

Stutsman County Soil Conservation District

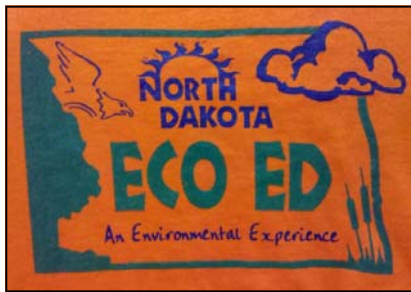
September 2010

Mark Your Calendars

September 23rd ~ Cover Crop Tour
October 7th ~ Feedlot/Forage Tour

(RSVP'S required for noon meal)

See inside for details



“Eco-Ed” is an environmental learning experience provided yearly to Stutsman County sixth graders, held outside at the Pipestem Dam. The camp is funded with 319 funds from EPA and coordinated by the Stutsman County Soil Conservation District. It is made possible

through partnership with many organizations including: ND Forest Service, US Fish & Wildlife, NRCS, ND Game & Fish, and Stutsman County Schools. Students participate in a variety of presentations on natural resource issues including:

- Soils & Erosion
- Water Quality
- Prairies
- Wetlands
- Woodlands
- Habitat



Facilitators Ryan Odenbach (above), and Codie Lacina (left) teach a group of this year's 248 students all about stream erosion and soils.



Look inside for deadlines for the following programs:

Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP)

Wetland Reserve Program (WRP)

Tree Orders Due Oct. 25th
(see order form insert)

Reminder!



It's time to think about what you plan to plant in 2011. The new tree order form for the 2011 planting season is inside!

“The best time to plant a tree is yesterday.”

Staff Changes



Steve Stensgard, Pheasants Forever Farm Bill Biologist will be leaving us at the end of September. He has accepted a position with the NRCS in Devils Lake as their Area Biologist.

We will be hosting an Open House for Steve on Friday, September 24th from 1:00 ~ 3:00 here at the Service Center Conference Room. Come join us as we bid farewell to Steve!



Deonn Larson is the new SCD District Clerk/Manager. She was born and raised in Wisconsin but has been a North Dakotan for the past 38 years. She and her husband Chris farm near Cleveland. She's excited to be part of our conservation team and is looking forward to meeting the producers of Stutsman County.



Marc Murdoff is our new Soil Conservationist. He started in the position in June and comes to us straight out of NDSU with a Master's Degree in Range Science. Marc looks forward to working with the producers in Stutsman County.



Tyler Uran, Soil Conservationist, accepted a position at the Mandan Field Office at the end of May. The move puts him closer to the family ranch near New Town. We wish Tyler well and thank him for his hard work and dedication in Stutsman County. Best of Luck Tyler!



Kelsey Kaiser, the daughter of Curt and Mary Ann Kaiser of Streeter, ND graduated from Napoleon High School. She was a summer intern in the office from May ~ August and is currently a sophomore, attending the University of Minnesota Crookston for Natural Resources and Wildlife Management.



Naomi Aziz, SCD District Clerk/Manager has resigned in order to focus on her family. We wish her luck in her future endeavors.

Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)

One of the newest programs offered by NRCS is the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP). Through CSP, NRCS will provide financial and technical assistance to eligible producers to conserve and enhance soil, water, air, and related natural resources on their lands. The Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) is a strictly voluntary conservation program that encourages producers to address resource concerns in a comprehensive manner. This is done by: *Undertaking additional conservation activities and Improving, maintaining, and managing existing conservation activities.*

What are the payment options?

The Conservation Stewardship Program offers participants two possible types of payments. They are as follows:

Annual Payment - for installing and adopting additional activities, and improving, maintaining, and managing existing activities.

Supplemental Payment - for the adoption of resource-conserving crop rotations. The annual payment limitation for a person or legal entity is \$40,000. A person or legal entity cannot exceed \$200,000 for all contracts entered into during any five-year period.

How do I apply?

If the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) is something you are interested in, we encourage you to contact the NRCS field office to learn more about the program or to enroll.

Although this program has a continuous sign-up policy, applications on hand by October 30th will be batched for funding.

Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP)

The Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP) is a voluntary program for developing or improving high quality habitat that supports fish and wildlife populations of National, State, Tribal, and local significance. Through WHIP, the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) provides technical and financial assistance to private and Tribal landowners for the development of upland, wetland, aquatic, and other types of wildlife habitat. Through reimbursement, NRCS will pay up to 75 percent of the cost to install conservation practices for permanent priority fish and wildlife habitat. Participants are expected to maintain the cost-shared practices for their anticipated life spans.

Application deadline for this batching period is November 1, 2010.

Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) Signup Deadline

EQIP is a voluntary conservation program which offers farmers and ranchers a tool to address their natural resource concerns. Eligibility for the program is limited to persons who are engaged in livestock or agricultural production. Beginning farmers/ranchers and Limited Resource producers may be eligible for additional cost-share. EQIP provides cost-share and incentive payments for a variety of conservation practices such as No-Till, Nutrient Management, Tree Plantings, Fencing, Wells, Pipelines, Tanks, and Pasture & Hayland grass seedings, just to name a few. Please contact the office for a complete list of eligible conservation practices and cost-share/ incentive rates.

To be considered for FY 2011 funding, applicants must have a signed EQIP application on file by November 1, 2010.

Manure Composter Project

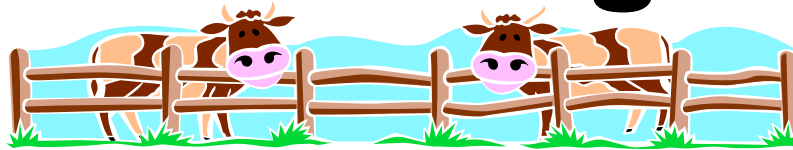
The Stutsman County Soil Conservation District has leased a Brown Bear Manure Composter for a new Manure Composter Project. The goal of this project is to aid in manure management in the Pipestem Creek, Beaver Creek and Seven Mile Coulee Watersheds. Priority will be given to producers in these areas and secondary priority to producers outside of these areas. Cost for this program is \$50/hour. Contact Ryan at the Stutsman County Soil Conservation District for more information.

Composting is a natural biological process where bacteria, fungi, and other organisms decompose organic materials. Composting is the best natural material to enrich and build soils. One huge benefit of composting is it not only reduces total manure mass by 50% , it also kills weed seeds with excessive heat during the composting period. (For all the gardeners out there; adding compost to your garden soil will grow healthier plants that naturally resist disease and insects.)

The composter provides the following:

- 1) Reduction in total manure mass of over 50%.
- 2) The end product from the process is not considered manure, but is a soil amendment. This allows additional amounts to be added in fields.
- 3) The compost product is easy to spread without the hassle of “lumps” or excessive twine.
- 4) The compost process allows breakdown of most organic materials including dead animals.
- 5) Retains nutrients more efficiently for use in crop production.
- 6) Useful for spreading on no-till fields. Correct application will not result in seedling damage.

Feedlot - Forage Tour



Thursday, October 7th, 10:00 am
Meet at producer Robert Froehlich's farm
5 miles east and 2 miles south of Montpelier

Stutsman Co. SCD will demonstrate the
Brown Bear Manure Composter

&

Barnes Co. SCD will demonstrate their
Waste Pond Pumping System



Tour will feature livestock producers in the
Montpelier, Ypsilanti and Spiritwood area

RSVP required for noon meal
call 252-2521 ext. 3 by Tuesday, October 5th



Cover Crop Tour

Join the Stutsman County
Soil Conservation District
& NRCS for a tour all about Cover Crops!

Thursday, September 23rd 10:00 AM

Meet at the SCD's Test Plots at the intersection of
Hwy. 281 north and 21st. St SE; 3 miles north of Buchanan

At the Stutsman County SCD Crop Plots, tour participants will look at:

- Cover crops after Wide Match Herbicide use
- Soybeans on second year crop growth
- Interseeded corn with NDSU Carrington Research Extension Center
Nutrient Management Specialist Ron Wiederholt
- Performance of soybeans following cover crops on CRP

Tour will also include stops with
local producers to look at Turnip,
Radish, Wheat, Pea and Winter Triticale

Lunch provided by SCD

**Please RSVP by Sept. 21st
to 252-2521 ext. 3**



Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP)

WRP is a voluntary program for people who want to restore, enhance, or create wetlands and develop or improve wildlife habitat on private lands. The program offers long-term easements (30 years) or restoration agreements (10 years). It provides both technical assistance and cost-share payments to help restore wetland and upland habitats. To be eligible for WRP, land must be restorable and be suitable for wildlife benefits. Easements expire at the end of 30 years. USDA will pay 75 percent of the lesser value of a market analysis or appraisal, the geographic area rate cap or landowner offer. USDA will pay 75 percent of the restoration costs and conservation partners may pay the remaining 25 percent. USDA will pay appraisal, legal survey and title costs associated with establishing the easement.

Application deadline for this batching period is November 1, 2010.

