule of activities, or to see how you may help make this entire project a reality.



Scan the QR code to watch the
flyover video of the concept design

SWEET GRASS ANIMAL COALITION was founded in January of 2020 by mother-daughter duo Laura and Maddie Johnson. They had been previously volunteering with Stafford Animal Shelter and the Livingston Spay/Neuter Project for four years, and saw a large demand for low cost spay/neuter/vaccination services in our area.

“It’s heartbreaking to see how many kittens end up sick, suffering and homeless when there are unvaccinated and unaltered cats” said Laura. “Maddie and I both thought, if there’s something we can do to help the cat population in our town, well, let’s go for it.”

Maddie had always dreamed of becoming a veterinarian, so her willingness to learn how to care for young and/or sick foster litters from Stafford seemed natural to her. Since the young age of 8 years old, Maddie was administering fluids and medicine to homeless kittens. She has fostered over 125 cats, kittens and puppies since then, even through her involvement with sports and other extracurricular activities.

“I remember one litter in particular - they were very sick and needed medicine around the clock. Maddie had a softball tournament in Butte, but she was bound and determined to make it work so she could foster these kittens....and so the kittens traveled with us for the weekend. Maddie was able to care for them in between games and give them the attention they needed. I’m really proud of my girl. She devotes so much time and energy into caring for animals, and not because she has to, but because she wants to.”

SGAC also understands that people shouldn’t have to choose between feeding their families or their pets. They are currently making quarterly donations of dog and cat food to our local food bank to assist community members in need.

Since 2020, they have spayed/neutered/vaccinated over 645 cats and 43 dogs. SGAC has a team of volunteers who assist with trapping barn cats, wild cats, and community cats. They have successfully trapped at multiple locations throughout the years, including a barn cat situation most recently where over 20 cats and kittens were brought in to be altered and vaccinated. They were also able to work in conjunction with Stafford Animal Shelter to get many of these kittens adopted out to homes after they were tamed by a few local foster families.

There are seven members involved in SGAC, along with multiple additional volunteers. They typically hold four clinics/year - two in the spring and two in the fall. SGAC is fiscally sponsored by Sweet Grass Community Foundation. They are a 100% donation based service .

“We wouldn’t be able to offer these services in our community without all our volunteers and donors. It is a team effort, and I’m so thankful for everyone involved” Laura said. “One unsplayed female cat can have 2-3 litters a year, so she and her offspring can produce over 350 cats in a few short years. We know we are making a difference, one cat at a time.”

Sweet Grass Animal Coalition has two upcoming clinics on September 22 and October 20, 2024. For more information, call 406-931-0135 or email sganimalcoalition@gmail.com.



SWEET GRASS ANIMAL COALITION

OFFERING LOW COST CLINICS FOR LOCAL ANIMALS

SWEET GRASS FEST

A FAMILY FRIENDLY FESTIVAL



A SWEET STORY

Rodeo weekend welcomes class reunions, dancing, live music, and classic cars to Big Timber every June. In 2002, community volunteers worked to unite these events, add a street fair, and brand the weekend as Big Timber's summer festival: Sweet Grass Fest. Locals, visitors, and Herder grads flock to the fairgrounds for rodeo action after the parade downtown. The festival is named after sweetgrass: a sacred native plant found across the plains and prairies of the American West.

THE BEST FEST IN THE WEST

Festivities are thanks to many local groups including B-T Rodeo Company, American Legion Post #19, Big Timber Volunteer Fire Department, Montana on a Mission, Sweet Grass Community Foundation, Big Timber Lions Club, Pioneer Medical Center, Friends of Dornix Park, Big Timber FFA, City of Big Timber, and the Sweet Grass County Chamber of Commerce. To join the community for a weekend of family-friendly fun, come to Big Timber in late June and visit bigtimber.com for current information.

RODEO

Fans fill the stands each summer, as they have since 1923, for the annual Big Timber Rodeo. B-T Rodeo Company is a local nonprofit operated by the Johnston family, continuing the tradition of the legendary Cremer rodeo and Big Timber rodeo. The NRA-sanctioned event kicks off

with Friday morning slack followed by the Friday night and Saturday night competitions. Join us for two fun evenings of Bareback Riding, Saddle Bronc Riding, Bull Riding, Steer Wrestling, Tie Down Roping, Team Roping, Ladies Barrel Racing, Ladies Breakaway, and the Junior/Rookie events.

