

Pierce County Soil Conservation District

Newsletter

Fall 2018

2018 Conservation Award Winner



The Pierce County Soil Conservation District would like to recognize **David and Becky Kraft, and their children Lauren, Collin, Mariann and Alex** for their outstanding conservation efforts and accomplishments. Their

farm and ranch is located in the Northern part of Pierce County, where they have and are currently using the NRCS EQIP, USFWS Partners for Wildlife and CSP programs to better enhance their cropland and rangeland.

The Pierce County Soil Conservation District would like to congratulate the Kraft's for their great work!



FUTURE BOARD

MEETINGS

- November 13th
 - December 10th
 - January 14th
- Meetings are at 8:30 a.m. and are held in the USDA conference room and are open to the public.

District Staff

Crystal Martodam
-District Technician -

SCD Board

Supervisors

Joey Fritel
Dan B Brossart
Deb Hauser
Curtis Roerick
James Teigen

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2019 Tree hand plant order forms are now available!

*You are invited to the
15th Annual*

Pierce County Soil Conservation District's

Women's Ag Night

Friday, November 9th

Social 6:00pm ~ Dinner 6:30pm

Rugby Eagles Club

Featuring Comedian:



Idiot ON THE PRAIRIE



Starring

Diane Eslinger

Farm stories from a farm wife's perspective!!

LIMITED TO THE FIRST 150!

DOOR PRIZES ~ RAFFLE ~ SILENT AUCTION

Call 701-776-2207 Ext. 3 to RSVP

Crystal Martodam, PCSCD Manager

WOMEN'S AG NIGHT TO HONOR ALL WOMEN

Chances are that if you live in or around Pierce County you are one way or another affected by Agriculture directly or indirectly. Fact of the matter is, Agriculture comprises the majority of our economic welfare. Just think about the many ways..... Farmers, farmers wives, employment, agronomy, elevator, equipment sales and repair, insurance, banks, fuel stations, road maintenance, grocery stores, EVERYONE in one way or another supports or is part of our agriculture community.

Women's Ag Night is our way to say THANK YOU and a chance for everyone to learn about each other!

Tickets \$5 Each

Menu:

Sauté Chicken, Baby Potatoes, glazed carrots and a bun

15th Annual Pierce County Soil Conservation's

WOMEN'S AG NIGHT RAFFLE

Drawing November 9th, 2018 * Rugby Eagles Club

Choice of Prizes:

Metal Art By Rugby FFA

"Nights Out At Home" Gift certificate package

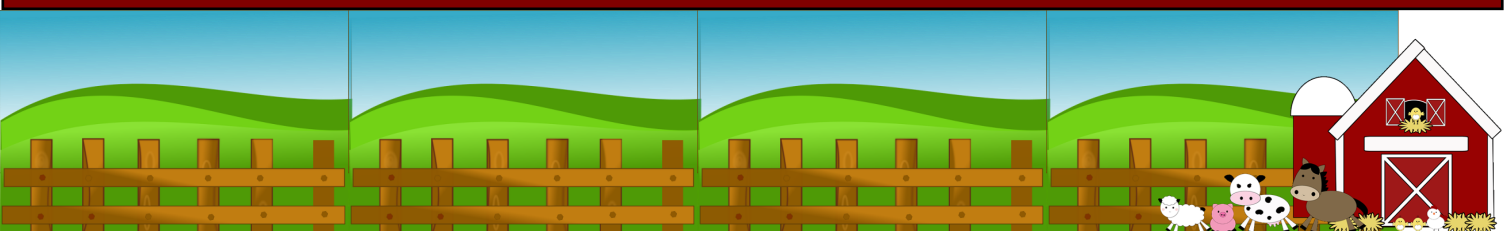
Permit:

1 ticket for \$2 * 3 Tickets for \$5 * Book for \$15.00

ALL Proceeds from our raffle go directly to a nonprofit or family in need. Last year \$200 was donated to the Rugby FFA to help purchase equipment for their metal art business

\$1 SILENT AUCTION TICKETS!!

