



# CONSERVATION NEWS

MORTON COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Volume 18, no. 2

## 2013 CONSERVATION ACHIEVEMENT WINNERS



*The Steckler's: John, Gloria and Aaron.*

John & Gloria Steckler & Aaron Steckler, St. Anthony, were named the 2013 Conservation Achievement Winners for Morton County.

John & Gloria are very conservation minded and have passed this on to their son Aaron.

The Stecklers have installed a large feedlot with clean water diversions and a solid separator included with their Ag Waste System. They are firm believers of no-till and seeding cover crops. They have also planted many acres of farmstead and feedlot windbreaks. They also have grassed waterways, ponds, pasture & hayland plantings, a planned grazing system, many pasture water lines and tanks, and a solar pump and tank.

The Steckler's will be honored at the North Dakota Association of Soil Conservation Districts State Convention to be held in Fargo in November, where they will receive a 16 x 20" colored aerial photo of their farm.

The Steckler's are one of the leading conservationists in Morton County and we congratulate them on their accomplishments.



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### SCD Supervisors:

Jim Hopfauf  
 Ted Becker  
 Duane Olsen  
 Rocky Bateman  
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### Advisory Supervisors:

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 Don Tanaka

### District Personnel:

Sherry Bender  
 Rachel A. Fast  
 Brandon Alveshere

### County Agent:

Jackie Buckley

### NRCS Personnel:

Michele Doyle  
 Paula Kvernum  
 Sharon Potts-Sayler

# Solar Power Being Used for Livestock Water Developments

## By Paula Kvernum, Soil Conservation Technician

Morton County has seen an increase in solar power systems because of the unavailability of electric power in remote areas. Solar systems have become more efficient and cost effective. Solar systems are not just for shallow wells anymore. The field office has been working with two new systems this year. The most recent well depth we have is 256' and this will be pumped into a large storage tank

and gravity fed to two different stock tank locations. When solar powered pumps are used, a minimum of three days storage is required in most cases. If the site is remote and not checked on a regular basis, the storage may be increased to seven days. If you are interested and would like more information on solar systems, contact the Mandan Field Office.



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## Facebook Training Scheduled

Do you want to start a Facebook page? Do you want to learn more about the privacy settings? The NDSU Extension Service Morton County will be offering three trainings about Facebook this fall. This will be a hands on training. Twenty laptops will be available for participants to use. Everyone is invited to attend. Class size will be limited. Jackie will gear the class to whoever is in attendance. Please call 667-3340 to register for the class.

Jackie Buckley, Morton County Extension Agent will be offering the training. Learn about:

- Privacy Settings
- Creating a Profile
- Finding Friends

- Sharing and Your Timeline
- Uploading Pictures and Videos
- Chat and Video Calling
- Messages
- Groups
- Facebook for Mobile Devices

Dates and locations for the training are:

1. **October 30, 2013** — Hebron City Auditorium, 1:00 p.m.
2. **October 31, 2013** — Morton County Fairgrounds, New Salem, 1:00 p.m.
3. **November 7, 2013** — Northern Great Plains Research Station, Bridge Conference Center, Mandan, 1:00 p.m.



# MORTON COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT WORKSHOP

## Winter Workshop "Humane Handling—Humane Behavior" Featuring Dr. Temple Grandin

### FEATURED SPEAKERS



**Dr. Temple Grandin** is a designer of livestock handling facilities and a Professor of Animal Science at Colorado State University. Facilities she has designed are located in the United States, Canada, Europe, Mexico, Australia, New Zealand, and other countries. In North America, almost half of the cattle are handled in a center track restrainer system that she designed for meat plants. Curved chute and race systems she has designed for cattle are used worldwide and her writings on the flight zone and other principles of grazing animal behavior have helped many people to reduce stress on their animals during handling.

**Dr. Susan Keller** is the State Veterinarian with the ND Dept. of Agriculture and the State Board of Animal Health. She has served in this position since 2004. Prior to being named the State Vet, she served as Deputy State Veterinarian and Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostician. She has also served on the Veterinary Medical Examining Board and owned the Countryside Animal Clinic in Mandan. Susan graduated in 1981 with a BS Degree in Animal Science and Industry from Kansas State University. She received her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine Degree in 1985.



**Larry Schnell** is currently the managing partner of Stockmen's Livestock Exchange, a Livestock Auction Market in Dickinson, ND, that sells from one hundred to one hundred fifty thousand cattle each year for the farmers and ranchers in western North Dakota and Eastern Montana. This past February, Larry was awarded the BQA Marketing Award for his work on the Auction Market Cattle handling video, and his work in cooperation with NDSU, BQA, DSU, and other entities involved in animal handling and animal identification.

