

ADAMS COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT Winter 2018



A PUBLICATION TO KEEP YOU UPDATED ON CURRENT CONSERVATION ISSUES AND EVENTS

SCD and NRES Happenings

Congratulations Laufer Ranch
2018 Adams County Achievement Winner



The Laufer Ranch is located in northern Adams County. Beverly and her family have a livestock and farming operation; and own/operate Laufer Vermeer. They do all their planting with no-till equipment to conserve moisture and reduce erosion. Laufer's have a diverse crop rotation to control disease; this includes cover crops. Recently, Laufer's started converting to variable rate fertilizer application to control expenses with fertilizer and improve water quality. Laufer Ranch has participated in various conservation programs to meet their goals. Beverly is the mother of six children and eight grandchildren.



Range Award

J & M Farms of rural Hettinger are a third- generation cow/calf operation. Started by their grandfather Otto Howe, Mike and Jeff have continued building their operation after their father Dorwin retired. Operating on around 4000 acres of pastureland the Howe's utilize a rotational grazing system for their commercial black angus herd.



Tree Talk

By Shari Wick

What is the definition of a noxious weed? Most define a noxious weed as a plant that is harmful to agricultural and horticultural crops, natural habitats, humans, or livestock. Typically, noxious weeds grow aggressively, multiply quickly without natural controls and display adverse effects through contact or ingestion.

Some noxious weeds are native while others have been introduced into new regions and countries through contaminated shipments of feed and crop seeds or intentional introductions such as ornamental plants for horticultural use. Most often noxious weeds are difficult to control and easily spread.

In North Dakota the list of noxious weeds is absinth wormwood, Canada thistle, Dalmatian toadflax, diffuse knapweed, leafy spurge, musk thistle, purple loosestrife, Russian knapweed, saltcedar, spotted knapweed, and yellow toadflax. Nudging its way onto the list we all fear will be Palmer amaranth in the very near future.

The Landowner Assistance Program provides weed boards with cost-share assistance for noxious weed control. The weed boards in turn decide yearly what their financial assistance will be for each county. In Adams County the weed board decided on 80% financial assistance for chemicals that are approved for specific noxious weeds up to \$2500.

NDSU Extension Services and ND Dept. of Ag put together a handy booklet with pictures and descriptions of noxious weeds. If you would like one stop at the office.



2018 Services & Price List

Hand Plants:

Conservation size \$2.00/tree

Larger size \$4.00/tree

Grass Drill: \$6.50/acre

Down Payment required

No-Till Drill: \$10.00/acre

Down Payment required

Tree Planting w/tree: 0.30/ft

Weed Badgering:

1st time \$60.00/hour

2nd time \$50.00/hour

Mowing/Tilling: \$60.00/hour

Weed Wiper: \$25.00/day

Weed Barrier fabric: \$0.30/ft

500 foot roll \$150.00/roll

Weed Barrier installed \$ 0.60/ft

Plantskydd: Prices vary

Tree Tubes: \$4.00/each

Flags:\$0.06 each

Staples:\$0.15 each

Mileage: \$3.00/mile

Upcoming Events:

December 25, 2108: Office Closed Christmas Day

January 1, 2019 : Office Closed New Year's Day

January 21, 2019: Office Closed Marin Luther King Jr Day

February 18, 2109: Office Closed President's Day

March 15, 2019 EQIP Deadline

2018 Tree Care Award

In 2016 the Ehlers family started the project of renovating their existing farmstead trees. The trees were mainly dead elm, but these trees were believed to have been hand planted. Under-ground were huge rocks and not just a few rocks. From removing multiple boulders to working the site and then removing more rocks Teri and Cole worked diligently to form a good seedbed. They planted a total of 3104 ft. of trees this spring and installed tree tubes on one row. They also planted grass between the rows.



NRCS Hettinger Field Office Receives Awards

Amanda Berg and Beth Points recently attended Diversity Day in Bismarck where the Hettinger Field Office received the 2017 Boots on the Ground Conservation Award and Outstanding Customer Service Award for 2017.

Outstanding Customer Service is presented to recognize one field office in each Area which has demonstrated a dedication to serving their customers as indicated by the total number of conservation plans developed during the fiscal year as identified in PRS.

Boots on the Ground Conservation Award is in recognition for conservation planning is the highest praise for those in the business of conservation planning and the application of management of our natural resources. This award annually recognizes a Field Office in each Area for strength in conservation planning first, prioritizing field time for excellent technical assistance and quality documentation.