PRIZES SPONSORED BY LOCAL BUSINESSES



TREE FABRIC SPECIAL

WEED BARRIER IS AN AID..... NOT A CURE ALL

PROS of Weed Barrier

- ♦ Your job of weed control is considerably less with weed barrier
- ♦ Weed barrier will hold moisture longer than if the ground was bare
- ♦ Trees have a higher rate of survival than without weed barrier

CONS of Weed Barrier

- ♦ The Fabric does not biodegrade and the fabric surrounding the trees at minimum will need to be pulled away from the tree trunk as the tree grows.

Myths of Weed Barrier

- ♦ With weed barrier you do not have to maintain the weeds in the tree hole. TRUTH: Your newly planted trees still need you to regularly weed.
- ♦ The weed barrier will biodegrade. TRUTH: While it will become considerably weaker, it does not degrade.

What happens when you have weed barrier applied?

- ♦ When we lay the weed barrier we will cut a hole large enough for a 5-6 year old tree trunk. After this you will need to remove the fabric

- ♦ We WILL NOT cut slits or smaller holes. This greatly reduces the integrity of the trees ability to stand..... if it makes it at all.

- ♦ YOU NEED TO WEED YOUR TREES

- ♦ YOU NEED TO WATER YOUR TREES
Especially on dry years

What can you do?

With the huge task weeding and caring for your new trees, there are things that you can do to help make weeding/watering easier. IT IS possible to enjoy your trees but care for them also! I like to see everyone happy and understand the task they have at hand, and I fully understand in our busy lives, things can get over whelming. Your newly planted trees will last, be enjoyed, provide much needed shelter and protection for years to come. Here are some tips to consider:

- ♦ Mulch has been working wonderful in the tree hole of the fabric. Mulch can be grass clippings from the lawn mower, straw, weeds that were picked and set back down on the hole to dry up. You may need to re-mulch every year, but it is possible that the mulch may suppress the weeds for that growing season.
- ♦ Caseron is the only labeled chemical we have for weed control on use in and around trees. However Coniferous trees are sensitive to Caseron.
- ♦ Watering can be a variety of things: I use a used chemical tote (please triple rinse at least!) with a hose attachment to water. Some have laid soaker hose out either from a hydrant or tank and altered the hose to a new tree row every so many hours or days as needed. Larger plantings have a water tank on a rig or truck that drives down the row. Smaller plantings use a 4 wheeler tank to drive beside the tree rows and water. The sky's the limit here and I'd be happy to help come up with options!

This article I have published every so often in the newsletter.
It will remain in the newsletter each quarter, it is
THAT IMPORTANT TO MANAGE YOUR TREE FABRIC



TREE FABRIC MANAGEMENT

Weed Barrier is an excellent option to aid in the control of weeds around new tree plantings for a successful growth. It saves time and money and if you are considering a new tree planting, I highly suggest considering having it installed.

HOWEVER THE FABRIC MUST BE REMOVED/CUT BACK AS THE TREE GROWS

It is recommend inspecting your fabric once a year after snowmelt and before tree growth. Every 5 years you should create relief cuts with a box cutter on two or four sides of the tree trunk as needed. Care should be taken so as not to damage the tree. If the tree becomes girdled by the fabric (or other tree roots) and doesn't have room to grow the tree will suffer limited growth and may die altogether. A tree that becomes stressed due to girdling can grow around the fabric edge. This creates instability/weakness in the trunk and can result in premature death from winds and imbalanced weight.

As were are out and around the country side we have been trying to keep our eyes out for these tree plantings and stopping in to mention this, please spread the word! Call the Pierce County SCD if you have any questions regarding this.

If you have had trees planted with fabric five or more years ago and haven't taken a look, it may be a good time to check them this year and cut slits as needed.