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (Central Time)

Best Western Seven Seas Hotel

2611 Old Red Trail, Mandan, ND

### AGENDA

- 8:30 am - 9:00 REGISTRATION
- 9:00 - 9:100 WELCOME
- 9:10 - 10:15 **DR. TEMPLE GRANDIN**  
Improving Cattle Handling
- 10:15 - 11:45 BREAK & BOOK SIGNING
- 10:45 - 11:30 **DR. SUSAN KELLER**  
Inhumane Treatment & Animal Welfare & Jurisdiction  
Issues in North Dakota
- 11:30 - 12:45 LUNCH PROVIDED & BOOK SIGNING
- 12:45 - 1:30 **LARRY SCHNELL**  
Putting Animal Handling Practices into Practice: Why  
We should be Doing this
- 1:30 - 2:00 BREAK & BOOK SIGNING
- 2:00 - 3:00 **DR. TEMPLE GRANDIN**  
Animal Welfare
- 3:00 - 4:00 QUESTIONS & ANSWERS FOR ALL SPEAKERS

Dr. Grandin will also be speaking at the Mandan Middle School starting at 7:30 pm. There is no registration for this presentation. Dr. Grandin will be speaking on autism this evening. Seating may be limited.



SPONSORED BY:  
MORTON COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE



Pre-registration is **REQUIRED. NO WALK-INS.** To register for this workshop send \$25 per person (\$20 per student) by January 2nd, 2014, with this form to:

MORTON COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
2540 Overlook Lane  
Mandan, ND 58554-1593

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ email Address \_\_\_\_\_

All programs and services of the Morton County Soil Conservation District are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis, without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, marital status, or handicap.

## District Grass and Forb Seeding By Brandon Alveshere, District Technician

For those not aware, the Morton County SCD now has the equipment to do broadcast seeding on small acreages. We can efficiently seed areas of approximately five acres or less with our ATV-mounted broadcast seeder. Types of seedings may include, but are not limited to:

- Bunch grasses between tree rows for weed suppression and erosion control



- "Pollinator block" plantings of native wildflowers to promote pollinator health
- Yard seeding on newly developed subdivision lots
- Grass seeding on disturbed areas around farmsteads or in pastures

The landowner is responsible for having the site cultivated and leveled before seeding takes place. Any additional compaction required for achieving the correct seeding depth will be done by the District at planting time and is included in the per acre charge. Our 2014 seeding rate is \$100 per acre plus the cost of the seed and an inert carrier (e.g. kitty litter) if needed. Technical assistance on selecting the appropriate species to suit your needs and soils is always provided at no charge, whether we do the seeding or not. Please contact our office if you would like to schedule a seeding or would like more information.

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## Conservation Programs: EQIP and CSP for 2014 By Sharon Potts-Sayler, Soil Conservation Technician

The Natural Resources Conservation Service holds an annual sign-up for the Conservation Programs: EQIP and CSP. Those programs are offered on a voluntary nondiscriminatory basis. Applications are accepted year-round for those programs. Apply by the last week of October 2013 to ensure that your application is considered for next available funding.

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) promotes environmental quality and agricultural production. It is available to owners and operators of agricultural land and offers financial & technical assistance to install a variety of conservation improvement practices and trying out some new methods such as livestock water developments (water well, tank, pipeline), grazing systems (new cross fences, prescribed grazing), grass planting for hay or pasture, rangeland restorations, tree plantings, and cropland enhance-

ments (cover crops, residue management, nutrient management) and many others.

The Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) encourages producers to maintain existing conservation practices and offers opportunities to enhance the conservation level on working land. Financial assistance is available to eligible producers to conserve and enhance soil, water, air, and related natural resources on their land. This program is for owners/operators.

Those conservation programs, EQIP and CSP offer additional assistance for applicants who qualify as a Limited Resource Farmer/Rancher or a Beginning Farmer/Rancher. Interested producers should either stop by the Mandan field office or contact the office at 701-667-1163 Ext. 3 for more information.

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## Attention to all EQIP and CSP Contract Holders By Sharon Potts-Sayler, Soil Conservation Technician

Autumn is here now as harvest is moving strong. If you are a current EQIP and/or CSP Contract Holder, you need to keep in mind that you must get your practices installed by the schedule noted in your contract to remain in compliance with your contract obligations. There are a lot of practices that still need to be installed prior to freeze up. Please contact the Mandan Field Office at 701-667-1163 Ext.

3 prior to the installation of any practice. Be sure that the practice that will be installed meets our NRCS standards & specifications. Currently, North Dakota has administered 4,501 EQIP & CSP contracts covering 5.3 million acres, and Morton County has planned and contracted 47 EQIP and 15 CSP contracts. Any questions, feel free to contact the office.



**2014 Hand Plant and Replacement Tree Order Form**

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**PHONE NO.:** \_\_\_\_\_ **SOLD BY:** \_\_\_\_\_

