

# FOSTER COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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*"Fostering" Our Natural Resources*

For descriptions of trees and shrubs  
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Farm Credit Services of North Dakota is a member-owned agricultural credit association providing loans for real estate, machinery, livestock and operating and related services of crop hail and multi-peril crop insurances to farmers and ranchers. The Carrington office serves the counties of Foster, Eddy, Wells, and parts of Sheridan and Benson Counties.  
Tom Erdmann, Branch Manager, phone 652-2836.

Issue No. 72

Spring 2015



FOSTER COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

# Conservation Communicator

## 2015 Foster County Women's Ag Day

Our 2015 Women's Ag Day was held on Thursday, April 9 at the Carrington Research Extension Center. This year's theme was "Agriculture: The Foundation of Our Community." Our featured speaker was "farmer on a mission" Sarah Wilson, an ag advocate who farms with her family near Jamestown, ND. Sarah spoke about the importance of farming to both farmers and non-farmers, and of the need to deal with the misinformation that people far removed from farming are receiving through the media and activist organizations.

Paul DuBourt, Foster County District Conservationist from the USDA's Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) gave a short presentation about the agency. Brandon Schafer, Watershed Coordinator for the Kelly Creek Watershed Project, talked about the problem of nonpoint source pollution and the watershed project. Jan Bakke gave the invocation prior to a meal of locally-sourced food catered by Woodward Farm. Then Roger and Ross Florhaug gave a short musical entertainment, and got the ladies singing on the last song. Volunteers from the FFA assisted with serving the meal and clearing the tables.

This event is intended to show our appreciation for the contributions of women to agriculture in our communities. Jenni Wede, Mary Zink, and Donna Anderson were responsible for the centerpieces and agriculture facts used to decorate the tables. Along with local vendors, informational materials were provided by the North Dakota Pork Council and Foster County Extension, and the SCD. Those attending received cook-books, educational materials, and samples from a variety of North Dakota commodity associations and conservation groups. A wide assortment of great door prizes were donated by local businesses.



We would like to again thank all of the sponsors who provided financial support and/or door prizes for the event. The event would not be possible without their generous support. This year's major supporters included the ND Corn Council and Corn Growers Association, Foster County Farm Bureau,



Farm Credit Services, and Gavilon Grain, as well as Arrowwood Prairie Co-op, Bank Forward, Bremer Bank, Central Steel Building, Dakota Central Telecommunications, Dakota Growers Pasta Company, Erickson Implement, Farmer's Elevator (Grace City), Fessenden Cooperative Association, Foster County Farmer's Union, Kensal Farmer's Elevator, Leading Edge Equipment, Ellen Linderman, Van Bedaf Dairy, and Wholesale Ag. Many other local businesses also contributed, and their support allowed us to provide an evening for 105 attendees. For all of their efforts, thank you also to our committee: Kay Aljets, Donna Anderson, Mary Berg, Joel Lemer, Rhonda Lura, Kim Montgomery, Marie Pozarnsky, Jennifer Wede, and Mary Zink.

### Foster County SCD 2015 Supervisors, Advisors and Staff

Chairman Curtiss Klein	701-653-5708
Vice Chair Robert House	674-3606
Supervisor Cody Montgomery	652-5397
Supervisor Karl Hoppe	650-8810
Supervisor Marie Pozarnsky	652-1169
NRCS District Conservationist Paul DuBourt	652-2551 Ext 101
Soil Con. Tech. Nichole Johnson	Ext 112
SCD Manager Dionn Schaaf	Ext 102
SCD 319 Coord. Brandon Schafer	Ext.113
SCD Ed. Coordinator Jill Vigasaa	701-799-5488
Foster County Extension Agent Joel Lemer	652-2581

### Till it to me Straight....

- Foster County Soil Conservation District Board meetings are tentatively scheduled for 8:30 a.m. May 11, June 8, July 13, and August 10 (2nd Mondays). Please contact the district office at 652-2551 to confirm dates and times.
- USDA Service Center will be closed for Memorial Day on Monday, May 25 and for Independence Day on Friday, July 3.
- "Talking Dirt" on KDAK (1600 AM) will be at 8:40 am on May 6, June 3, July 1, and August 5 (first Wednesdays).
- Stewardship Week is April 26 through May 3.