Use of Land Aerator on Expired CRP

Producers in the Beaver Creek and Seven-Mile Coulee Watersheds can receive cost-share according to the chart below:

The Lawson Land Aerator was purchased by the Stutsman County Soil Conservation District, for hire by area producers. Basically it's a large land roller (similar to the land rollers most producers have used for soybeans, etc.) with approximately 4 inch by 4 inch blades attached to the roll cylinder.

The roller has shown to have several applications including:

- 1) Smooth out alfalfa and hayland and enhance vegetative growth.
- 2) Smooth expired CRP for future crop seeding, instead of plowing or disking the ground.
- 3) Smooth pastures, reduce woody vegetation growth (such as silverberry and snowberry), and enhance grass growth. It may roll over larger trees depending on size, such as volunteer Siberian Elm which may spread in CRP. These species may grow back, but aerating combined with herbicide should take care of the problem.
- 4) Smooth no-till fields which have been infested with burrowing animals.

The cost includes \$10.00 per acre for the roller, \$5.00 per acre for any seeding, and the landowner provides the diesel. Producers who have used this on expired CRP have saved much time and expense in tillage operations. In 2008-2009 the land aerator treated approximately 5,300 acres of which approx. 4,150 acres were expired CRP and 1,150 were hayland/pastureland.

The aerator will also save in soil erosion and soil structure for future no-till production.



Watershed Project Approved BMP'S (Best Management Practices)

NRCS CODE	Practice	Life Span	Planning Rate	Cost-share Payment
328	Conservation Crop Rotation	--	NCP	NCP
656	Constructed Wetland	10	Engineer Estimate	*
340	Cover Crop (seed costs only)	1	\$20.00/ac.	*
342	Critical Area Planting	10	\$300.00/ac.	*
356	Dike	10	\$1.90/cuyd	*
362	Diversions	10	\$1.90/cuyd	*
382	Fencing (barbed)	10	\$0.95/ft.	\$0.57/ft.
382	Fencing (multiple wire electric)	10	\$0.50/ft.	\$0.30/ft.
386	Field Border (seed costs only)	10	\$20.00/ac.	*
393	Filter Strip (planting/establishment only)	10	\$125.00/ac	*
410	Grade Stabilization Structure	10	Engineer Estimate	*
412	Grassed Waterway	10	\$25.00/ft.	*
422	Hedgerow Planting	10	\$19.00/hlnft	*
603	Herbaceous Wind Barriers	5	\$12.00/acre	\$7.20/acre
447	Irrigation System Tailwater Recovery	10	Engineer Estimate	*
472	Use Exclusion (livestock only)	1	\$20.00/acre	\$12.00/acre
634	Manure Transfer	10	Engineer Estimate	*
590	Nutrient Management	1	\$5.00/acre	\$3.00/acre
512	Pasture and Hayland Planting	10	\$35.00/ac.	*
595	Pest Management	--	NCP	NCP
516	Pipelines	10	\$3.00/ft.	*
378	Pond	10	Engineer Estimate	*
528A	Prescribed Grazing	--	NCP	NCP
550	Range Planting	10	\$40.00/ac.	*
329A	Residue Management No Till, Strip Till	--	NCP	NCP
329B	Residue Management, Mulch Till	--	NCP	NCP
329C	Residue Management, Ridge Till	--	NCP	NCP
391	Riparian Forest Buffer	10	\$350.00/ac.	*
390	Riparian Herbaceous Cover	10	\$300.00/ac.	*
558	Roof Runoff Structure	10	Engineer Estimate	*
350	Sediment Basin	10	Engineer Estimate	*
574	Spring Development	10	Engineer Estimate	*
584	Stream Channel Stabilization	10	Engineer Estimate	*
580	Streambank & Shoreline Protection	10	Engineer Estimate	*
587	Structure for Water Control	10	Engineer Estimate	*
600	Terrace	10	Engineer Estimate	*
610	Salinity & Sodic Soil Management (establishing vegetative cover only)	10	\$20.00/ac	*
614	Trough and Tank	10	Local Rate Per Tank	*
601	Vegetative Barrier (establishment only)	10	\$125.00/ac.	*
312	Livestock Manure Management System	10	*	*
635	Waste Water Treatment Strip (establishment only)	10	\$125.00/ac	*
633	Waste Utilization	1	NCP	NCP
638	Water and Sediment Control Basin	10	Engineer Estimate	*
640	Water Spreading	10	Engineer Estimate	*
642	Well (livestock only)	10	Local Rate per Well	*
351	Well Decommissioning	10	\$900.00 each	*
658	Wetland Creation	10	Engineer Estimate	*
657	Wetland Restoration	10	Engineer Estimate	*
380	Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment	10	\$19.00/hlnft	*

NCP Non cost-shared practice

- Section 319 cost-share assistance for these BMP must be based on the actual documented costs. Cost share payments cannot exceed 60% of the actual costs. The NPS program also supports several practices that are not listed here. For information on additional eligible BMP practices contact Watershed Coordinator Ryan Odenbach.