<b>ALMOND, "REGAL" RUSSIAN</b> Conservation Grade	<b>COTTONWOOD, 'SOIUXLAND'</b> Conservation Grade	<b>INDIGO, FALSE</b> Conservation Grade
<b>APRICOT, HARDY</b> Conservation Grade	2-3 foot	2-3 foot
<b>ARROWWOOD</b> Conservation Grade	3-4 foot	3+ foot
<b>ASH, GREEN</b> Conservation Grade	4+ foot	<b>JUNEBERRY</b> Conservation Grade
2-3 foot	<b>COTTONWOOD, SILVER</b> Conservation Grade	<b>LILAC, COMMON</b> Conservation Grade
<b>ASPEN</b> Conservation Grade	2-3 foot	2-3 foot
<b>BIRCH, PAPER</b> Conservation Grade	<b>CRABAPPLE, 'DOLGO'</b> Conservation Grade	3+ foot
<b>BOXELDER</b> Conservation Grade	<b>CRABAPPLE, 'MIDWEST MAN'</b> Conservation Grade	<b>LILAC, 'LEGACY' VILLOSA</b> Conservation Grade
<b>BUCKEYE, OHIO</b> Conservation Grade	<b>CRABAPPLE, RED SPLENDOR</b> Conservation Grade	2-3 foot
2-3 foot	<b>CRABAPPLE, SIBERIAN</b> Conservation Grade	<b>LILAC, PEKIN</b> Conservation Grade
3+ foot	<b>CRANBERRY</b> Conservation Grade	<b>LILAC, JAPANESE TREE</b> Conservation Grade
<b>BUFFALOBERRY</b> Conservation Grade	<b>CURRENT, 'RIVERVIEW' BLACK</b> Conservation Grade	<b>LINDEN, AMERICAN</b> Conservation Grade
2-3 foot	2-3 foot	<b>LINDEN, LITTLELEAF</b> Conservation Grade
3+ foot	<b>CURRENT, GOLDEN</b> Conservation Grade	<b>LOCUST, BLACK</b> Conservation Grade
<b>BUTTERNUT</b> Conservation Grade	2-3 foot	2-3 foot
<b>CARAGANA</b> Conservation Grade	<b>DOGWOOD, 'INDIGO' SILKY</b> Conservation Grade	3+ foot
2-3 foot	<b>DOGWOOD, GRAY</b> Conservation Grade	<b>MAPLE, AMUR</b> Conservation Grade
3+ foot	<b>DOGWOOD, REDOSIER</b> Conservation Grade	2-3 foot
<b>CARAGANA, RUSSIAN</b> Conservation Grade	2-3 foot	<b>MAPLE, FREEMAN</b> Conservation Grade
2-3 foot	3+ foot	<b>MAPLE, NORTHERN SUGAR</b> Conservation Grade
<b>CHERRY, BLACK</b> Conservation Grade	<b>ELDERBERRY, AMERICAN</b> Conservation Grade	<b>MAPLE, RED</b> Conservation Grade
<b>CHERRY, MAYDAY</b> Conservation Grade	Conservation Grade	Conservation Grade
2-3 foot	<b>ELM, SIBERIAN</b> Conservation Grade	<b>MAPLE, SILVER</b> Conservation Grade
3+ foot	2-3 foot	2-3 foot
<b>CHERRY, NANKING</b> Conservation Grade	<b>HACKBERRY, NORTHERN</b> Conservation Grade	<b>MAPLE, TATARIAN</b> Conservation Grade
<b>CHERRY, PIN</b> Conservation Grade	2-3 foot	2-3 foot
<b>CHERRY, SAND</b> Conservation Grade	<b>HACKBERRY, 'OAHE'</b> Conservation Grade	<b>NANNYBERRY</b> Conservation Grade
<b>CHOKEBERRY, BLACK</b> Conservation Grade	2-3 foot	<b>OAK, BUR</b> Conservation Grade
<b>CHOKECHERRY</b> Conservation Grade	<b>HAWTHORNE, DOWNY</b> Conservation Grade	2-3 foot
<b>CHOKECHERRY, AMUR</b> Conservation Grade	2-3 foot	3+ foot
<b>CHOKECHERRY, 'SCHUBERT'</b> Conservation Grade	3+ foot	<b>OAK, SWAMP WHITE</b> Conservation Grade
2-3 foot	<b>HAWTHORNE, 'HOMESTEAD'</b> Conservation Grade	<b>OAK, RED</b> Conservation Grade
<b>COTONEASTER, PEKIN</b> Conservation Grade	2-3 foot	2-3 foot
<b>COTTONWOOD, NATIVE</b> Conservation Grade	3+ foot	3+ foot
2-3 foot	<b>HAZELNUT</b> Conservation Grade	<b>OLIVE, RUSSIAN</b> Conservation Grade
3-4 foot	<b>HONEYLOCUST, THORNLESS</b> Conservation Grade	<b>PEAR, 'MCDERMAND' USSURIAN</b> Conservation Grade
4+ foot	<b>HONEYSUCKLE, 'ARNOLD'S RED'</b> Conservation Grade	<b>PLUM, AMERICAN</b> Conservation Grade
	<b>HONEYSUCKLE, FREEDOM</b> Conservation Grade	

