



## Women's Ag Night

The Morton County Soil Conservation District held their biennial Women's Ag Night on March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at the Baymont Inn in Mandan. There were over 160 women from Morton County attending the event.

March 18<sup>th</sup> is National Farm Rescue Day. So, Tim and Rebecca from North Dakota Farm Rescue came and spoke to the audience about what Farm Rescue has to offer to families in need. Farm Rescue covers the states of North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Montana, Iowa, Nebraska and Kansas.

Marci Narum, late local news anchor, co-owner of Inspired Women Magazine was our main speaker. Marci talked to the audience about her life growing up on the farm and the search for her birth parents.

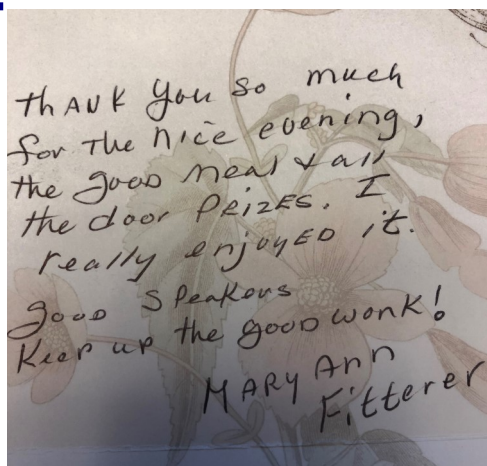
The Morton County Soil Conservation District also involved the local High School Ag Department by having them make door prizes for the event. They went above and beyond to make 30 different wood projects from cutting boards, yard games, welcome sign and so much more. Fun was had by all who attended.



"It was a great night. Loved all the door prizes the FFA kids made. How Cool!"  
Emily S.

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# New District Technician

My name is Thomas Osterbauer and I grew up in a suburb of St. Paul, Minnesota. Going out to my grandma and grandpa's hobby farm often on the weekends. After high school I moved to Fargo, ND in pursuit of a degree in Crop and Weed Science with a minor of Animal Science at NDSU. After graduating in 2017 I moved to Mandan, ND and worked for Dakota Agronomy Partners in Washburn, ND. I then moved to Flasher, ND after marrying my wife Tessa and worked for a farmer out by New Leipzig, ND. My passion for hunting, fishing, and the outdoors has really driven me in the direction of conservation. I believe it is a crucial aspect of being able to continue to do the things I love while trying to make the landscape of North Dakota a place where people and animals can get the most out of what that land provides. So, when the opportunity came up to take the job as the new District Technician for the Morton County SCD I was thrilled to be able to contribute. I am excited to start this new chapter in my life and look forward to meeting more of the producers in the area.



## \$25 VISA GIFT CARD GIVE AWAY

If you know the answer to the following questions email your name and answers to [Valerie.frohlich@usda.gov](mailto:Valerie.frohlich@usda.gov). We will enter your name into a drawing of all the correct answers for the \$25 Visa gift card. 2nd winner will receive two 3' to 4' trees.

Question #1: What is the North Dakota State Tree?

Question #2: What equipment does the MCSCD offer for rent to producers?

Question #3: Where is the MCSCD tree shed located?

Question #4: What percent does the 319 Watershed Grant cover for water development?



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# ROCKY MOUNTAIN JUNIPER

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Rocky Mountain Juniper is a small to medium tree native to western North Dakota, slow growing to a maximum height between 20-40'. Dark to light bluish green in color. It is the most stress tolerant species available for conservation use. Generally used in farmstead, windbreak and wildlife plantings. Provides excellent cover, nesting habitat, and food for many species of wildlife. Root system is shallow in moist areas and deep in dry soils. Common diseases include cedar-apple rust and kabatina tip blight.



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## Range Camp—Contribution

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The Morton County Soil Conservation District is offering a \$100 camp fee reimbursement to the first 5 attendees that sign up and attend Range Camp. This reimbursement will be paid out to the first 5 participants to submit their camp registration confirmation form to us. MCSCD will then pay out the \$100 to the attendee after they attend the camp June 15th—June 18th, 2021. You can submit your camp registration form to us by emailing it to [Valerie.frohlich@usda.gov](mailto:Valerie.frohlich@usda.gov)



### North Dakota Range Camp 2021

**THE PURPOSE:** The primary goal of Youth Range Camp is to teach the basic principles of range management, especially relating to livestock and wildlife.

**CAMP DATES:** Tuesday, June 15th through Friday June 18th, 2021.

**CAMP COST:** \$140.00

**CAMP LOCATION:** Hanson's Logging Cabin Ranch 16 miles north of Amidon. Campers must arrange all transportation to and from the camp. Transportation required during camp will be provided. For more information contact Kevin at [kevin.sedivec@ndsu.edu](mailto:kevin.sedivec@ndsu.edu).

# HIGH TUNNEL

The recent February deep freeze destroyed the plastic covering on many local growers' high tunnels. FARRMS has created the ARCH grant to assist market producers who have lost their high tunnel covering in the past year.

The ARCH grant is a cost share of 66% of the total cost, up to \$500, for materials and supplies to replace the plastic covering on a high tunnel.