2019 Order Form..... Please get back to the SC



Pierce County SCD
126 2nd Ave. SW Ste. 104
Rugby, ND 58368
701-776-2207 ext. 3
www.piercecountyscd.org

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

DEADLINE to Order trees is January 5th, 2019

Deciduous Trees	# of singles	# of bundles	Deciduous Trees	# of singles	# of bundles
Almond, Russian			Hackberry, Northern		
Apricot, Hardy			Hackberry, Northern 2-3'		
Apricot, Hardy 3+'			Hackberry, Prairie Harvest		
Ash, Green			Hawthorn		
Ash, Green 5-6'			Hazelnutt		
Ash, Mountain			Honeysuckle, Arnold's Red		
Aspen, Quaking			Honeysuckle, Freedom		
Boxelder			Honeysuckle, Tatarian		
Boxelder 2-3'			Forsythia, Medowlark		
Buckeye, Ohio			Indigo, False		
Buffaloberry			Juneberry		
Caragana			Lilac, Common		
Caragana 4-5'			Lilac, Common 3+'		
Cherry, Black			Lilac, Pekin		
Cherry, Nanking			Lilac, Japanese Tree		
Cherry, Nanking 3'			Lilac, Vilosa (late)		
Cherry, Pin			Lilac, Vilosa 2-3'		
Cherry, Pin 3+			Lilac, White		
Cherry, Sand			Linden, American		
Cherry, Mongolian			Linden, Little Leaf		
Chokecherry, Common			Maple, Amur		
Chokecherry, Common 2-3'			Maple, Freeman		
Chokecherry, Amur			Maple, Freeman 3+		
Chokecherry, Shubert			Maple, Red		
Chokecherry, Shubert 3-4'			Maple, Silver		
Chokeberry, Black			Maple, Silver 3-4'		
Cotoneaster, Pekin			Maple, Sugar		
Cottowood, Siouxland			Nannyberry, Verbatum		
Cottonwood, Siouxland 3+'			Ninebark, Common		
Cottonwood, Native 4-5'			Oak, Bur		
Cottonwood, Native			Oak, Bur 5-6'		
Cottonwood, Silver			Oak, Red		
Cottonwood, Silver 3+'			Oak, Red 2-3'		
Crabapple, Dolgo			Oak, Red 3-4'		
Crabapple, Midwest			Oak, Swamp White		
Crabapple, Siberian			Olive, Russian		
Crabapple, red Splendor			Pear, McDermant		
Cranberry, Highbush			Pear, McDermant 2-3'		
Currant, Golden			Plum, American		
Currant, Black			Plum, American 2-3'		
Dogwood, Gray			Poplar, Prairie Sky		
Dogwood, Redosier			Poplar, Hybrid		
Dogwood, Silky			Poplar, Hybrid 5-6'		
Gooseberry			Rose, Hansen Hedge		
Hackberry, Oahe			Rose, Woods		

For office use only
Amount Paid
Check#
Date:

Pierce County EcoE

Gkenda Fauske of the North Dakota Forest Service talks with Rugby 7th grade students about the forestry ecosystem,. Glenda covers a wide variety of topics from identification, growth, and importance of this ecosystem.



Yolanda Schmidt of the NDSU Pierce County Extension Service demonstrates to the 7th grade students about range and grasslands.



Larry Brooks of Dakota College in Bottineau dresses the kids up in chest waders and sends them into the water with nets to retrieve living organisms in the water. Larry and his Biology class then demonstrate to the 7th grade students what each living organism means



d Day



Drew Johnson of the North Dakota Game and Fish Department brought examples of North Dakota Wildlife and some exotic wildlife from other areas for the students to have a hands on look at the wildlife that surrounds us and animals that are rare and how our interaction with each of these animals affect them and their habitats.



Kraig Motzko, NRCS soil Conservationist for Pierce County keeps the kids in the dirt demonstrating the different soil types, their locations in the soil plane and how this affects everything that grows.



Examples of what the Rugby 7th grade students found in the water. Minnows, shrimp, leeches and various water bugs.

AG DAY AT THE PIONEER

The Pierce County Soil Conservation and the Pierce County NRCS office participated in teaching an Ag Day Session during the Pioneer Village and Museum week long Day Camp Sessions. We took the kids out into the area right behind the museum to demonstrate to the kids the varying ecosystems, what lives in each ecosystem and their importance. The participants were then sent on a scavenger hunt to see what they could find, here are a few examples....



