

Quarterly Issues/Programs List
MontanaPBS (KUSM-TV Bozeman & KUFM-TV Missoula)

MontanaPBS is committed to providing coverage of major issues and problems in the communities served. The following list represents a sample of significant issues responded to by MontanaPBS along with the most relevant programming treatment of those issues for the **4th quarter of 2023 (October 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023)**. This listing is by no means the entire response, and does not include the Learn at Home block programs on weekdays which were put in place to respond to the needs of Montana students, parents and teachers during the Coronavirus, and have remained there for educational purposes. Additionally, this quarter saw the continuation of a second season of *Montana PBS Reports: IMPACT*, which features news and public affairs reporting on issues which affect all Montanans.

The order in which the issues appear does not reflect any priority or significance.

MontanaPBS HD – Digital Multicast Channel – High Definition

Description of Issue	Program/Segment	Dates	Times	Duration	Narration of Type and Description of Program Segment
Agricultural Challenges	Montana Ag Live – “Conservation Easements”	10/1 10/8	6pm 11am	56 mins	Conservation easements can help landowners, land trusts, and government agencies protect the agricultural viability, and help restore degraded and damaged areas, of croplands, grasslands, and wetlands on working farms and ranches. This episode delves into conservation easements as one way to improve plant and animal biodiversity and enhance carbon sequestration. Joining the panel will be Justin Meissner, Assistant State Conservationist with the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service. Justin's specialty centers around the NRCS conservation easement programs.
	Montana Ag Live – “Ranching and Conservation”	10/22 10/29	6pm 11am	56 mins	For many years, based on economics and laboratory & field research, modern conservation principles and practices have gradually been successfully integrated into traditional farming and ranching operations. The proof is in the pudding, as they say, and the trend is accelerating. This episode profiles fourth-generation rancher, David Mannix, who still ranches on the Blackfoot valley land homesteaded by his ancestors in 1882. David, along with his brothers, Randy and Brent, operate the Mannix family ranch near Helmsville, Montana. The Mannix ranch epitomizes how a ranching operation, guided by a variety of conservation practices, benefit the land, water, wildlife, and all the folks involved, near and far.
	Montana Ag Live “Soil Health and Conservation”	10/29 11/5	6pm 11am	56 mins	Good conservation and sustainability practices include maintaining soil health. But what does the term "healthy soil" mean? Depending on location and use, the specific values might vary, but qualities like composition, granularity, nutrients, compaction, and moisture are defining characteristics. Plans for tillage, planting, fertilization, sprinkling, harvesting, and fallowing all play a role. Marni Thompson, a Townsend, Montana, native, is a Montana State University Range Science graduate and the Natural Resource Conservation Service's first "Soil Health Specialist". Working with Montana's farmers and ranchers, her goal is to improve soil health, which will help reduce input costs and increase yields, and support sustainability.