March 15th deadline for EQIP

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is accepting applications to help producers improve water and air quality, build healthier soil, improve grazing and forest lands, conserve energy, and achieve other environmental benefits. We have financial assistance for fiscal year 2019 to help North Dakota producers implement conservation practices through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). EQIP provides financial assistance for a variety of conservation activities, such as cover crops, reduced tillage, nutrient management, tree and grass plantings, livestock water needs, rotational grazing systems and much more. The deadline for the Local Work Group signup period is Friday, March 15, 2019, but producers can stop in the office to fill out an application any time during the year.

CSP deadline to be determined

Changes are possible with the CSP program in the next few months. What I tell those that ask is that we will know more after the new Farm Bill is passed. While we don't know much about the future of the CSP program, we are accepting applications for the upcoming year. If you are interested in the CSP program, please stop in to the office or give us a call, we can provide you with an application, and letting us know you are interested will allow us to contact you with more information when we have that available. Stop in and visit with us about your needs or call the office at 701-567-2462 X3. Submitted by B. Points

ATTENTION GRADUATING CLASS OF 2019

Adams County Soil Conservation District is offering a \$500.00 scholarship to a graduating senior who is a resident of Adams County that is planning to pursue a career in agriculture resources/environmental or related field at a two or four year college. Call 701-567-2462 ext. 3 for more information. **Applications due: April 1, 2019.**



ADAMS COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT SUPERVISORS

The district has recognized three supervisors for their years of service to the district. During the November Board Meeting 2018 Enerson and Zimmerman were recognized for 5 years service.



Hoerauf was recognized at the December Board Meeting and also at the NDASCD Annual Convention for 20 years of service. She began as seasonal help for the district planting trees in the early 1990's. Hoerauf also served on the Regional Board for Roosevelt-Custer Council and the ND Association of Soil Conservation Districts during her time as supervisor. Hoerauf has resigned from the board.

Hayden Evans will replace Hoerauf on the board January 2019.



The staff and board thanks Shorty, Jamie, & Minetta for your service.

The Adams County Soil Conservation is managed by a 5 person board locally elected (3) and appointed supervisors (2), three elected serving a six year term while the two appointed serve a one year term.

The purpose of the Soil Conservation is representing the citizens of Adams County to focus attention on land, water, and natural resources problems.

Ringed Neck Pheasant Habitat Requirements Summary

Submitted by Natalie Euler

Habitat Component	Habitat Requirements
<p>General</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crop fields of corn, sorghum, oats, wheat, barley and other small grains. • Wild haylands, big and little bluestem, Indiangrass, sideoats grama, switchgrass, native forbs. • Dense vegetation growing along overgrown fencerows, windbreaks, shelterbelts, road- sides and field ditches, small woodlots, old fields, and grassy or shrubby odd areas and field corners.
<p>Food – young</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insects: grasshoppers, crickets, potato beetles, caterpillars of gypsy moths and browntail moths, tent caterpillars, cutworms and others.
<p>Food – adult</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forb seeds: legumes, ragweeds, smartweed, crotons, burdocks, others. • Cultivated crops: corn, milo, wheat, grain sorghum, barley, oats, buckwheat, sunflowers. • Mast: acorns, pine seeds, various berries. • Insects: grasshoppers, crickets, potato beetles, caterpillars of gypsy moths and browntail
<p>Cover - nesting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wheat stubble, winter wheat, undisturbed grasslands and pastures, unmowed native and alfalfa haylands, grassy field corners and odd areas, overgrown hedgerows and fencerows. • Alfalfa, vetch, sweet clover, and cool season grasses and forbs providing residual cover and ground litter.
<p>Cover- brood-rearing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mix of grass and forbs providing movement of foraging chicks along the ground with overhead cover. • Big and little bluestems, sideoats grama, switchgrass, tall and intermediate wheat grasses,
<p>Cover – winter</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weedy fencerows, dense, undisturbed grasslands, old fields. • Weedy playa lake bottoms, cattail marshes. • Low-growing evergreen/hardwood windbreaks and shelterbelts, low-growing grassy and
<p>Cover – roosting and escape</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trees, tall shrubs, hedges, weedy field borders, ditch banks, and fence corners.
<p>Water</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily foods eaten provide an adequate amount of water.
<p>Interspersion</p> 	<p>Complex of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crop fields of corn, sorghum, oats, wheat and barley stubble. • Wild haylands, big and little bluestem, Indiangrass, sideoats grama, switchgrass, tall and intermediate wheat grasses, smooth brome, wildrye, alfalfa, vetch, sweet clover. • Grassy roadsides, field borders, filter strips and ditch banks, cattail marshes, abandoned farmsteads, grass/shrub-mixed odd areas and field corners. • Brush heaps, briar patches, small farmland woodlots, and travel corridors consisting of hedgerows, overgrown fence-rows, field borders, grassed waterways, windbreaks, and shelterbelts.
<p>Minimum Habitat Size</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15,000 acres; however, daily activities of ring-necked pheasants are typically conducted on

