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LAMOURE COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Fall Newsletter

Fall 2024

27th Annual Eco Ed Camp Held for 6th Graders

The LaMoure County Soil Conservation District hosted the annual Eco Ed day camp on September 4th at the LaMoure County Memorial Park. The 6th graders from LaMoure County schools of Edgeley, Kulm, LaMoure and Litchville-Marion attended the camp, totaling 64 students!

The goal of this camp is to provide hands-on learning about ecology the study of living things and their environment.





The camp includes 5 outdoor classroom sessions of Water Quality, Rangelands, Woodlands, Soils and Wetlands and a presentation from Jim Gerholdt and his "Remarkable Reptiles."

The students were tested at the end of the day with the top scores from each school receiving a medal and the school with the highest average receiving a trophy, which went to the 6th grade class of Kulm!





EQUIPMENT RENTAL

We offer several different conservation promoting machines through the LCSCD Office. We have 2 KUHN Manure Spreaders, a NEW 8ft Bush Hog Tiller, a Montana Post Pounder, a Great Plains no till drill, and a John Deere no till drill.

You can contact our local office to inquire or schedule out our rental equipment. 701-883-5344 Ext. 3

It is time to think about ground prep for new tree plantings. Our new policy states, any site currently in grass or sod will need to be tilled before freeze-up to be eligible for a spring planting. Soil should be flow-able and free of large chunks that have air pockets which prevent good root-to-soil contact. The removal of large rocks and roots, weeds, and debris also helps the planting process and thus bare root trees will establish quicker. Having your tree site prepared properly is essential for a successful planting. Below are two

great examples of ground prep done well! ------





NEW! Tiller

We now offer an 8ft Bush Hog rotary tiller! This new tiller ensures your tillage is at the proper width for our weed barrier fabric machine to install your fabric to perfection! We highly encourage you to have your 2025 tree planting site prepped the fall before!

\$100/ Day Charge

Manure Spreader

We have two Kuhn Knight vertical beater manure spreaders. Take maximum advantage of the nutrient value of your manure. These spreaders offer a wide, evenly distributed pattern, which aids in no-till opperations, soil health and help water quality.

\$350 / Day Charge

Drills

We have two specialized drills available for rent. The John Deere no-till-drill allows for precision seed placement in stubble or other untilled soil. The Great Plains drill has large seed box agitators and large seed tubes to accommodate fluffier seed. These drills are great tools for planting CRP, alfalfa, grass mixes and more.



Education & Outreach

As I look back on my second year as Education & Outreach Coordinator at LCSCD, it was a great year of expanding my knowledge in many conservation

practices! This past year, I successfully coordinated our local achievement banquet honoring the Schultz Family, attended the DAM meetings in Fargo, hosted our inaugural Mini Ladies' Ag Night, "Homestead Honey", worked with the Grazing Land Coalition to put on a successful grazing education workshop, assisted with tree planting, and hosted the 27th Annual Eco Ed Camp. Creating engaging events that promote conservation awareness for both adults and children throughout the year, and learning right along with them along the way! My goal for 2025 is to bring exciting new ideas and opportunities to learn about all the LaMoure County SCD has to offer!

LCSCD Ed & Outreach Coordinator

-Ellie Lux



We're Recruiting! The Farm Kid Paradox is uniting farm parents and safety professionals around a common goal: reducing risks and enhancing the benefits to children who live and work around livestock.

About: Raising children on farms can create an improved work ethic, enhance problem solving skills and strengthen a child's immune system. However, farming is one of the most hazardous industries in the U.S. with about 33 children seriously injured on farms and ranches each day. This is a prime example of what researchers call the "Farm Kid Paradox." By researching farm parents' perspectives on risks and benefits of having their children work with livestock, researchers hope to better understand how parents navigate this "paradox." While there are benefits to growing up around cattle, they are also a leading cause of injury. Existing safety resources



Farmers for Soil Health is a collaborative initiative led by the Soy Checkoff, Pork Checkoff, and National Corn Growers Association.



often don't seem practical to parents and may limit their child's experiences on the farm.

Until now, researchers have explored these risks and benefits separately, creating a gap between farm parents and safety professionals. In this project, researchers will be working with both farm parents and safety professionals to bridge the gap and make safety information better -aligned with the benefits of farm life.

This project will include interviews with parents of children who live on dairy and beef operations. Researchers will use the information collected to create safety recommendations that are effective and practical for farm and ranch parents.

Who: We are currently recruiting **beef and dairy farm parents** to complete a 45 - 60 Minute interview over Zoom or Microsoft Teams. The interview will be about the risks and benefits of different livestock based activities. All farm parents that live or work on dairy or beef operations and have at least one child 9-18 years of age are eligible to participate.

- Results will inform improvements to existing child farm safety materials
- Results will be presented in scholarly articles and presentations aimed at a broad range of researchers and policymakers.
- Results will improve professional understanding of the benefits of children's work with livestock.
- Participants receive \$25 for completing the interview.

Contact: Jakob Hanschu to join the study! <u>hanschu.jakob@marshfieldresearch.org</u>or | (715) 389-4141



From the Desk of Sue...

Yes, Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) has been found in LaMoure County, specifically at the rest area along Hwy 281 north of Edgeley. This is not great news because EAB is an insect that kills ash trees usually within 3 years. It is estimated that over half of all trees in North Dakota are ash trees. However, let's not focus on the negative, and instead look for something positive. EAB does not move very far on its own. It CAN move several miles, but most of the time it does not. From what



I understand, it mostly just moves from tree to nearby tree, or within the same tree. Hopefully, with a little diligence of not moving firewood or other cut wood, you can avoid this insect for many years. Likewise, be very careful about any vehicles coming on to your farm, campsite, or lake spot that may be hauling logs, branches or firewood. This is the single most important thing you can do to prevent the spread of EAB. Additionally, now is a good time to consider adding some diversity to your shelter belts if EAB does find its way to you. Contact me at the office or by phone 701-320-8724 to start this planning process.