continued on other side

<p><b><u>POPLARS, HYBRID</u></b>            Conservation Grade            2-3 foot            3-4 foot            4+ foot</p> <p><b><u>POPLAR, LOMBARDY</u></b>            Conservation Grade            2-3 foot</p> <p><b><u>POPLAR, 'PRAIRIE SKY'</u></b>            Conservation Grade            2-3 foot            3+ foot</p> <p><b><u>ROSE, HANSEN HEDGE</u></b>            Conservation Grade</p> <p><b><u>ROSE, WOODS</u></b>            Conservation Grade</p> <p><b><u>SEABERRY</u></b>            Conservation Grade            2-3 foot            3+ foot</p> <p><b><u>SUMAC, AROMATIC</u></b>            Conservation Grade</p> <p><b><u>SUMAC, SMOOTH</u></b>            Conservation Grade            2-3 foot            3+ foot</p> <p><b><u>SUMAC, STAGHORN</u></b>            Conservation Grade            2-3 foot</p> <p><b><u>WALNUT, BLACK</u></b>            Conservation Grade</p> <p><b><u>WILLOW, GOLDEN</u></b>            Conservation Grade            2-3 foot</p> <p><b><u>WILLOW, LAURELLEAF</u></b>            Conservation Grade            2-3 foot</p> <p><b><u>WILLOW, PEACHLEAF</u></b>            Conservation Grade            2-3 foot</p> <p><b><u>WILLOW, SANDBAR</u></b>            Conservation Grade            2-3 foot</p> <p><b><u>WILLOW, SHARPLEAF</u></b>            Conservation Grade            2-3 foot</p> <p><b><u>WILLOW, WEEPING</u></b>            Conservation Grade            2-3 foot</p> <p><b><u>WILLOW, 'ENCAMPMENT' WHITE</u></b>            Conservation Grade            2-3 foot</p> <p><b><u>WINTERBERRY EUONYMUS</u></b>            Conservation Grade            2-3 foot</p>	<p><b><u>POTTED DECIDUOUS: (CONT.)</u></b></p> <p><b><u>APPLE, PRAIRIE YELLOW</u></b>            1 gallon            2 gallon</p> <p><b><u>BUCKEYE, OHIO</u></b>            2 gallon</p> <p><b><u>CHERRY, CARMINE JEWEL</u></b>            1 gallon</p> <p><b><u>CHERRY, MAYDAY PURPLELEAF</u></b>            2 gallon</p> <p><b><u>CHOCHEBERRY, BLACK</u></b>            1 gallon</p> <p><b><u>CHOCHECHERRY, COMMON</u></b>            1 gallon            2 gallon</p> <p><b><u>CHOCHECHERRY, SCHUBERT</u></b>            2 gallon</p> <p><b><u>COTONEASTER, PEKIN</u></b>            1 gallon</p> <p><b><u>CRABAPPLE, RED SPLENDOR</u></b>            1 gallon</p> <p><b><u>CRABAPPLE, THUNDERBABY</u></b>            1 gallon</p> <p><b><u>CRANBERRY</u></b>            1 gallon</p> <p><b><u>CURRANT, BLACK</u></b>            1 gallon</p> <p><b><u>DOGWOOD, REDOSIER</u></b>            1 gallon</p> <p><b><u>ELDERBERRY, AMERICAN</u></b>            1 gallon</p> <p><b><u>HONEYSUCKLE, ARNOLD'S RED</u></b>            2 gallon</p> <p><b><u>IRONWOOD</u></b>            1 gallon</p> <p><b><u>LILAC, COMMON</u></b>            2 gallon</p> <p><b><u>LILAC, LEGACY</u></b>            1 gallon</p> <p><b><u>LINDEN, AMERICAN</u></b>            1 gallon</p> <p><b><u>MAPLE, AMUR</u></b>            1 gallon</p> <p><b><u>MAPLE, SILVER</u></b>            1 gallon</p> <p><b><u>POPLAR, HYBRID</u></b>            2 gallon</p> <p><b><u>PRAIRIE ROSE</u></b>            1 gallon</p> <p><b><u>SUMAC, KONZA</u></b>            1 gallon            2 gallon</p> <p><b><u>SYCAMORE</u></b>            1 gallon            2 gallon</p> <p><b><u>WILLOW, WEEPING</u></b>            1 gallon</p>	<p><b><u>PRAIRIE FORBS &amp; VINES:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>BITTERSWEET</u></b>            Conservation Grade</p> <p><b><u>GRAPE</u></b>            Conservation Grade</p> <p><b><u>WOODBINE</u></b>            Conservation Grade</p> <p><b><u>HONEYBERRIES:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>BOREALIS</u></b>            2 gallon</p> <p><b><u>CINDERELLA</u></b>            2 gallon</p> <p><b><u>BLUE BELLE</u></b>            2 gallon</p> <p><b><u>INDIGO GEM</u></b>            2 gallon</p> <p><b><u>LARGE FRUIT TREES:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>APPLE, HARALRED</u></b>            5' +</p> <p><b><u>APPLE, HARALSON</u></b>            5' +</p> <p><b><u>APPLE, HONEY CRISP</u></b>            5' +</p> <p><b><u>APPLE, HONEYGOLD</u></b>            5' +</p> <p><b><u>APPLE, NORLAND</u></b>            5' +</p> <p><b><u>APPLE, RED BARON</u></b>            5' +</p> <p><b><u>APPLE, SNOWSWEET</u></b>            5' +</p> <p><b><u>APPLE, SWEET SIXTEEN</u></b>            5' +</p> <p><b><u>APPLE, ZESTAR</u></b>            5' +</p> <p><b><u>CHERRY, BALI "EVANS"</u></b>            5' +</p> <p><b><u>PLUM, BLACK ICE</u></b>            5' +</p> <p><b><u>PLUM, PIPESTONE</u></b>            5' +</p> <p><b><u>PLUM, TOKA</u></b>            5' +</p> <p><b><u>POTTED CONIFERS:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>CEDAR, EASTERN RED</u></b>            1 gallon            2 gallon</p> <p><b><u>LARCH, SIBERIAN</u></b>            1 gallon</p> <p><b><u>JUNIPER, ROCKY MT.</u></b>            1 gallon            2 gallon</p> <p><b><u>SPRUCE, BLACK HILLS</u></b>            1 gallon - 10-18"            2 gallon - 14-24"</p> <p><b><u>SPRUCE, COLORADO BL</u></b>            1 gallon            2 gallon</p>
<p><b><u>POTTED DECIDUOUS:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>ALMOND, RUSSIAN</u></b>            1 gallon</p> <p><b><u>ASH, GREEN</u></b>            1 gallon</p>	<p><b><u>WINTERBERRY</u></b>            1 gallon</p>	



