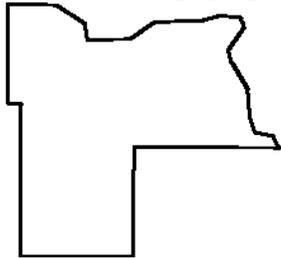


MERCER COUNTY



SOIL CONSERVATION
DISTRICT

Conservation News

Volume 32 No 2 1400 Hwy 49 N #102, Beulah, ND 58523 April 2012



The Birds and The Bees: *Celebrating Our Roles in Agriculture*



Thursday, April 19th
Beulah Civic Center
Beulah, ND

5:00 pm Registration
5:30 pm Supper
6:00 pm Program



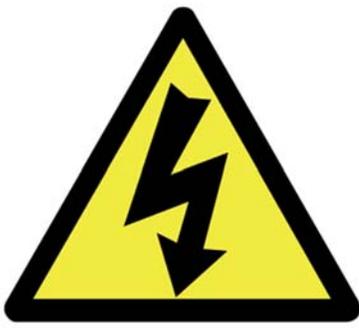
Ladies, we invite you to the Mercer County Soil Conservation District Women's Ag Appreciation Program. This evening is dedicated to the hard work and support women provide in agriculture.

We will have presentations on attracting birds to your backyard and the importance of pollinators in your gardens.

Everyone is encouraged to bring a household hint or recipe that they would like to share.

The evening is free of charge, but we ask you to pre-register. Call the Mercer County SCD at 873-2101 ext 3 or stop by the office before April 16th.





ATTENTION!

With field season here, the Beulah NRCS and SCD Field Office would like to send out a friendly reminder for all producers to call North Dakota One-Call **BEFORE** you dig. North Dakota Century Code 49-23 requires anyone who engages in any type of excavation to call and notify North Dakota One-Call center and provide an excavation or location notice at least forty-eight hours before beginning any excavation. NRCS and Watershed practices that fall under the excavation definition include ponds, wells, pipelines, tanks, and fences. Cost share payments **will not** be processed without this number. If you do not call before you dig, it is a violation of the law and it endangers everyone.

North Dakota One-Call can be reached at **1-800-795-0555 or 811**

Summer Camp Sponsorships Available

The Mercer County Soil Conservation District will sponsor students to attend conservation camps for the summer of 2012. The following camps are available for sponsorship:



North Dakota Wildlife Federation Youth Conservation Camp: August 5th–11th at the Triangle Y Camp, located on Lake Sakakawea near Garrison, for youth ages 12-15. The camp offers a unique opportunity to learn science, conservation and outdoor skills through hands on activities

ND Youth Range Camp: June 12-15 at the Logging Camp Ranch, located south of Medora, open to youth ages 13-18 with an interest in natural resources, range judging and having fun. A major focus of the camp is to teach youth the importance of range management through range judging.



The Mercer County Soil Conservation District wants to remind you that each of us has a connection to natural resources. The National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) has proclaimed April 29 – May 6, as Stewardship Week, marking the 57th year of the national event. The 2012 Stewardship Week is themed “Soil to Spoon.” Soil is the starting foundation of all the food we eat. As today’s farmers and ranchers work to produce food

for the growing population, remember that they are dedicated to using responsible land management practices to ensure a sustainable food supply and healthy land and soil for future generations. Materials to aid in the observance of Soil and Water Stewardship Week are available free of charge. Please call or stop in the office.

**Surplus hand plant trees will be sold the end of May.
Keep a look out in the Beulah Beacon and Hazen Star
for the exact time and date.**



Project "TREES"



The Regional Environmental Education Series or TREES Program is presented by Tom Gibson of Bottineau, ND. This program offers conservation education to ND kids through Tom's portrayal of fictional characters from years past.

Tom presented several programs to the Beulah and Hazen students on March 23.

Watershed News

By Kasha Hansen, Watershed Coordinator

Nine Townships Watershed still has extra funding to spend this year. We are looking for producers that would like to implement conservation practices this spring/summer. Maybe you were thinking of cross fencing a pasture, planting a cover crop or a grass/hayland planting. I can help you with the cost.

Spring Creek Watershed is moving along. There is interest throughout the watershed. It is not too late to stop by Mercer of Dunn County SCDs and let us know your ideas.

I will start water sampling in May and continue through September. This data will be evaluated through out the life of the project to see what impact the conservation practices have on improving water quality. Let us know if you would like assistance implementing conservation practices.

It's Tree Planting Time!



It's that time of the year again, time to start ground preparation for spring 2012 tree plantings. We will be staking tree sites the middle to the end of April.

- * Ground must be worked to a depth of six to eight inches and be free of large rocks and clods of sod.
- * The site should be free of grass and weeds.
- * The tree site should be kept clean once planted, weed barrier will be applied one month later.

Proper preparation on tree planting sites is the responsibility of the landowner/operator.

The District reserves the right to refuse service if sites are not properly prepared. You will receive a call a few days before we plant your trees. If you have questions, please contact the District office.

The tree planting schedule for 2013 is already filling up. If you are interested in planting trees next year, give us a call or stop in before October. We have several cost share opportunities available, please contact the office to see if you qualify.

Mercer County SCD
1400 Hwy 49 N # 102
Beulah, ND 58523
Phone 873-2101

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

District programs are available to all people, regardless of race, religion, sex, national origin, age, handicap or marital status.



We would like to thank the following Mercer County businesses for their sponsorship of our 2011 annual report which was published in the Dollar Saver: First Security Bank-West, Neuberger Oil Co., Napa Auto Parts, West River Telephone, The Union Bank, Sunrise Agri Services & Roughrider Electric.

Conservation Cuisine

By Carlee Elke, NRCS Soil Conservationist

Seeing all the producers in the field brings back fond memories of spending time with my Grandpa Glenn in the tractor while putting in the crop. Of course, every farmer knows having good cookies to go along with that ride is essential. Here's a recipe from my Grandma Cathy's kitchen.

Snickers Cookies

Cream together:

1c. Brown Sugar
1c. Sugar
1c Butter
1C. Peanut Butter

Add:

2t. vanilla
2 Beaten Eggs
1t. Baking Powder
1t. Baking Soda
3c. Flour

You will need 2 bags of 1# packages of **Mini** Snicker Candy Bars. Cut each mini bar in half and wrap dough around it to form balls. Place on ungreased cookie sheet and bake at 300° for 12-18 minutes.