CAR SHOW

Rat rods, classic cars, motorcycles, tractors, trucks, imports, and muscle cars line McLeod street vying for high marks from local judges. The Chamber welcome entries from across Montana, selecting winners for various categories. Both civilians and veterans can compete.

STREET FAIR

From food trucks to fine furs, a diverse selection of handcrafted goods fill the street fair in Downtown Big Timber on Saturday. Local and regional vendors offer a variety of trinkets, toys, fine art, household goods, jewelry, clothing, and unique gifts. Major attractions include the infamous FFA Alumni french-fries. Downtown shops, bars, and restaurants are also open for first-time visitors and lifelong residents alike.

PARADE

On Saturday afternoon, car show entries clear McLeod street to line up in the parade. Local businesses and community groups trail the American Legion to form a promenade for spectators.



LIVE MUSIC

Live music is offered at various venues throughout the weekend. Visit bigtimber.com for current information.

FUN RUN

Join us to depart downtown in the morning to complete a 5k loop. The route extends through the neighborhoods of Big Timber, then down to the beautiful Boulder River through Dornix Park. Proceeds benefit Montana on a Mission, a Christian charity that works to improve the lives of those needing help through local and international projects like the annual "Homeward Bound" week of service in Big Timber each August.

On site registration and packet pick up will be at the City Hall parking lot Saturday morning from 7:15 am to 8:00 am.

CLASS REUNIONS

While Sweet Grass Fest welcomes many tourists and first-time visitors to Big Timber, the weekend is all about the Herders. Other events are built on the foundation of the Class Reunions: where old friends gather to relive the glory days.

Visit bigtimber.com for the more details and the current schedule of events.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, June 28, 2024

- 8:00am** Morning Slack
- 5:30pm** Rodeo Gates Open
- 7:00pm** Annual Rodeo presented by B-T Rodeo Company
- 10:00pm** Live Music

Saturday, June 29, 2024

- 7:00am** Fireman's Breakfast
- 8:30am** Montana on a Mission 5k Fun Run
- 9:00am** Street Fair & Car Show
- 2:00pm** Parade
- 4:30pm** Rodeo Gates Open
- 6:00pm** Annual Rodeo presented by B-T Rodeo Company
- 10:00pm** Live Music

FIBER FEST

EXPLORING OUR RICH WOOL HISTORY



FROM SHEEP TO SHAWL, local artisans showcase the best in fiber arts each spring. With a vendor fair, demonstrations, culinary tour, hands-on activities, and fiber arts classes, Crazy Mountain Fiber Fest honors the historic wool industry in Sweet Grass County. Shirley Halverson, a local rancher and member of the Montana Wool Growers Association, wanted to share her love of raising sheep and creating fiber crafts from local wool. After attending a fiber festival in a neighboring community, Halverson approached the Chamber of Commerce with the idea of hosting one in Big Timber.

Initially, Halverson spun a small thread of volunteers together including Kelli Brewer, Connie Simonich, Debbie Henson, and Julie Johnson. The group recruited new volunteers and grew the event each year. With continued outreach and new partnerships, the event has grown to a two day jamboree with various locations and activities. By sharing local history with residents and guests, the festival both preserves regional culture and highlights the economics of wool production.

“People raise sheep today for the same reasons they have for over a century in this area,” explains Johnson, “Meat and wool. Lamb is a nutritional red meat high in protein and low in calories. Wool is used to make clothing, furniture, insulation, fertilizer, fine art, and much more. Lanolin, used for lotion, adhesive tape, and other products, is also derived from sheep production. Our hope is the festival will draw more attention to the importance of sheep producers.”

Festival participants can tour the Crazy Mountain Museum to learn more about our rich wool history or visit the wool house, a large brick warehouse in Big Timber along the railroad tracks where area sheepherders shipped out bales of wool for generation.