2018 SCD and NRCS Annual Report

January

- Board reorganization Chairman: Seth Hofland, Vice Chairman: Jamie Enerson. Appointed Supervisors: Minetta Zimmerman and Jamie Enerson. Supervisor responsibilities approved.
- Weed Barrier BID awarded to Hettinger Weed Barrier Crew
- Office Inventory
- Equipment repairs
- Services were reviewed
- NDASCD dues paid
- Gupman & Messer hired for tree planting
- Wick attends RC&D meeting in Dickinson
- Outback S-Lite purchased for tree planting
- Long Range Plan approved
- Plan of Operations approved
- 319 Grant approved for Root Boxes
- Planning begins on Horticulture/Tree Workshop
- Letters sent for tree planting
- Area V dues paid
- NutBal training for Points & Berg

February

- Policy manual reviewed and approved
- Tree payments
- Assistant NRCS State Conservationist Kresta Faaborg attends board meeting
- Root Box project approved
- Laufer Ranch awarded 2018 Achievement Winner
- Michael Peyton, Farm Bill Specialist resigns
- Lease on manure spreader was cancelled

March

- Approve 2018 budget
- Project for Root Boxes begin, seed purchased from Agassiz Seed & Supply
- Poster for Horticulture/Tree Workshop distributed
- Pollinator bags assembled for workshop
- Wick & Kramlich on TTO promoting Horticulture/Tree Workshop
- Wick attends Tree Promotion March 13-15 in Bismarck
- Hettinger Chamber dues paid
- Approves to sponsor a student for Range Camp
- Newsletter
- Audit approved

April

- Horticulture/Tree Workshop
- Wick attends RC&D meeting in Dickinson
- Outdoor Heritage Promotional Advertising with Hettinger/Slope County
- Jarad Mattis awarded 2018 Scholarship

April cont'd

- Paid dues to Cedar Creek Pheasants Forever
- Staking, tree planting, and packaging hand plants
- Approve purchase of trees to be planted at Hettinger School
- Board signs letter of support for NDSU Research Center and Dakota West RC&D to receive NRCS Grants
- Drill covers purchased for 2017 John Deere No-Till Drill
- Approves repairs to signs at County Lines
- Project Trees (Tom Gibson) visits Hettinger School
- Natalie Euler hired as Farm Bill Specialist for Adams, Grant, Bowman, & Slope Counties
- Drill rentals begin

May

- Approved sponsorship for ribbons & trophy for County Fair
- Tree deliveries from Towner, Lincoln Oakes, & Big Sioux
- Approve purchase of trouble light for Auto Mechanic Class for students help unloading trees
- Staking & planting trees
- Weed barrier installed
- Board approves Federal Shutdown Policy
- Wick visits Kindergarten class for Tree Program
- Julia Dalley, student at Hettinger School receives first place in "Keep North Dakota Clean" Art Contest
- Computer & Laser Printer purchased for district
- One calls completed for tree planting
- New trees planted at Arboretum
- Tree Sale
- Inventory

June

- Mill Levy request completed
- Newsletter published
- Mowing, tilling, and weed badgering
- Kramlich, Adams County Extension Agent resigns
- Equipment repairs
- Lezlie Johnson updates district on Emerald Ash Borer
- Wick & Kramlich investigate issues with trees
- Staff works on planting and weeding Native Garden.
- Second Tree Sale
- Wick works on ND Forest Service/Great Plains Initiative Project
- Tanner Binstock hired for Summer employment for NRCS
- Consolidated Telecom installed