## 2014 Foster County SCD Highlights

### January

Marie Pozarnsky appointed and Karl Hoppe re-appointed as SCD Supervisors.

Conservation planning ongoing

### February

Talking Dirt on KDAK with Klein, Schaaf, and Lemer

Schaaf completes Pesticide Recertification training

Staff attend Soil Salinity Workshop at CREC

Wes Miller selected as 2014 Foster County Conservation Achievement Award winner (photo)



### March

Carrington Tree Board meeting

Talking Dirt with Klein, Schaaf, and Kottke

Newsletter mailed out

Annual report published

District sponsors five Project TREES presentations at Carrington Grade School

Staff attend East Central Soil Health Roundup and NRCS Tree Planting Workshop

Schaaf attends NDCDEA Tree Promotion meeting in Bismarck

Kelly Creek Watershed water sampling begins for 2014

### April

Talking Dirt with Klein and Kottke

Schaaf attends Watershed Coordinators Meeting and Cooler/Tree Planting Workshop

District sponsors and provides materials for Stewardship Week at meeting attended by Carrington Ministerial Association.

Stewardship materials provided to schools

District purchases equipment trailer

Local "Keep ND Clean" poster contest winners receive tree certificates.

### May

Talking Dirt with Klein and Vernon Anderson, NDSU Carrington Research Extension Center

GPS training in Jamestown

District holds a Carrington Arbor Day tree planting honoring the first graders – Carrington Class of 2025.

District begins planting trees and shrubs.

Project TREES completes 490 school programs during the school year reaching 328,557 students across North Dakota.

### June

Talking Dirt with Schaaf and Kerry Smith, Foster County FSA

Root view boxes with cover crop seed displayed at Runnings

Excess conservation grade tree and shrub sale held after tree

planting season.

ND Association of Soil Conservation Districts Area I meeting held in Fessenden

SCD sponsors informational booth at Foster County Fair

Brandon Schafer hired as Watershed Coordinator

Weed barrier fabric application completed.

### July

Talking Dirt with Klein and Schaaf

Macroinvertebrate sampling conducted in Kelly Creek Watershed

Watershed

Biennial audit completed

Tree box completed for fieldwork trailer

Newsletter mailed out.

### August

Talking Dirt with Schaaf

Kottke leaves NRCS District Conservationist position, replaced by DuBout

Tree orders and conservation planning for spring of 2015 begin.

### September

Talking Dirt with Schaaf and Lemer

SCD signs installed on Highway 20

Schaaf attends Windbreak Technology course

District enters into contribution agreement with NRCS

Midkota and Carrington sixth grade students attend Eco-Ed Day at Carrington Armory

Range Tour held at Spickler South Ranch in cooperation with Foster Co. and Eddy Co. Extension and Eddy Co. SCD

SCD signs installed on Highway 20

Schaaf attends Windbreak Technology Course in Fargo

Soil Health Tour held at Jerry Becker's farm in cooperation with Foster County Extension

### October

Talking Dirt with Klein, Schaaf, Schafer, and DuBout

Foster County Local Work Group meeting held

Marker installation on First Grade trees

Newsletter mailed out

Kelly Creek Watershed water sampling completed for 2014

### November

Talking Dirt with Schaaf

Cody Montgomery elected to SCD Board of Supervisors

ND Association of Soil Conservation Districts annual meeting held in Fargo.

### December

Talking Dirt with Schaaf, Schafer, and Lemer

Casoron herbicide application on tree and shrub plantings 2015-2017 Biennium Soil Conservation District Assistance Program application

2015 NACD and NDASCD dues paid

Carrington Tree Board meeting

### SCD 2014 Field Activities

65,955 feet of trees machine planted (8462 trees)

116 trees hand planted

67,190 feet of weed barrier fabric laid

1,620 feet of Casoron application

46 tree shelters installed



## Winter Soil Health Workshop

On March 26, Foster County NRCS held a soil health workshop at the Crossroads Golf Club. Speakers included Ray Ward from Ward Labs discussing new soil testing methods; Sheila Braaten from Western Ag, discussing the effects of management on soil fertility; and Lee Briese from Central Crop Consulting discussing salinity problems. Three of those attending received a free soil test as a door prize. Our thanks to our local sponsors: Farm Credit Services, Hooey Insurance Agency, Kracht Implement, Leading Edge Equipment, and Wholesale Ag Products. Additional sponsors allowed these speakers to visit Griggs County on March 25th.

