

Conservation News

SOIL CONSERVATION
DISTRICT

Volume 36 No 1 1400 Hwy 49 N #102, Beulah, ND 58523 January 2016



2015 Achievement Winner Richard & Nancy Scheid Family

Richard & Nancy Scheid's farm is located south of Hazen in central Mercer County. Along with their son Lee, they own and operate a very diversified operation with both crop and livestock. The Scheid's use no-till farming, cover crops, irrigation management and have utilized prescribed grazing practices for over 10 years. In 2009, a permitted Waste Management System was constructed to background their calves. They have also installed several miles of shelterbelts, pipelines, and cross fencing to facilitate their rotational grazing. This family operation is striving to be sustainable for their future generations.



The Scheid's were guests of the Mercer County SCD at the NDASCD Annual Meeting in Bismarck. They received an aerial colored photo of their farmstead. We extend our congratulations to the Scheid's for their outstanding work in conserving our natural resources.

2017 Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) Applications Accepted

NRCS is accepting applications to help North Dakota producers implement conservation practices through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), the agency's largest Farm Bill conservation program.

Cost Share Is Available For:

- Cross Fencing, Pipelines, Tanks
- Tree Renovations & Establishment
- No Till
- Cover Crops
- Critical Area Plantings
- Range Plantings
- Portable Windbreak Panels and much more!



2017 EQIP Application Deadline is May 1, 2016

Ellwein retires after 40 years as District Supervisor



Ivan Ellwein of Pick City, ND was elected to the Board of Supervisors for the Mercer County Soil Conservation District in November 1974. He has served on the board for over 40 years. Ivan was recognized at the ND Association of Soil Conservation Districts State Convention in November.

The MCSCD appreciates Ivan for all of his years of service and his constant dedication to conservation in Mercer County.

Annual Conservation Poster Contest



The MCSCD Annual Conservation Poster Contest was held in November 2015. Several Beulah and Hazen classes participated and winners were chosen from each class.

Beulah Elementary 2nd Grade– Mrs. McKay’s class- 1st place– Sylvie Hansen, 2nd place– Aubrey Feil, 3rd place– Shane Schmidt. **Beulah Elementary 4th Grade**– Mrs. Zacher/Mrs. Greenschild’s class- 1st place– Leah Hager, 2nd place– Zofia Dostal, 3rd place– Trey Lewton. **Beulah Middle 5th Grade**– Mrs. Jensen’s class -1st place– Jenna Koppelsloen, 2nd place– Paige Wolf, 3rd place– Carter Thigpen; Mrs. Seibel’s class—1st place– Anna Klein, 2nd place– Kaydee Reich, 3rd place– McCoy Mohl; Mrs. Marten’s class– 1st place– Mariah Schmidt, 2nd place– Harys Beauchamp, 3rd place– Heaven Smith. **Hazen Elementary 2nd Grade**– Mrs. Oyen’s class– 1st place– Josh Kaelberer, 2nd place– Brady Braithwaite, 3rd place– Payton Weisz

CRP Workshop

General CRP Sign-Up: Dec 1-Feb 26



The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) turned 30 this past December. To celebrate this milestone, the USDA has created the General Sign-Up 49. CRP is one of the most successful conservation programs in the country. Pheasants Forever will be hosting a CRP Workshop for anyone interested in learning about the CRP program and the general sign-up.

Location: D'Andreas Hot Stuff Pizza
34 Main St. E
Hazen, ND 58545

Date: January 26, 2016
Time: 1:00 PM-3:00 PM

Speakers:

Justin Edwards-Pheasants Forever Farm Bill Biologist
Ryan Huber- North Dakota Game and Fish PLI Biologist
Holly Folk- FSA Program Technician



Welcome to Our New Employees

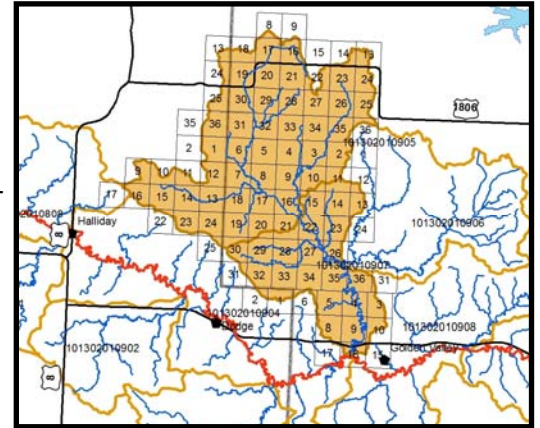
Kayla Cotton started as the new NRCS Soil Conservationist in the Beulah Field Office in October. Kayla is a 2013 graduate of Dickinson State University. She has degrees in Natural Resource Management and Range Management. Kayla is originally from Stanton, ND, but currently lives south of Beulah with her husband, Josh. She is excited to be working with the producers in Mercer County.

We are excited to welcome Brian Kerns as the new Mercer County Soil Conservation District Technician. Brian is from Stanton and has worked as a seasonal on the tree planting crew for the past three years. "The 2016 season is really shaping up and I am looking forward to getting out there and planting trees for the residents of Mercer Country." – Brian Kerns

National Water Quality Initiative, NWQI

NWQI is once again open for applications. This program was established in 2012 as a joint initiative with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as a way to address sources of water pollution including nutrients, sediment, pesticides, and pathogens related to agricultural production. If you operate or are a land owner in the Goodman Creek Watershed, you are eligible to apply for cost share for best management practices (BMP's) that will improve water quality. The primary resource concern for the Goodman Creek Watershed is water quality degradation.

From 2012 through 2015, there has been \$200,000 of BMPs contracted in the Goodman Creek Watershed to improve water quality. These BMP's include portable windbreaks, cover crops, fence, pipeline, tanks, wells, grassed waterways, and filter strips. For information about the program or to get an application stop in to the Beulah Field Office. To be eligible for the first batching period an application must be signed by **February 19, 2016**.



Scholarships Available

MCSCD is taking applications for 2016 Noxious Weed and Water Quality Scholarships. The scholarships are open to high school seniors and college students who are residents of Mercer County, North Dakota and intend to or are currently pursuing an agricultural/natural resource management/ environmental or related field at a two or four year university in the state of North Dakota. Scholarships will be awarded in the amount of \$500.

Interested applicants are required to complete the application form and compose an essay of no more than 500 words. Applications and essays are due to the Mercer County Soil Conservation District office by April 1, 2016. For more info or applications, please contact the office.



*Most Effective!
Longest Lasting!*



Plantskydd[®]
REPELLENT
DEER • RABBITS • ELK

Pre-mixed, Granular and Concentrate formulations are available for purchase in the District Office



Tree Row Mowing & Tilling



The Mercer County Soil Conservation District has expanded its services to Mercer County residents. If you are interested in having your tree rows mowed or tilled, please contact the District Office.