June cont'd

- Berg, Vliem, Euler, & Froelich attend Area V meeting in Beach
- Purchase 2 new signs for county lines
- Updated Guidance on Required Annual Civil Rights and Equal Opportunity Discussion with Partners
- Planning/staking on 2019 tree sites
- Hoerauf resigns from board at the end of the year

July

- Wick, Enerson, Vliem, and Froelich attend ND Watershed Leadership Academy July 16 & 24
- Purchased canopy for New Holland tractor
- Graveled/bladed at District Building
- Wick attends RC&D meeting in Dickinson
- Wick attends Crop Day-Burning CRP at Hettinger Research Center
- Root Boxes displayed at Hettinger Crop Days
- 2018 Outdoor Heritage billing submitted
- Board approves purchase of books through grant from RC&D
- 2019 Outdoor Heritage Planning & Staking
- EQIP status reviews
- EQIP planning
- Native Garden work continues
- Mowing, tilling, and weed badgering continues
- Points and Euler attend Grassland Health Health Training - Dickinson
- Points designated Acting DC for 7/30-9/14

August

- Wick assists at Adams County Fair
- Douglas Fir Trials-Plant Materials
- Wick works on tree issues
- Native Garden work continues
- EQIP status reviews
- Mowing continues
- Burgers and Brats-FSA/NRCS/SCD
- Berg & Points attend Midcareer Retirement Training in Bismarck

September

- Newsletter published
- J & M Farms awarded 2018 Range Awards
- Cole & Teri Ehlers awarded 2018 Tree Care Award
- Awards/Diversity Day in Bismarck-Hettinger FO Presented with awards for 2017 Boots on the Ground Conservation Award and 2017 Outstanding Customer Service Award. Berg & Points accept the awards for Hettinger FO
- Points attends Rangeland Ecology I training in Lincoln, Nebraska

October

- FSA/NRCS/ACSCD have booth at KNDC Farm & Home Show
- Outdoor Heritage Payments received
- Local Banquet to honor Achievement & Conservation Winners
- Wick attends RC&D Meeting in Dickinson
- Donation given to Hettinger School (Skills USA Club) for help with trees and weed barrier
- EQIP status reviews
- NRCS/ACSCD staff attends NRCS Re-structuring informational meeting in Mott
- Points designated Acting DC 10/-11/9

November

- EQIP deadline is November 30, 2018
- 2018 Hand plant order due November 16, 2018
- NDASCD Annual Convention Nov. 18-21, 2018
- Berg and Froelich attend convention
- Laufer Ranch honored at NDASCD Convention as Achievement Winner for Adams County
- Jeremy & Sarah Wilson, Jamestown presented with the Leopold Award at the NDASCD Convention
- Five years awards given to Enerson & Zimmermann

December

- Newsletter
- Hoerauf award plaque & gift for 20 years of service to the board



NRCS Summary for Fiscal Year 2018

- Pipelines: 21,244'
- Tanks: 39
- Pumps: 15 planned; 28 applied
- Wells: 8 planned; 2 applied
- Fence: 50,709'
- Grazing: 2,922 Acres of Prescribed Incentive
- Seasonal High Tunnel: 1

- EQIP dollars contracted in 2018
 - \$694,513
 - 17 contracts
 - 9458 acres
- CSP dollars, new contracts for 2018
 - \$616,114
 - 6 contracts
 - 15,486.9 acres

Adams County Soil Conservation District Contracts

- Outdoor Heritage Fund: 52,911 Trees

DISTRICT SUPERVISORS

Minetta Zimmermann
Shorty Hoerauf
Kathy Vliem
Seth Hofland
Jamie Enerson

Adams County Soil Conservation District
PO Box 872 - Hettinger, ND 58639 - 701-567-2462

DISTRICT EMPLOYEES

Gail Froelich, District Clerk
Charles Mertz, District Technician
Shari Wick, District Technician

NRCS EMPLOYEES

Amanda Berg, District Conservationist
Beth Points, Soil Conservationist

PARTNER EMPLOYEES

Natalie Euler, NDASCD Farm Bill Specialist

ADAMS COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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Conservation Client Gateway is a web-based system that allows you to interact with your NRCS plans and contracts. You can E-Sign documents, track payments, submit requests for assistance and more. Find it at: www.nrcs.usda.gov/clientgateway

**West River
Insurance Agency**

Pam Weaver & Lisa Beckman, Agents
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(Lower Level of Dakota Western Bank)
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