Health Issues	Unseen: How We're Failing Parent Caregivers and Why	11/12 11/15	3pm 12pm	56 mins	Many parent caregivers for children or adults who are disabled or medically complex are exhausted and isolated. Their mental and physical struggle is a public health crisis that costs us all. Unseen gives an unfiltered, honest glimpse into their lives to enable a change for millions of caregivers and their families.
	To Be of Service	11/10	12:30pm	87 mins	The effect of war is profound for all the players engaged in the conflict. Veterans returning home may experience a disconnect from the world they once inhabited and struggle to function. Some veterans come home with a psychological injury called Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). In TO BE OF SERVICE, viewers meet several veterans with PTSD and the service dogs helping them return to the world. Through these deeply bonded relationships, viewers experience the duality of violence and redemption through the lens of addressing recovery from the trauma of war.
Environment	Montana PBS Reports: IMPACT "Special Investigation: Dangerous Chemicals in Compost"	12/14 12/15 12/16 12/17 12/18	7pm 12:30pm 4:30pm 10am 2am	26 mins	For decades, cities and states have been using treated human sewage, called "biosolids", to create composts and fertilizers. They've also applied millions of gallons of biosolids to farmland across the United States. But now, the EPA is taking a closer look at the myriad contaminants that end up in biosolids. Are they safe to put in our gardens and on our crops? A new Montana PBS investigation explores the growing alarm over one class of dangerous chemicals often found in abundance in biosolids, and the resultant compost. As part of the investigation, Montana PBS tested soils and composts for these harmful "forever chemicals" that can cause cancers, damage to the liver and immune system, low birthweight and high cholesterol. The test results were eye-opening. Interviews include a Montana farmer whose fields have been sprayed or injected with biosolids for 44 years, Montanans who used the composts in their home gardens, and national biosolids critics and proponents.
	Earthshot Prize 2023	11/19	9pm	56 mins	Founded by Prince William in 2020, The Earthshot Prize aims to discover and help scale the world's most innovative climate and environmental solutions to protect and restore our planet. A star-studded awards ceremony, filming in Singapore on November 7, celebrates this year's fifteen finalists before awarding the five winners of The Earthshot Prize.
Local Government-Politics	Montana Ag Live "Improving Rural Communities"	11/12 11/19	6pm 11am	56 mins.	In a recent needs assessment, community members across Montana reported challenges they face in their local areas. The top challenges included affordable housing, access to healthcare and mental health services, childcare options, and a safe and accessible community infrastructure. REIMAGINING RURAL and BIG SKY, BIG LEADERSHIP, two MSU Extension programs, help bring community members together and develop leadership capacity to meet these challenges.

Native American Culture	<p>Bring Her Home</p> <p>Native America #201 “New Worlds”</p> <p>#202 “Warrior Spirit”</p> <p>#203 “Women Rule”</p> <p>#204 “Language is Life”</p> <p>Roadtrip Nation: Native Way Forward</p> <p>Native Ball: Legacy of a Trailblazer</p>	<p>10/24</p> <p>10/24 10/26</p> <p>10/31 11/2</p> <p>11/7 11/9</p> <p>11/14 11/16</p> <p>11/16 11/20</p> <p>11/2 11/5 11/6 12/1</p>	<p>9pm</p> <p>8pm 12pm</p> <p>8pm 12pm</p> <p>8pm 12pm</p> <p>8pm 12pm</p> <p>1pm 5am</p> <p>7:30pm 10:30am 2:30am 12:30pm</p>	<p>56 mins</p> <p>56 mins</p> <p>56 mins</p> <p>56 mins</p> <p>56 mins</p> <p></p> <p></p>	<p>BRING HER HOME follows three Indigenous women - an artist, an activist and a politician - as they work to vindicate and honor their relatives who are victims in the growing epidemic of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women. As they face the lasting effects of historical trauma, each woman searches for healing while navigating the oppressive systems that brought about this very crisis.</p> <p>NATIVE AMERICA, a four-part PBS series, travels through 15,000-years to showcase massive cities, unique systems of science, art, and writing, and 100 million people connected by social networks and spiritual beliefs spanning two continents. The series reveals some of the most advanced cultures in human history and the Native American people who created it and whose legacy continues, unbroken, to this day. The series explores this extraordinary world through an unprecedented combination of cutting edge science and traditional indigenous knowledge. It is NATIVE AMERICA as never seen before-featuring sacred rituals filmed for the first time, history changing scientific discoveries, and rarely heard voices from the living legacy of Native American culture.</p> <p>Follow the journey of three Native young adults as they road-trip across the country to explore the possibilities. The three "roadtrippers" also reflect a snapshot of the diversity of cultures and experiences of modern Native youth. Over three weeks, the trio travels across the Southwest to sit down with Indigenous leaders who are making art, building businesses, conducting research, and shaping policy - all with the tenets of community and kinship at the forefront of their work. As the "roadtrippers" reconcile the past of their people with their possibilities for the future, they begin to realize that their ideas of personal success are becoming more and more intertwined with their desire to uplift their communities - and protect the lands they're crossing.</p> <p>A Native American girl from an isolated Blackfeet reservation uses her basketball skills as a ticket to a college education and the opportunity to give back to her people. Her chief described her as "a warrior."</p>