In 1895, shipment exceeded 4 million pounds, making Big Timber the world’s largest wool exporter. Although production has reduced exponentially, the facility is still used today for wool storage before the product goes to market. Event attendees can also explore McLeod Street. Downtown establishments and local food trucks joined the festival in 2022 with the Big Timber Lamb Jamb Restaurant Showcase, featuring menu items where lamb was a main ingredient. Dishes included the lamb-beef blend ‘Herder Burger’ at the Timber Bar and Grill, gyros at Crazy Peak Boutique, and lamb tacos from Bill’s Place BBQ and Catering. The focus of the event, however, remains at the Civic Center.

Vendors from across Montana offer artisan crafts. Items are made from a variety of animal and plant fibers including alpaca, sheep, rabbit, coconut, banana, bamboo, and much more. Products include clothing, home decor, fine art, and fiber crafting supplies. Both entry level and advanced fiber arts classes are offered by local and regional experts. For a small fee, students can learn dyeing, spinning, weaving, and felting. Volunteers also host free activities like wet and dry felting.

“One of my favorite memories was watching a man, who clearly was being dragged around the festival by his wife against his will, come to the wet felting station and begrudgingly agree to try it - since he had nothing better to do,” recalls Johnson. “Almost instantly I saw him



start smiling and enjoying himself. Later he was telling his wife she should take it up, because you know he wanted to do it again. That right there is proof that you should always try new things.”

Outside, in Shepherd Square, there is a petting zoo, chuckwagon display, food trucks, and periodic sheep shearing demonstrations. Spectators watch Duane Myrston, Harv Van Wagoner, and other volunteers shear wool from sheep. The wool is sorted at the carding table, where attendees can help clean and prep the wool. Next, the wool is dyed or left raw. A variety of techniques can be used to then spin the wool into yarn. Finally, the yarn is woven, knitted, or crocheted into a final product. Fiber Fest attendees learn exactly how wool is transformed from sheep to shawl.

Inside, attendees can study the process step-by-step with the “Sheep to Shawl” display, organized in 2022 by Camille Palmer. Other exhibits include the Crazy Mountain Museum and Montana Wool Growers Association. Additionally, local artisans proudly enter fine art pieces into the Fiber Arts Showcase. With no prizes, awards, or rankings, the showcase is simply a place for locals to share what they have been working on with each other and the public.

“This festival is full of hands-on activities that anyone can participate in,” says Johnson, “but the real reason you should come is the people. You are guaranteed to meet amazing artists, folks with an array of cool skills who are happy to share them with you, and history buffs who can tell you fascinating stories about our community.”

Crazy Mountain Fiber Festival is on Friday, April 26 and Saturday, April 27, 2024. The event is free and open to the public.



Crazy Mountain
Fiber Fest

**Friday, April 26 &
Saturday, April 27, 2024**

• PRESENTED BY •

Fiber Fest

Sweet Grass Chamber of Commerce

Montana Wool Growers Association

Crazy Mountain Museum

Two Rivers Gallery

Yellowstone Feed

BIG TIMBER FARMERS' MARKET

A GATHERING PLACE FOR
LOCAL GROWERS
& ARTISANS



FRIDAY FUN

From the middle of July to early September, growers, merchants, and makers gather at Lions Club Park on McLeod Street each Friday to market their wares. Throughout the years, farmers markets in Big Timber have been established then abandoned as volunteer engagement, vendor availability, and economic conditions fluctuated. With a focus on community involvement and a family-friendly venue, a small group of volunteers transformed the Big Timber Farmers Market from a dusty Saturday morning gathering in a parking lot to a serious weekly market with something for everyone.

The market is a volunteer-driven event with generous community support and it has grown into a weekly happening in Big Timber where families can enjoy live music, fresh food, and shop the best local vendors.

WAIT FOR THE BELL

One of the Market Master's duties is to enforce the rules of the market. Vendors cannot begin selling until the market bell rings at 4:30 pm. The Farmer's market is a great way to connect the community to fresh food options, local crafts, fresh cut flowers, and much more. It's a great way to bring the community together and support local producers. Vendors offer a variety of regular staples and exciting new items. The market is small, but steadily blooming, and it is exciting to see it growing a bit every year.

Christine Bakke serves as the Market Master, and is the current Director for the Chamber of Commerce. Some other familiar faces at the market include Tom and Linn Sharp with Big Pig BBQ, Natalie Zigweid's authentic French macarons, and the Duncan Ranch Colony farmstand. Many volunteers, producers, sponsors, and artisans have built up the event over the years. The market is held at an expertly maintained Lion's Club Park with mature trees, a pool, a playground, and public art.