This is a reimbursement grant. You will submit receipts showing costs incurred for the repair and replacement of your high tunnel covering. If we select your application, we will reimburse you 66% of the total cost up to \$500. Funds will be disbursed on a first come, first served basis until the total project fund of \$5000 is exhausted. The ARCH grant project will close on June 1, 2021.

For more information and to apply for the ARCH grant go to [www.farrms.org/arch](http://www.farrms.org/arch).



Apply at [www.farrms.org/arch](http://www.farrms.org/arch)

## ARCH Grant

Assistance to Replace Coverings on High Tunnels

Cost share assistance to market producers for weather related loss of high tunnel coverings. Grants for 66% of replacement cost up to \$500.

**FARRMS**  
LEARN GROW LIVE

## DROUGHT

BY: JON FETTIG

This is probably a topic that most of you are starting to get tired of talking about already, but I think it is important with the grazing season coming up that we continue to get the information out. As of April 1<sup>st</sup> the U.S. Drought Monitor reported that 47% of North Dakota was in Severe Drought (D3) and the area was continuing to expand. The drought monitor can be viewed at: [droughtmonitor.unl.edu](http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu).

North Dakota State University has done an excellent job of starting this conversation early with webinars that started in February called "Preparing Your Ranch for Drought" topics range from: the drought outlook, drought trigger dates for management, and grazing strategies, supplemental feed and forage options, water supply & quality, herd management, and managing stress during drought. They are continuing with the drought management webinars with a series called Navigating Drought. You can find this information at [ag.ndsu.edu/drought](http://ag.ndsu.edu/drought)

At this time, I think one of the main things we need to consider is delaying turnout. Due to the start of the drought last fall and dry spring conditions Kevin Sedivec expects at least a 20 to 25% decrease in forage production this year and that reduction will be even greater if pastures are grazed too early. For native grasses it is important to wait until the 3 ½ leaf stage and for introduced grasses they may be grazed at the 3 leaf stage.

A great resource for additional drought management strategies can be found at: <https://tinyurl.com/2rj2vj8r>.

# \$1,000 Prairie RC&D Grant

Community Innovation grants fund problem-solving projects that make the community or region better. Grants may be awarded to any member in good standing of Dakota Prairie's RC&D. Grant awards are capped at \$1,000.00 per application.

Project proposals must clearly identify how they fall into one of the three priority areas below:

1. Education
  - a. Must reach a large audience
  - b. Job development, environmental aspect, community oriented
  - c. Must fulfill educational purpose
  - d. Examples: Books, programs, field trips
2. Community Development
  - a. Infrastructure and educational equipment
  - b. Can be used to cover materials costs
  - c. Examples: Parks & Recreation, First Responders, Historic preservation
3. Natural Resource Conservation
  - a. Programs, materials and speakers
  - b. Demonstration projects
  - c. Examples: Ladies Ag night, Root boxes, Community gardens, Youth education

Proposals will be reviewed quarterly. Application deadlines are as follows:

January 1, 2021  
March 31, 2021  
June 30, 2021  
September 30, 2021

All final reimbursement materials (final report, reimbursement form and itemized receipts) must be received by December 31, 2021 to be eligible for reimbursement.

Selection Process:

1. Application filled out completely
2. Application reviewed by full Council
3. Award letter sent
4. Project implemented
5. Final report submitted – brief narrative, copies of receipts/invoices, reimbursement form.

This grant is available to any organization in Morton County. The organization can apply for this grant as long as they fall into one of the 3 priority area's listed above.

Some examples are Rural Fire stations using it for radios and flashlights. Community groups using it to start community gardens/flower beds. Community pools for new picnic tables & umbrella's.

If you have questions or if you would like an application to file out contact Valerie at 701-667-1163 Ext. #3 or [Valerie.frohlich@usda.gov](mailto:Valerie.frohlich@usda.gov).



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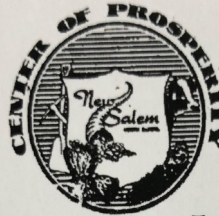
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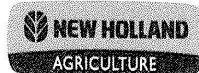
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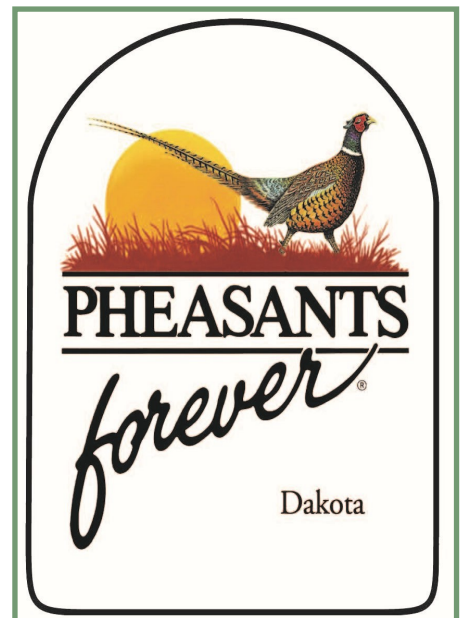
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### UPCOMING EVENTS:

MCSCD Board meeting are the 2nd Thursday of the month & are open to the public. Check Facebook for dates and time. Due to covid meetings are subject to change.

#### **May:**

31st — Memorial Day—Office Closed

#### **July:**

4th—Independence Day—Office Closed (July 5th)

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