Economy	Montana PBS Reports: IMPACT #203 “Property Tax Increase / Passenger Rail Service”	10/12 10/13 10/14 10/15 10/16	7pm 12:30pm 4:30pm 10am 2am	26 mins	The Montana Department of Revenue's biannual reappraisals showed that residential home values across Montana rose on average by a whopping 46%. What does this steep appreciation mean for residential property taxes? We'll talk with residents, local governments, and the State ahead of the distribution of tax bills. This program also explores the growing movement to bring passenger rail service back to the southern half of Montana. While the Federal Railroad Administration undergoes a massive study of the Amtrak long-distance network, a homegrown Montana coalition is pushing for restored service along the old North Coast Hiawatha line - the Amtrak route that once connected Seattle to Chicago with nine stops in Montana including Missoula, Bozeman, Billings, Miles City, and Glendive. We'll explore what it might take, how much it might cost, and what expanded connectivity would mean for communities along the route.
Education	POV #3613 “Wisdom Gone Wild”	11/20 11/22	9pm 1am		Reflect on aging and transformation over the course of 16 years. This film blends humor and sadness between mother and daughter that blooms into an affectionate portrait of love, care, and a relationship transformed.

MontanaPBS Kids – Digital Multicast Channel – Standard Definition

Description of Issue	Program/Segment	Date	Time	Duration	Narration of Type and Description of Program Segment
Early Childhood Learning	Work It Out Wombats! “The Treeborhood Harvest Day / The Treeborhood Thankfulness Stew”	11/13 11/17 11/23	7am 7am 7am	26 mins.	<p>Work It Out Wombats! follows a playful trio of marsupial siblings -- Malik, Zadie, and Zeke -- who live with their grandmother (named Super!) in a fantastical treehouse apartment complex. The Treeborhood is home to a diverse and quirky community of neighbors who just happen to be wombats, snakes, moose, kangaroos, iguanas, fish, tarsiers, and eagles! Each day drops a new challenge into the Wombats' laps, requiring them to find, debug, fix, order (then re-order) -- and create, test, and re-create when things don't go according to plan. But thanks to their creativity and collaborative spirit, their sense of family, and the role they play within the larger Treeborhood community -- as problem-solvers, friends, and neighbors -- the Wombats always win the day. With an educational focus on computational thinking, Work It Out Wombats! introduces preschoolers to a way of thinking that enables them to solve problems, express themselves, and accomplish tasks using the practices, processes, and ideas at the core of computer science, laying important groundwork for success in school and life.</p> <p>In this special Thanksgiving-themed episode, Harvest Day is being ruined by fog! Can the Wombats save the day by locating Mr. E's fog goggles, buried in a box somewhere? / It's time to make the Treeborhood Thankfulness Stew. Can Zeke create a stew that meets Mr. E's high standards?</p>

MontanaPBS Create – Digital Multicast Channel – Standard Definition

Description of Issue	Program/Segment	Date	Time	Duration	Narration of Type and Description of Program Segment
International cultures	Family Ingredients Season 3	Starts: 10/31	5pm 11pm	26 mins.	Get an introduction to interesting people and riveting stories linked by a family recipe, starting from a base in Hawaii to locations such as Japan and Puerto Rico. Find the rich and sometimes surprising connections to a treasured family dish.

MontanaPBS World – Digital Multicast Channel – Standard Definition

Description of Issue	Program/Segment	Date	Time	Duration	Narration of Type and Description of Program Segment
Race, Civil Rights	Buffalo Soldiers: Fighting on Two Fronts	10/20 10/20 10/21 10/21 10/25 10/25	5pm 10pm 6am 12pm 3am 9am	56 mins.	Explore the complex history of Black Americans who enlisted in the U. S. military as a path to citizenship, a livelihood, and greater respect, and how they fought in military conflicts abroad and civil rights struggles at home.

MontanaPBS Capitol Coverage – Digital Multicast Channel – Standard Definition

Description of Issue	Program/Segment	Date	Time	Duration	Narration of Type and Description of Program Segment
Politics/Government	MPAN (Legislative Channel)	4th qtr 2023	24/7	24/7	Repeat airings of gavel to gavel coverage of the 69 th Montana Legislature as well as live coverage of interim legislative committee hearings.