The Big Timber Farmers Market runs each Friday from mid-July thru early September. Visit bigtimber.com to view the calendar or email Christine Bakke at chamber@bigtimber.com to get involved. Market grounds are at Lions Club Park, at the intersection of 8th Avenue and McLeod Street in Big Timber, Montana.

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"The Chamber's focus and mission for the market is to better serve the vendors and improve the event's ambiance every year, and to provide a gathering place for local growers and artisans to offer their bounty to the community, and for the community to purchase fresh local produce and handcrafts in a convivial atmosphere."



BIG TIMBER
**FARMERS
MARKET**
SWEET GRASS COUNTY

LIVE MUSIC * FOOD TRUCKS
FRESH PRODUCE * BEER
LOCAL GOODS * FAMILY FUN

Lions Club Park

**Every Friday from mid-July
through early September**

CRAZY MOUNTAIN CHRISTMAS

A HOMETOWN HOLIDAY

FAMILY FUN

The Sweet Grass County Chamber of Commerce, in an effort to keep locals in town and foster community, presents multiple opportunities for family fun each year. From the market to a tour of town, locals light up the night and deck the halls Montana style. Join us downtown to support local businesses.

WINTER MARKET

Downtown shopping opens up the day after Thanksgiving each November. Up and down McLeod Street, storefronts market the latest inventory and seasonal specials. Downtown Big Timber hosts businesses with long histories in the community alongside new stores for shoppers to explore. Kids of all ages can visit Santa to pose for photos and deliver their wish list. The Winter Market has vendors offering a variety of baked goods, pickled produce, handcrafted items, and artisan gifts. Shoppers peruse classic storefronts, local eateries, and a variety of vendor fairs to kickoff the season. Big Timber offers an authentic, relaxed, and family-friendly alternative to throngs of corporate consumers stampeding into big box stores. Join us for window shopping and downtown walking.

LIGHTED PARADE

Light up the night with a promenade of local businesses and civic organizations. Hometown highlights include the famous flames of Oie Motor, flashing lights of Big Timber Volunteer Fire Department, and horse drawn carriages from Greycliff Creek Ranch. The Lions Club dishes up chili at the American Legion while shoppers stroll downtown. Beautifully lit snowflakes and Christmas lights dress up downtown storefronts, Carnegie Library, and Sheepherder Square. With bar specials, sidewalk strolling, and parade tailgating, the Lighted Parade is a timeless Big Timber tradition. Join us for a hometown holiday.

CHRISTMAS CRUISE

Competing for the prize for best decorated home in town, residents enter their address in the official competition sanctioned by the Chamber. Attendees pick up and submit ballots in town. Prospective participants can sign up by emailing chamber@bigtimber.com and winners are announced on the Chamber's Facebook page. Join us for a Christmas Cruise and town tour.

Sign up by emailing chamber@bigtimber.com.

2024 CHRISTMAS COMMITTEE

Cathy Radwanski, Citizens Bank and Trust Co.

Christine Bakke, Christine Bakke Photography

Sophie Barta, Earth Wise General Store

Partner with Sheepherder Square Foundation



WHAT ABOUT THOSE CRAZY MOUNTAINS?

NESTLED BETWEEN the Yellowstone and Shields River valleys in south-central Montana, the Crazy Mountains are shrouded in mystery and myth. This small mountain range, spanning a mere 30 miles by 15 miles, boasts impressive and rugged peaks that stand as silent sentinels, offering a truly awe-inspiring sight for visitors to Big Timber. You simply can't miss them.

The "Crazies" are undeniably dramatic. The highest peak, Crazy Peak, towers at 11,214 feet in elevation, with an additional 25 pinnacles reaching over 10,000 feet. They rank as the third-highest mountain range in the entire state.

Numerous tales surround the origin of their name. According to one account, Native Americans referred to them as the "Mad Mountains" due to their steepness, rugged beauty, and the haunting winds that sweep through the canyons.