Spurge Hawk Moth Caterpillar: The spurge hawk moth is a European species. It was intentionally introduced into several western states and Canada specifically for the biological control of leafy spurge, which is also native to Europe. The caterpillars of the spurge



hawk moth feed on the leaves of leafy spurge, reducing growth of the plant. It was the first biological control agent to be released for the control of the weed, but it turned out to not be nearly as effective as several beetle species released in later years.



R VILLAGE AND MUSEUM



Monarch Butterfly Caterpillar: The monarch butterfly may be the most iconic North American Butterfly and is considered a iconic pollinator species. Each year Monarch butterfly's fly southward in late summer/autumn from the northern and central United states and southern Canada to Florida and Mexico. During the fall migration monarchs cover thousands of miles, with a corresponding generational re-turn north. Adult caterpillars eat only milkweed such as seen in the picture

of the caterpillar we found behind the museum. Adult butterfly's will feed on the nectar of many plants. They obtain their moisture from damp soil and wet gravel, a behavior known as mud-puddling.



Exploring
the world
around us!



Pierce County Soil Conservation Updates

This year has been and continues to be a MASSIVE year for the Pierce County Soil Conservation. Here's some highlights of the year that we've conquered and what we are working with:

- ◆ 149,045.06 linear feet were planted this spring of 2018. That's an increase from last years total which was 76,718 linear feet. A nearly DOUBLE increase in feet of 72,327.06. to put that in terms of miles..... That's 28.23 MILES of newly planted trees this year in Pierce County!
- ◆ We have moved 52 trees so far this fall with approximately 77 more waiting to be moved..... We normally *might* move 10 trees a year. Look us up on Facebook, periodically I have posted live video on what we do during tree moving and how the process works.
- ◆ Eco Ed day with the seventh graders
- ◆ Ag day at the museum
- ◆ There are numerous opportunities for producers to participate in anywhere from soil health seminars, rangeland seminars, etc. please contact the office and I can direct you to where these are happening.
- ◆ **WOMENS AG NIGHT! Call in to register NOW! Tickets are going FAST FAST FAST!!**
- ◆ Order forms for handplant trees for 2019 are out, one example in this newsletter.
- ◆ EQIP Applications closed October 19th
- ◆ NRCS Field staff has been working on CSP contract and field check out.

If you are a PROCUDER and are reading this newsletter, reply to the email you received it in with your address and I will send you a certificate for 1 free conservation grade tree!!

~Excludes all SCD and NRCS personnel ~ Only valid at the Pierce County Soil Conservation in Rugby

“Nature conservation can seem so remote. But in your own garden you can make a difference and you can enjoy that difference.”

NDSU Extension Service Upcoming Programs

November 8 – 4-H Awards Night & Sponsor Appreciation Supper @ Rugby Eagles Club

December 3 – Annual Cropping Decisions Series @ Farm Credit Services, Rugby 9:00 a.m.

A series of “Cropping Decisions 2018” meetings have been scheduled for Dec 3-6 across north central and northwest ND. Topics include Weed resistance issues, emerging diseases and pests, farm revenue and profitability, and market update.

December 6 – “Buy or Build: Evaluating, Buying, Renovating, or Building a New Meat Plant” Webinar @ Pierce County Courthouse 11:00 am. This webinar is from the Niche Meat Processor Assistance Network and will be delivered via Zoom video conferencing technology. It will include a panel discussion with 3-4 meat processors who have either purchased existing plants, renovated them, or built brand new facilities. Practical advantages and disadvantages will be discussed.

January 1 - Tyson Fresh Meats, JBS, Cargill, and Greater Omaha will require all feeders selling cattle for slaughter to have Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) training and certification as of January 1, 2019.

Jan 18 – Mar 29 – Master Gardener Core Course

The NDSU Extension Master Gardener Program is a volunteer service organization that beautifies communities, educates the public about gardening, works with youth and encourages conservation of natural resources.

Beef ration formulation assistance is also available.

For more information on these educational opportunities or services contact the NDSU Extension Pierce County office at 701-776-6234 ext. 5