<b>BARE ROOT CONIFERS:</b>	
<u><b>CEDAR, EASTERN RED</b></u>	Seedling
<u><b>JUNIPER, ROCKY MT.</b></u>	Seedling
<u><b>PINE, PONDEROSA</b></u>	Seedling
<u><b>PINE, SCOTCH</b></u>	Seedling
<u><b>SPRUCE, BLACK HILLS</b></u>	Seedling
<u><b>SPRUCE, COLORADO BL</b></u>	Seedling

<b>CONTAINER GROWN PLUGS:</b>	
<u><b>ASPEN</b></u>	Seedling
<u><b>BUCKEYE, OHIO</b></u>	Seedling
<u><b>BUFFALOBERRY, SILVER</b></u>	Seedling
<u><b>BUR OAK</b></u>	Seedling
<u><b>JUNEBERRY</b></u>	Seedling
<u><b>SEABUCKTHORN</b></u>	Seedling
<u><b>CEDAR, EASTERN RED</b></u>	Seedling
<u><b>CEDAR, NORTHERN WHITE</b></u>	Seedling
<u><b>JUNIPER, ROCKY MT.</b></u>	Seedling
<u><b>LARCH, SIBERIAN</b></u>	Seedling
<u><b>LARCH, EUROPEAN</b></u>	Seedling
<u><b>PINE JACK</b></u>	Seedling
<u><b>PINE, LODGEPOLE</b></u>	Seedling
<u><b>PINE, PONDEROSA</b></u>	Seedling
<u><b>PINE, SCOTCH</b></u>	Seedling
<u><b>SPRUCE, BLACK HILLS</b></u>	Seedling
<u><b>SPRUCE, COLORADO BLUE</b></u>	Seedling
<u><b>SPRUCE, MEYER</b></u>	Seedling

<b>PRICES:</b>	
\$ 1.75	Conservation Grade/Seedling
\$ 3.75	2-3 foot
\$ 5.75	3-4 foot
\$ 7.75	4+ foot
\$ 2.50	Container Grown Plugs
\$ 8.50	1 gallon
\$ 11.00	2 gallon
\$ 20.00	Honeyberries
\$ 30.00	Large Fruit Trees

Conservation Grade = 10-20" (pending specie & growth during season)

**RETURN THIS FORM TO:**

**MORTON COUNTY SCD**  
**2540 OVERLOOK LANE**  
**MANDAN, ND 58554-1593**

**HONEYBERRIES:**

The flavor of honeyberries is very hard to describe, so it may be best to just say it's a "mystery berry" flavor, reminding some people of black cherry and even grape or kiwi. With a very thin skin, the zesty berries melt in your mouth. These healthy berries can be eaten fresh off the vine or used fresh or frozen in your favorite blueberry recipes.

**BOREALIS HONEYBERRY:**

One of the best tasting and largest fruit sizes. It is an excellent berry for fresh eating as well as for jams and jellies. Recommend Cinderella, Aurora, or Honey Bee for pollinization.

**CINDERELLA HONEYBERRY:**

Cinderella Honeyberry is a compact grower. Plants have a rounded and upright growth habit, with clean, grass-green foliage and lovely white flowers in early spring. Cold-hardy plants can take temperatures as low as -50°F and not even a late, hard frost will kill your crop because the flowers are hardy to 7°F. Large, deep, bluish-purple fruits, which appear to be rectangular blueberries, come in the summer with a taste similar to a wild blueberry tinged with a little black currant. Spectacular when eaten fresh, but be sure to set aside some of your harvest for truly special jam or jelly. Best pollinator is Borealis.

**BLUE BELLE HONEYBERRY:**

Blue Belle Honeyberry produces large, deep blue fruit that grows up to 5' in height with equivalent spread. A unique member of the Honeysuckle family with blueberry-like fruit that ripens extremely early, at least 2 weeks before strawberries. The Blue Belle Honeyberry is a hardy bush, native to Eastern Siberia is virtually unknown in America. Blue Belle Honeyberry produces small, white, slightly fragrant flowers that give way to sweet and tasty fruits the size and color of blueberries that are great for fresh eating and making delicious jam. This Honeyberry prefers moderately well-drained, yet moist soil, and does well in partial shade in hot regions and full sun in the north. Plant at least one of each variety for proper pollination.

**INDIGO GEM HONEYBERRY:**

These are one of the preferred fresh-eating berries for its sweetness and slightly chewy texture. It is good mixed with other berries in processing. This variety is more susceptible to mildew and sunburn than Borealis and Tundra. It is a v-shaped, open bush and early to mid blooming. Mature height is 4-6'. Recommend other varieties for pollinization.