Another legend tells of a wagon train attacked by Indians in the Mussellshell Valley, resulting in the tragic loss of a woman's family. It is said that she fled into the mountains, forever haunting the tribe.

Alternatively, there's a story of a woman who went mad while traversing the plains. She fled from her group and sought refuge in the mountains. When she was found near the base of the mountain, the name "Crazy Woman's Mountain" arose.

Regardless of the story behind its name, this mountain is undeniably impressive and a sight to behold. Today, it is accessed by traveling along Highway 191 between Big Timber and Harlowton, via the Big Timber Canyon. The trail originates out of Half Moon Campground and leads hikers and adventurers to Big Timber Canyon Falls and to some of the highest points, including Conical Peak and Twin Lakes.



LOCAL GEMS

MUST-SEE ATTRACTIONS FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY



1

NATURAL BRIDGE FALLS

Named for a gravity defying limestone arch that once spanned the Boulder River just above the falls, which collapsed in 1988, Natural Bridge is located up the Boulder from Big Timber. Follow McLeod Street up Highway 298, south of town, to reach the park area. The falls fluctuate in appearance across the seasons, with the most runoff in early or mid-June.

Informational signs line the trails describing the geology and history of the area. The site features accessible paved trails and picnic tables and is the trailhead for Green Mountain Trail which will take you to a saddle offering a view of both the East Boulder and Main Boulder Valleys and both the river-fed corridors. These extended backcountry trails begin from the paved ADA-accessible viewpoints within the State Park.

2

DOWNTOWN BIG TIMBER

Visit our historic downtown for shopping, dining, and to see what life is like in a real Montana small town. Big Timber is located at the intersection of the I-90 Business Loop and Highway 191 and near the confluence of the Boulder and the Yellowstone rivers. McLeod Street leads south to the Boulder River valley.

3

CRAZY MOUNTAIN MUSEUM

Our museum provides a historical look at Sweet Grass County with exhibits ranging from archaeological and geological finds and information to the Pioneer Room which features early settlers and their families, as well as exceptional rotating exhibits.

Don't miss the 'Cobblestone City,' a diorama that features a miniature recreation of the town of Big Timber as it existed in 1907. The display is over twelve feet long and six feet wide. It is built on a 1/16" to a 1' scale and shows Big Timber prior to the fire of 1908 that destroyed 1/3 of the downtown.

4

CRAZY MOUNTAINS

The Crazy Mountains, which span a distance of 40 miles, are a part of the northern Rocky Mountains. Crazy Peak is at 11,214 feet in elevation, at a prominence of 5,719 feet from the prairie below. The bedrock is an igneous intrusion, known as the Big Timber stock to geologists. The Shields River, South Fork of the Musselshell River, Big Timber Creek, Otter Creek, and Sweet Grass Creek all originate in the Crazies.

5

PRAIRIE DOG TOWN

Greycliff Prairie Dog Town State Park is located off I-90 just 10 minutes from Big Timber. The site is 98 acres in size and is situated at 3,600 feet in elevation. This blacktailed prairie dog community is protected and preserved through the efforts of the Nature Conservancy, the Montana Departments of Transportation and Fish, Wildlife and Parks. Interpretive displays help to tell the story of these small entertaining prairie dogs. Visitors are reminded not to feed the prairie dogs. The parking area to watch the prairie dogs is ADA-accessible and pets are allowed, but must be on leash.

6

GREYCLIFF MILL

The Greycliff Mill is between Bozeman and Billings, Montana. This attraction has a water-powered gristmill along with some of the best coffee and snacks around. Tour the greenhouse, cheese cave, market, and visit for a farm to table dinner, or stay in the unique silo house cabins.



ADVENTURE AROUND EVERY CORNER

MAIN BOULDER DRAINAGE CAMPING

SOUTH OF BIG TIMBER ON HIGHWAY 298

CAMPGROUND NAME	FEES	ALTITUDE	# OF SITES	CAMPING TYPE	WATER
Falls Creek Campground	No	5200'	8	Tent Only	Yes Memorial-Labor Day
Big Beaver Campground	No	5300'	5	Tents & Trailers	No Potable Water
Aspen Campground	Yes	5300'	8	Tents & Trailers 32' limit	Yes Memorial-Labor Day
Chippy Park Campground	Yes	5300'	7	2 Tent & 5 Trailer	Yes Memorial-Labor Day
Hells Canyon Campground	No	6000'	11	Tent & Trailers 16' limit	No Potable Water
Hick Park Campground	Yes	6400'	16	Tent & Trailers 32' limit	Yes Memorial-Labor Day