Tex's Tree Planting Tidbits

By Tex Weatherly

Fall is here and there are some things to be looking at in our tree plantings.

In new plantings the first thing is to check for death loss and get replants ordered. The next thing is getting control of weeds between the rows. It is probably too late for this year, but any weeds sap moisture that could have been used by trees. They also create an oven effect in the tree planting. The best option is to plant a warm season native grass such as Blue Grama and Sideoats Grama if weed barrier fabric is used, and to mow to control weeds until grass is established. Help with seeding rates may be obtained from NRCS or Stutsman Co. SCD. Another problem that may pop up with deep snow in plantings is rodent damage. Mice and voles like to burrow in the snow and chew on small trees. If the bark is removed deeply and all around the tree, it will die. Older trees also need to be checked for replants. Big gaps in rows can create a funnel effect on the wind and may cause snow to lie where it is not wanted. Also if fabric has been laid on older trees, they need to be checked to see that trees are not growing into the fabric and creating a girdling effect. If this is happening, the fabric needs to be cut back from the tree trunk. If it is not cut back it can cause a weak point in the tree trunk and our "gentle ND breezes" can topple it at that point. In planning a new tree planting, try to work as many varieties into the tree planting as possible. This is especially helpful if a disease or insect problem occurs. Most diseases and insects only attack one species, thus leaving the rest viable, and in a single row more than one species can be planted by alternating varieties in the row.



Ground Preparation

Ground preparation is very important and should be started early in the year prior to planting. It is especially important if trees are to be planted in what is now grassland. Get the old growth off and worked up, then provide an application of Roundup on re-growth along with working it up and applying a second application of Roundup in the spring.

It is the policy of the Stutsman Co. SCD that the ground be properly prepared before planting will be done.

SCD Services Available

(* Prices subject to change)

SCD Tree Planting Prices:

\$20 per 100 feet

Weed Barrier Fabric

\$110 per 300 ft. roll or .60 per foot.

\$150 per 500 ft. roll

\$60 per 100 feet for fabric

and application by the SCD

Fabric Staples 0.20 each

Handplant Tree Prices:

Conservation Grade Trees: \$1.25 each

Bundle of 25 Conservation Grade: \$25.00 each

3'-4' Trees: \$3.00 each

Staking Flags

Short: \$8.00 per bundle

Tall: \$9.00 per bundle

Plantskydd Deer Repellant

1.32 gal premixed: \$54.95

1 lb canister granules: \$14.95

1 Qt. bottle premixed: \$21.95

1 Lb. box (makes 4 qts) \$24.95

2.2 Lb. box (makes 8 qts) \$39.95

Bentonite

\$9.00 per 50 lb. bag

Contaminated Water Signs

\$20.00 each

Land Aerator Program Available

\$10 per acre

Manure Composter Available

Call for details



Stutsman County Soil Conservation District
1301 Business Loop East
Jamestown, ND 58401-5946

Lower Pipestem Creek
Watershed Board

- Loren Patrie Wells Co. SCD
- Bernie Wanzek Stutsman Co. SCD
- Alvin Exner Stutsman Co. SCD
- Gloria Jones Stutsman Co. SCD
- Don Hofmann Stutsman Co. SCD
- Randi Sukut Wells Co. Comm.
- Curtiss Klein Foster Co. SCD
- Tim Schuster Stutsman Co.
- Jerry Becker Foster Co. SCD

Stutsman Board of Supervisors

- Gloria Jones Jamestown
- Bernie Wanzek Courtenay
- Alvin Exner Ypsilanti
- Donald Hofmann Medina
- Raymond Heupel Medina

**Board & Staff
Members**

Stutsman County
Soil Conservation District (SCD)
&
Natural Resources
Conservation Service (NRCS)

1301 Business Loop East
Jamestown, ND 58401
701-252-2521 ext. 3
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District Staff

- Deonn Larson
District Clerk/Manager
- Tex Weatherly
District Technician

319 Watershed Staff

- Ryan Odenbach
319 Watershed Coordinator
- Sally Domke
319 Watershed Technician

NRCS Staff

- Codie Lacina
District Conservationist
- Marc Murdoff
Soil Conservationist
- Sheryl Smith
Soil Conservation Technician
- Steven Stensgard Pheasants
Forever Farm Bill Biologist