**"EVANS" BALI CHERRY:**

Evans Bali is much sweeter than other sour cherries. The dark red fruit is approximately 1 inch in diameter and is excellent for baking and fresh eating. Fruit matures in August and needs no pollinator. It is hardy to Zone 3. It bears lovely white flowers and bright red cherries.

(see other side for more descriptions of fruit trees)

**APPLE TREES:****PRAIRIE YELLOW APPLE:**

A large cold hardy apple tree suited for cold climates. Produces large amounts of sweet tasting yellow fruit late in the fall.

**HARALRED APPLE:**

A red selection of Haralson apple. The fruit is redder, earlier and sweeter than the standard Haralson, and without the common russetting problem many Haralson have. Retains all good qualities of Haralson: juicy, tart, firm, good keeper, extremely hardy and fireblight resistant. An excellent new variety for Northern US and Canada. Zones 3-6.

**HARALSON APPLE:**

A natural semi-dwarf tree that produces medium-sized fruit. Hard, crisp and tart. Good dual purpose apple. Often bears fruit the first year. Prone to biennial bearing. Keeps well, will store until March. Fine hardy, winter variety. Unsuitable pollinator for Haralred. Zones 3-6.

**HONEY CRISP APPLE:**

An exciting new apple that is sweet, exceptionally crisp and juicy. Stores well, up to five months in common storage. Has been rated equal to or higher in overall quality than Haralson, Honeygold and Keepsake in winter storage trials. Ripens in late September to early October in Minnesota. Zones 4-7 -- trial in Zone 3.

**HONEYGOLD APPLE:**

Medium to large, yellow apple. Fruit is crisp, juicy and sweet. Excellent for eating as well as cooking. Medium storage life. Similar to Golden Delicious but hardier. Zones 4-7.

**NORLAND APPLE:**

One of the earliest summer apples to ripen. Well suited to very cold regions. A productive natural semi-dwarf tree. Attractive color, small to medium fruit. Good cooking or eating apple. Very hardy, keeps 16 weeks in cold storage. Fruit must be picked before full maturity for storage or use. Zones 2-7.

**RED BARON APPLE:**

(Golden Delicious x Daniels Red) University of MN. Medium sized yellow-red apple. Crisp and juicy, sweet but mild flavor. Very productive and bears at an early age. Good for eating, pie, and sauce. Resistant to fireblight. Hardy. Zones 3-6.

**SNOWSWEET APPLE:**

Has a deliciously sweet, slightly tart taste. Slow to oxidize when exposed to air. Very juicy, sweet and crisp. Early to bear, very productive. Above average resistance to scab and fireblight. Is a new introduction from the University of MN. Zone 4.

**SWEET SIXTEEN APPLE:**

Medium sized red striped apple with crisp, juicy texture. Excellent sweet, unusual flavor -- like cherry candy. Outstanding dessert apple. Fireblight resistant. Can be slow to come into bearing. A University of MN introduction. Zones 4-7.

**ZESTAR APPLE:**

Summer apple with storage life of about seven weeks, sweet, crispy, juicy. A new University of MN introduction. Zones 4-7 -- trial in Zone 3.

**PLUM TREES:****BLACK ICE PLUM:**

A large-fruited dessert plum with superior winter hardiness. The large, round plums are blue-black with very sweet, juicy, yellow flesh. Fruit ripens in early August, about 2-4 weeks earlier than other plums grown in the Midwest. Naturally dwarf trees require a pollinator -- we recommend Toka. Zones 3-8.

**PIPESTONE PLUM:**

A "jumbo" hybrid plum from the Minnesota Fruit Breeding Farm. The immense fruit has red skin blushed with gold. The flesh is golden=yellow, sweet, juicy, clingstone and of excellent quality. Very hardy, ripens in August and a heavy yielder. Needs cross pollination by another red variety. We recommend Toka as a pollinator. Zones 3-8.

**TOKA PLUM:**

A large fruited, richly flavored hybrid plum. Fruits are reddish-bronze with a blue bloom, high quality and freestone with yellow, aromatic flesh and rich, spicy-sweet flavor. An excellent pollinator for Pipestone and other American, Japanese and hybrid plums. Ripens late August. Zones 3-8.



# Tips on Planting Trees

## By Brandon Alveshere, District Technician

Many people have the misconception that planting trees and shrubs is as simple as buying planting stock and popping it into a hole in the ground; in reality, there are many things to consider during and before planting.

**Planting Stock:** It is important to purchase quality stock that has been properly handled throughout the course of its life. Stock that has been exposed to temperature extremes or that has dried out at some point is less likely to leaf out or establish. To achieve the best results, always purchase your trees and shrubs from a reputable vendor.

**Soil Type:** Soil type is an often overlooked aspect of tree planting. Different species are adapted to different soils and may be stressed or fail to establish if they are planted in an incompatible soil type. At a minimum, it is wise to dig a hole in the area you are looking to plant in to see what type of soil you are working with. In general, loamy soils are less restrictive for species selection than clays and sands. Sands can be restrictive because of reduced available water, and clays are often affected by salts. To determine soil-species compatibility, visit [www.mcscd.com](http://www.mcscd.com) and view the "North Dakota Tree Handbook" link under the "Resources" tab. From there, click on the species of interest and look at the description under "Soils".