WEST BOULDER DRAINAGE CAMPING

SOUTH OF BIG TIMBER ON HIGHWAY 298

West Boulder Campground	Yes	5500'	10	Tent & Trailers 20' limit	Yes Memorial-Labor Day
West Boulder Rental Cabin	Yes	5,538'	1	N/A	Visit Recreation.gov

EAST BOULDER DRAINAGE CAMPING

SOUTH OF BIG TIMBER ON HIGHWAY 298

East Boulder Campground	No	5625'	2	Tent & Trailers	No
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CRAZY MOUNTAINS

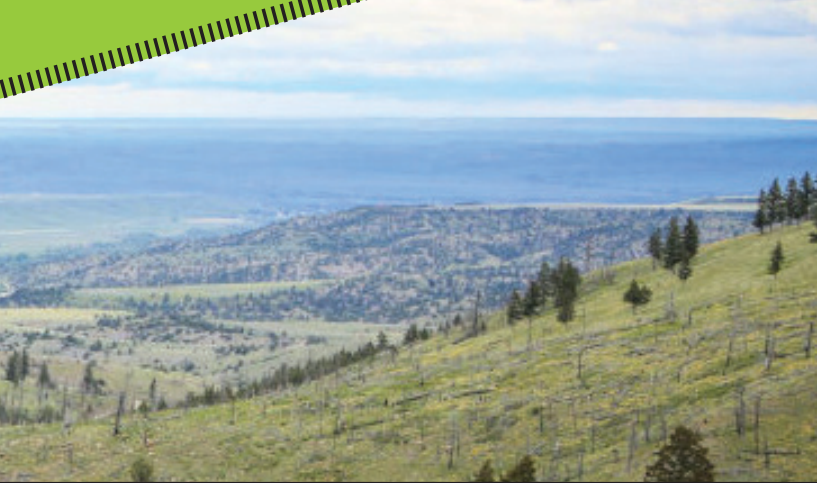
NORTH OF BIG TIMBER ON HIGHWAY 191

Half Moon Campground	Yes	6400'	12	Tent & Trailers 32' limit	Yes Memorial-Labor Day
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WEST BRIDGER CREEK & DEER CREEK DRAINAGES

SOUTHEAST OF BIG TIMBER OFF INTERSTATE 90

West Bridger Rental Cabin	Yes	4,847'	1	N/A	Visit Recreation.gov
Deer Creek Rental Cabin	Yes	5,235'	1	N/A	Visit Recreation.gov



	TOILETS	FIRE PITS	ACTIVITIES
	Yes	Yes	Fishing & Hiking
	Yes	Yes	Fishing
	Yes / Handicap	yes	Fishing & Hiking
	Yes / Handicap	Yes	Views & Fishing
	Yes	Yes	Fishing & Hiking
	Yes	Yes	Fishing & Hiking