## 2014 NRCS Programs – Summary of Applied Conservation in Foster County

Access Road (560)	1,200 feet
Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan – Written (102)	1
Cover Crop (340)	100 acres
Diversion (362)	2392 feet
Fence (382)	1 7,160 feet
Forage Harvest Management (511)	241 acres
Heavy Use Area Protection (561)	278 acres
Manure Transfer (634)	5
Nutrient Management (590)	538 acres
Pipeline (516)	7,560 feet
Precision Land Forming (462)	105 acres
Prescribed Grazing (528)	1084 acres
Pumping Plant (533)	2
Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)	4 acres
Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)	100 acres
Water Well (642)	2
Watering Facility (614)	3
Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (644)	5 acres
Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380)	5,355 feet

### Spring field crew needed!

Machine and hand planting trees, and application of weed barrier fabric and tree tubes. Work usually occurs mainly in May and June. If interested, please call 652-2551 ext. 3.



## District Services and Rates

Foster County Soil Conservation District provides the following services:

*Machine tree planting* (cost includes trees)

\$30.00 per 100 linear feet

\$300.00 minimum, \$2 per mile office-to-site fee if site is not properly prepared

*Custom Handplant Replacement* at \$3.00 per tree for 50 trees or more

*Weed barrier application* (cost includes fabric)

\$0.50 per linear foot < 2500 feet

\$0.45 per linear foot > 2500 feet

\$300 minimum

*Chemical weed control application* (Casoron granular herbicide for tree plantings)

Price/pound plus \$0.125/linear foot, or \$50.00 minimum plus chemical

*Between-row cultivation for weed control*

\$30.00 per 100 linear feet

\$300.00 minimum

*Tree shelter application*

\$2.00 per tree plus cost of tube and stake, 35 tree minimum

**The district is also a source for the following (all prices subject to change):**

*Manure Spreader for lease:*

Approximately 420 bushels/load, \$300 per day with cleaning/repair deposit

*Conservation grade handplant trees*

Prices vary, but most are available for \$2 per tree or \$35 for a bundle of 25 trees

*6' Fabric Weed Barrier*

300' Roll for \$95.00

Custom Cut for \$0.40 per linear foot

*Plantskydd Deer Repellent*

Spray-on: 1 qt ready-to-spray \$18.50

1 lb powder for mixing 1 gallon \$23.00

Granular: 1 lb granular shaker \$9.50

3 lb granular shaker pack \$21.00

*Tree Shelter Products: Tubes and Stakes*

Several sizes and styles available:

Acorn, Plantra, and Tubex brands – call for price

*Rain Barrels, Rain Barrel Kits, and Rain Barrel Parts*

Rain barrel (white) \$37.00 Diverter kit \$21.95

Rain barrel and diverter \$59.00 Connector kit \$7.45

Complete rain barrel kit \$48.45 Spigot \$7.50

Unaltered food-grade barrel \$19.00 (white) or 26.00 (black)

## Stewardship Week

Conservation Districts are celebrating the 60th year of Soil and Water Stewardship Week, April 26 – May 3, 2015. Stewardship Week is the longest-running conservation event in the nation. The 2015 Stewardship Week is themed, "Local Heroes – Your Hardworking Pollinators". Pollinators play a critical role in our everyday lives. They are a very important part of the web of life upon which we all depend. They have shown disturbing signs of decline in recent years. When pollinators shrink in number, many plants either produce less seed or no seed at all. The bottom line is, when pollinators start disappearing, plants start disappearing. Most plants depend upon pollinators to reproduce. Insect pollinators include bees, flies, moths, butterflies and beetles. There are also over 1,000 species of other animals such as birds, reptiles and mammals, including bats that pollinate plants. The local conservation district can assist you in maintaining or developing habitat for pollinators.