**Choosing species:** Selecting appropriate species to suit your needs is a crucial element of all tree plantings. Most times this is pretty straight forward, but it is something to give thought to nonetheless.

- To attract birds and other wildlife, use species that produce edible fruit such as chokecherry, juneberry, buffaloberry, or nanking cherry.
- For protection from wind and snow, using multiple rows of trees and shrubs, including at least one row of evergreens, will provide the best results. NRCS recommends a minimum of 5 rows with an evergreen or suckering shrub in the outer row.
- Many species can be utilized to produce fruit for canning or eating raw. These species are generally considered to be more prone to contracting diseases and pests than other commonly planted species; this means they may require extra maintenance. To reduce the risk of fungal diseases, plant trees far enough apart to provide for adequate air flow. To curb the spread of diseases within a planting, use of a non-susceptible species as a buffer between trees that are susceptible to the same disease(s) may be beneficial. See our website for more information on common diseases and pests and their prevention.
- There are numerous species that make good shade trees. Exercise caution when planting large species such as cottonwood, bur oak, and poplar near homes or other buildings for shade or aesthetics; big trees can tip or break in strong winds, causing extensive damage to property and posing a major safety risk. When selecting a species, it might also be helpful to look into the species' method of seed dispersal; some species produce large

quantities of seed and can make a mess on lawns and boulevards.



**Weed Control:** Good site preparation and weed control are crucial to the success of any tree planting. It is best to kill competing vegetation on the planting site a full year before planting, as this will ensure that beneficial subsoil moisture is not removed by existing plants before trees are planted. Where supplemental water can be provided, a fallow year may be less of a concern so long as there is sufficient soil moisture at planting time and weed control is maintained after planting. Weed control can be accomplished in a number of ways, including the use of synthetic weed barrier fabric, organic mulch, herbicide, or mechanical tillage. For most species, 3-5 years of complete weed control is adequate for establishment, however, maintaining weed control for longer will reduce nutrient and moisture stress on trees and is by no means a bad idea. For all methods of weed control, NRCS recommends that a 6-foot wide weed free area be maintained for best results.



**Planting Procedure:** It is important to handle trees properly during storage and planting. Trees should be kept cool and damp at all times. Soaking the roots of planting stock in water is an acceptable pre-planting procedure, but don't leave plants inundated for more than one hour. When the time comes to start digging, make the planting hole slightly bigger than you think you need to so as to ensure that tree roots will not be compacted or exposed after planting. If force is required to get the trees into the hole, or if the roots need to be folded to fit into it, the hole is too small. Stock should be planted deep enough so that there is half an inch of soil above the root collar. Planting too deep or too shallow is detrimental to the health of the tree and may result in early mortality. After planting, it is beneficial to tamp the soil around the tree to remove any trapped air. It is also helpful to give newly planted trees a thorough watering after planting.

# Farmstead Shelterbelt Renovation Success

## By Michele Doyle, District Conservationist

Beautiful mature farmstead shelterbelts enhance the summer landscape of Morton County. Many of the shelterbelts have survived long beyond the original life expectancy of the trees and shrubs planted back in the '40s and '50s. The effects of old age; the decades of drought, floods, and storms; and the more recent environmental stresses of disease, insects, and herbicide drift, have all done their part to greatly reduce the vigor of many shelterbelts. Dead and dying trees, large gaps in the rows, and loss of entire rows have diminished the many benefits provided by these shelterbelts.

But all is not lost. Utilizing the technical and financial assistance available through the Natural Resource Conservation Service and the Morton County Soil Conservation District, farmers and ranchers in Morton County are working to save and restore their farmstead shelterbelts. Natural resource conservationists are conducting shelterbelt inventories with the land owners and developing renovation plans. Together they identify what to salvage, which trees to keep. Forestry practices such as thinning, pruning and coppicing may bring a weakened tree back to life. Gap planting to fill spaces of missing trees can restore the full function of a thin shelterbelt.

The renovation practice that provides the most **(BEFORE PICTURES)**



benefit to assure replacement trees will survive and flourish is sod release. The deteriorated windbreak has allowed sun to penetrate to the ground, and grass sod has overwhelmed the trees. The grass pulls in soil moisture and nutrients robbing the trees and adding to environmental stress. Killing the sod releases the trees to use all available moisture and nutrients. Trees add height more quickly and reach their full potential more quickly.

A special windbreak renovation initiative through the NRCS Environmental Quality Incentive Program is finishing its third year of funding. Financial and technical assistance is available for both renovation and replacement within the shelterbelt. A number of Morton County producers have participated in the program. Their renovation activities are completed, and replacement trees have been planted. The 2013 spring was excellent for planting new trees so we are optimistic that the shelterbelt replacements will soon become established.

Call the NRCS/Morton SCD office if you have a shelterbelt in need of renovation. The staff will be happy to provide renovation advice, conduct on-site assessments, and explain the technical and financial opportunities available to you.

**(AFTER PICTURES)**







# EPA 319 MORTON COUNTY NORTHEASTERN WATERSHED PROJECT

By Rachel Fast, 319 Watershed Coordinator

## Morton County Northeastern Watershed Project

It's that time of year again. The crops have been harvested and you're starting to think about cleaning out your corrals and feedlots. You've chosen the fields you are going to haul manure on, and may have even contacted a custom manure hauler. With all these things to consider, there are two questions that you may not have thought about. How much fertilizer is in my manure and how much money am I saving by using manure? These two questions are what the Morton County SCD has tried to address.