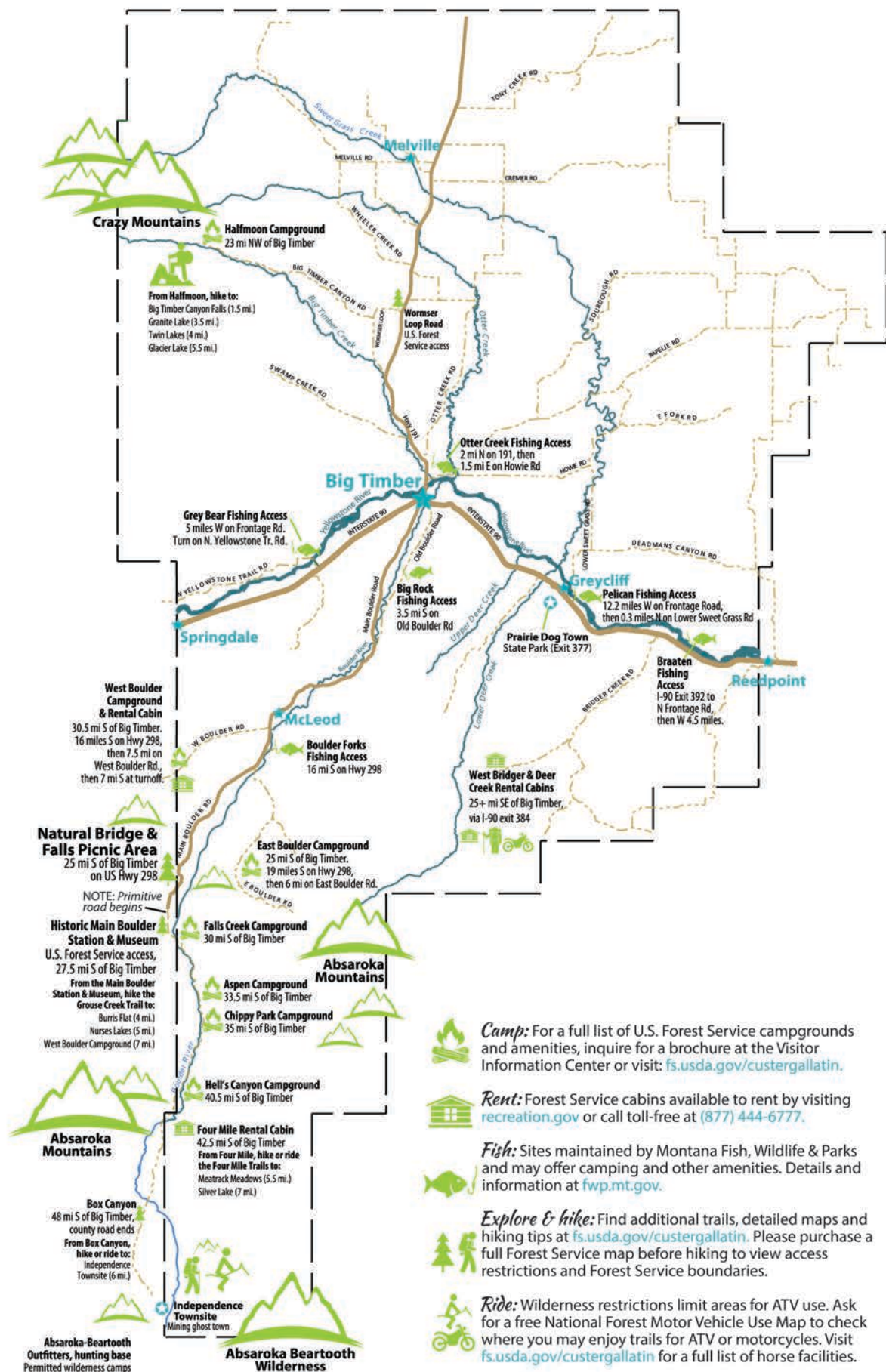
	Yes	Yes	Fishing, Hiking, & Horse Facilities
	N/A	N/A	Fishing & Hiking