For the past five years, the Morton County SCD has been collecting and testing manure samples from area farms and we have come up with some very interesting numbers. Figure 1 below shows the average of nutrients in manure samples collected for 2009 to 2013. Manure samples were taken from both beef and dairy producers in Morton County. Manure was tested for: nitrogen, organic nitrogen, ammonium nitrogen, phosphate, potash, calcium, magnesium, sodium, sulfur, copper and iron content.

Along with collecting manure samples, we also collected information on manure handling and the diet of the livestock. We noticed that some of the operations that fed a higher concentration of corn, corn silage, or distiller's grains occasionally showed a higher concentration of nitrogen in their manure test results. Further research will be needed to test this theory. Another thing to point out was the amount of nutrients in dairy manure as opposed to beef manure. Over 40 samples of manure were taken from beef operations, while only 12 manure samples were taken from dairy operations in Morton County.

### HOW DOES THIS ADD UP?

After doing a survey of area fertilizer dealers for price quotes on urea, we found that urea is selling for about \$0.22/lb. For the value of manure nitrogen, I used a value calculated by Ron Wiederholt of the Carrington Research Extension Center. His value of \$0.11/lb. was determined in

2008, so I estimated that it had increased by at least \$0.04 due to the increase in fuel prices. Even with the increase in fuel prices (\$0.22/lb. and \$0.15) there was a \$0.07/lb. difference when using more nitrogen instead of urea, in the long run that can add up!

For more information on the value of your livestock manure, please contact the Morton County Soil Conservation District at 701-667-1163 Ext. 3.



### MORTON COUNTY MANURE SPREADER

Just a friendly reminder, for producers who have signed up to use the manure spreader this fall; I will need maps of the field you are planning to spread manure on, soil test results for that field, and manure test results before you can use the spreader. It is very important that you get this information in as soon as you can so we can get a nutrient management plan back to you before you haul. If you are interested in using the spreader, it is \$250 per day. Also, NDSU will be wrapping up their manure sampling research in October. This means NDSU will no longer be paying for manure testing after October 31st. Please contact the Morton County SCD for scheduling the use of the spreader and manure testing. Our number is 701-667-1163 Ext. 3

**Figure 1:**

## 5 Year Average of Manure Test Results for Morton County

Animal Type	N lb/ton	Org N lb/ton	Am N lb/ton	P2O5 lb/ton	K2O lb/ton	Cal lb/ton	Mag lb/ton	Sodm lb/ton	Sulf lb/ton	Copr lb/ton	Iron lb/ton
Dairy	24.38	27.67	0.44	9.56	29.13	28.64	6.68	5.23	4.80	0.07	11.26
Beef	13.11	12.31	0.61	6.73	13.43	14.76	5.36	2.41	2.48	0.03	9.74

## MORTON COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

2540 OVERLOOK LANE  
MANDAN, ND 58554-1593

Phone: 701-667-1163, Extension 3  
Fax: 701-667-4106

Non-Profit Organiza-  
tion

U. S. POSTAGE

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MANDAN, ND

## RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

*All Programs and Services of the Soil Conservation District are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, marital status, age, or handicap.*

## RECIPE CORNER

### LAYERED PUMPKIN CHEESECAKE PIE

- 1 package (8oz) cream cheese, room temperature
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 egg
- 1 9-inch pastry pie shell, unbaked
- 1 1/4 cups pumpkin puree
- 1/2 cup sugar
- Dash salt
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon ground ginger
- 1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 2 eggs, slightly beaten
- 1 cup evaporated milk



1. In a mixing bowl, combine cream cheese, 1/4 cup sugar, and vanilla extract; beat until light and fluffy. Beat in 1 egg; spread mixture in the unbaked pastry shell.
2. Combine pumpkin, 1/2 cup sugar, salt, cinnamon, ginger, and nutmeg. Blend in the 2 beaten eggs and evaporated milk. Pour pumpkin mixture over cream cheese layer. Bake pumpkin pie at 350° for about 65 minutes, or until set. Cool pumpkin pie thoroughly.

3. Serve this great-tasting pumpkin pie with a scoop of whipped cream dusted with cinnamon.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### OCTOBER:

10th — SCD Board Meeting—9:30 AM,  
NRCS Office, Mandan

### NOVEMBER:

11th — VETERAN'S DAY — Holiday —  
Office Closed

14th — SCD Board Meeting—9:30 AM,  
NRCS Office, Mandan

17th through 19th — NDASCD Annual  
Convention — Fargo

28th — THANKSGIVING DAY — Holiday -  
- Office Closed

### DECEMBER:

12th — SCD Board Meeting—9:30 AM,  
NRCS Office, Mandan

25th — CHRISTMAS DAY — Holiday -  
- Office Closed

### JANUARY:

1st — NEW YEAR'S DAY — Holiday -  
- Office Closed

14th — WINTER WORKSHOP — 8:30 AM,  
Seven Seas Motor Inn

19th — MARTIN LUTHER KING'S — Holiday  
— Office Closed