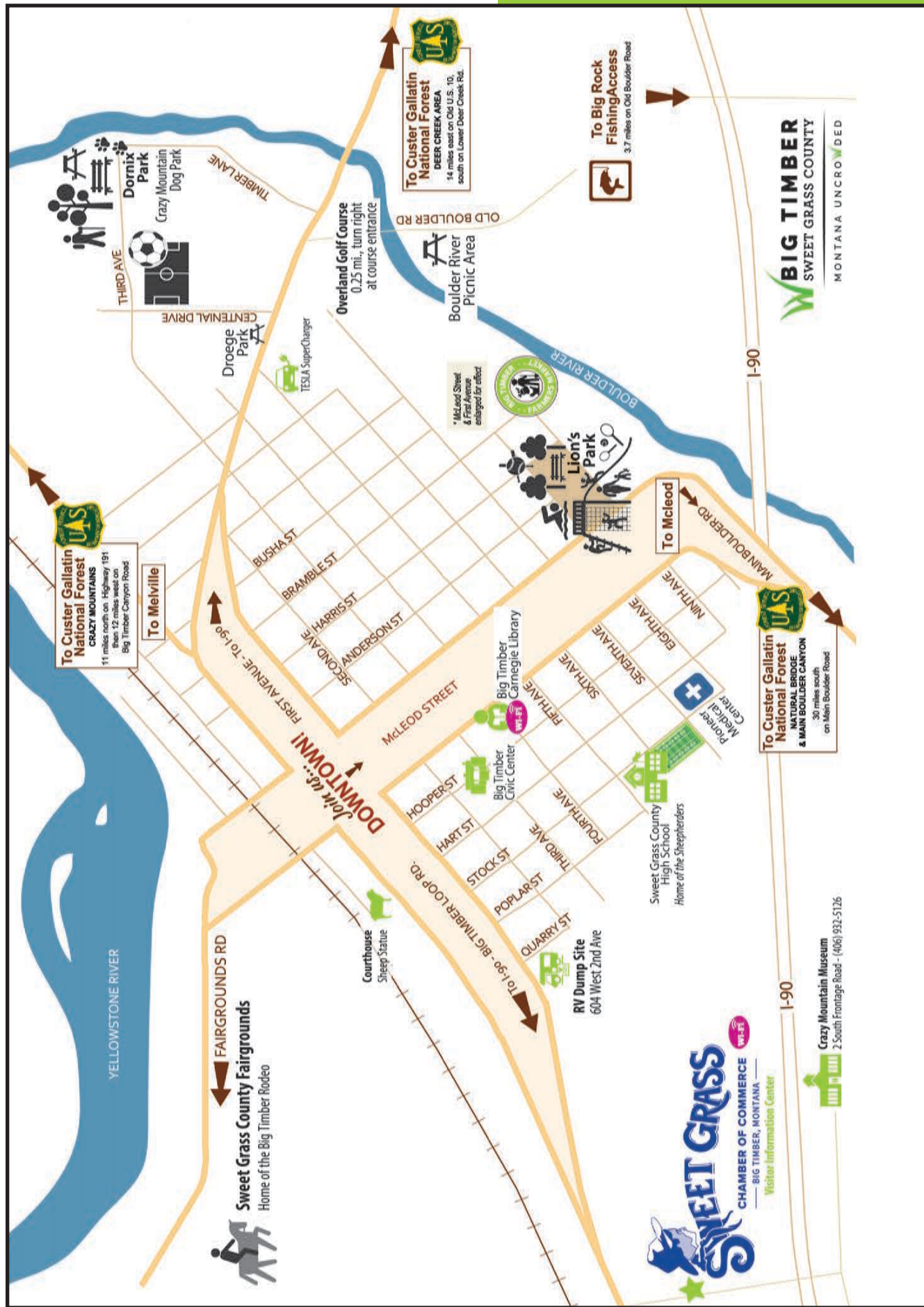
	Yes	No	Fishing, Hiking, & Horse Facilities
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	Yes	Yes	Fishing, Hiking, & Horse Facilities
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	N/A	N/A	Hiking
	N/A	N/A	Hiking







DOWNTOWN BIG TIMBER MAP

BECOME A MEMBER!

FOR BETTER BUSINESS & A THRIVING COMMUNITY

The Sweet Grass County Chamber of Commerce is a board-led organization that strives to serve businesses in Sweet Grass County with events, marketing, economic development, community outreach, and education.

We offer several membership packages to accommodate various budgets and advertising goals. With our website reaching over 3,000 people per month, an active social media presence, our newly released Big Timber Magazine, and multiple Chamber-sponsored events throughout the year, your membership will get your business name in front of customers online, in print, on social media, and in person. Through this streamlined effort, we are working to increase revenue to your business and give back to the community.

Interested in joining?

Call 406-932-5131 or email us at chamber@bigtimber.com

OUR VISION

We want to see the communities within Sweet Grass County prospering with a diverse and stable economy to pass on to the next generation.

OUR MISSION

We exist to serve businesses in Sweet Grass County with events, marketing, economic development, community outreach, and education.

OUR VALUES

We get things done through involvement, partnership, stewardship, and leadership.

SWEET GRASS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**Visitor Center Open
Memorial Day Weekend - Labor Day Weekend**

1350 Highway 10 West | Big Timber, Montana
(Located near the Big Timber West Exit Across from the Town Pump)

(406) 932-5131 • chamber@bigtimber.com • bigtimber.com