We had another successful year of planting trees and installing weed barrier fabric! We had some rain delays and some crazy weather, each day almost felt like a different season, gotta love ND! A giant shout out to the tree crew for all their hard work on those cold, rainy and hot days as well! Darrell Prochniak, Rachel Waddell, Kenny Shultz, Tori Tangen, Kelsi Alber, Preston Arndt & Grayson Mattson made up the seasonal tree crew, along with Susan Muske and Ellie Lux, we got the job done!











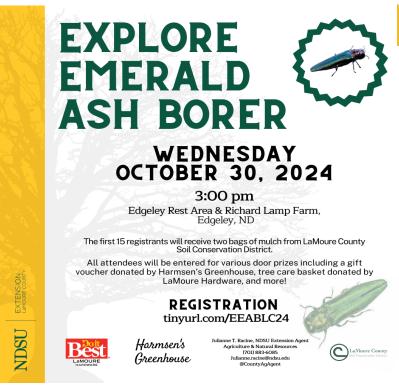
FAREWELL, DENNIS HOLEN 38 YEARS WITH FARM SERVICE AGENCY!



Words from Dennis:

"I retired from FSA as of Friday, September 27, 2024. I would like to thank all the producers of LaMoure County. It has been a pleasure working with you. I also want to thank the many businesses that I've worked with on FSA issues. Finally, I want to thank all of the current and former employees for their tireless, dedicate work in effectively implementing the many complicated programs over the years. You have all made the past 38 years very enjoyable and rewarding. Thank You. Dennis Holen"

Enjoy your retirement, Dennis! We will miss your humor and wit around the office!



ASH HOLES FOUND IN LAMOURE COUNTY (EAB THAT IS)

Remember the campaign "Don't Move Firewood"? This is the reason for that campaign. Emerald Ash Borer was found at the rest area north of Edgeley during August 2024. Monitoring traps have been in place for years but this is the first time an adult beetle has been captured in North Dakota. The ND Department of Agriculture, ND Forest Service, and NDSU Extension met at the site, and started inspecting the ash trees. Sure enough, it is there and probably established 3-5 years ago. Many if not all the ash trees at the rest area are severely infested. They will be removed and destroyed appropriately.

What you can do is this; Make sure your tree of concern is truly an ash tree. Visit "ndsu.ag/ashid" for a great video on ash tree identification.

Next, learn about the life cycle of the pest at "ndsu.ag/eab. More on the signs and symptoms can be found at "https://tinyurl.com/eabsignsE2938". If you suspect an ash tree is at risk, please submit your concern to "ReportAPest@nd.gov". And remember...Don't move firewood! This includes craft wood purchased at markets and/or online.

We own this situation and as a community are identified as the first to own it. Let's now identify as the county that guickly contained it. LaMoure County's NDSU Extension office (mine) has a LOT of resources to educate you. Please contact me to get this education so we, LaMoure County as a community, can contain this and be trendsetters. Our state has over 90 million ash trees according to Tom Claeys, ND State Forester. I think it is in PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.ALLABOUTTREES.COM our best interest to try and get on top of this, don't you?

Julianne T Racine, NDSU Extension Agent **Agriculture and Natural Resources**

LaMoure County | (701) 883-6080 julianne.racine@ndsu.edu



FXTENSION LaMOURE COUNTY

North Dakota Envirothon



From the Valley to the Badlands







About ND ENVIROTHON

The North Dakota Envirothon is a hands-on, problem-solving environmental education program open to high school students throughout the state. The goal of the ND Envirothon is to promote a desire to learn more about North Dakota's natural environment and to equip students with the knowledge and skills needed to apply the basic principles and practices of resource management and ecology to complex environmental issues.

LaMoure County Soil Conservation District will reimburse training costs for any individual wanting to provide coaching for an Envirothon Team. The goal of the North Dakota Envirothon project is to strengthen participants' problem solving skills by providing an opportunity for students in grades 9-12 to gain knowledge using science-based information. There are generally 5 members on a team, and one coach.



SCALING SOIL HEALTH — IN THE — PRAIRIE POTHOLE REGION

A REGIONAL CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Ducks Unlimited in partnership with United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is announcing a sign-up period under the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP). DU is accepting applications beginning 9/1/2024 until enrollment reaches capacity.

Scaling Soil Health in the Prairie Pothole Region RCPP is a voluntary program that contracts with agricultural producers to help improve soil health, establish grasslands, and enhance rotational grazing capacity on working lands in North Dakota. This program prioritizes the establishment of grasslands and enhancement of existing grazing systems. Areas with high densities of wetlands will be emphasized. Successful applicants will develop 3-5 year management plans to achieve objectives. Applicants will also be expected to collaborate with project partners to collect and share data associated with applied practices, and to attend learning opportunities to maximize benefits achieved from applied conservation practices.

APPROVED PRACTICES

- Grass Restoration (w/3-year deferral payments)
 Rangeland Planting
 - ♦ Hay & Pasture Planting
 - ♦ Conservation Cover

OTHER PRACTICES

- Livestock Pipeline
- Heavy Use Protection
- Pumping Plant

- Cover Crops
- Fencing
- Water Well
- Watering Facility
- Weed Treatment

For More informations or to apply contact Sam Krohn, Conservation Programs Biologist - Ducks Unlimited 701-934-1635 | skrohn@ducks.org

PARTNERED WITH:





BENEFITS

- Improves Soil Health
- Increase Forage
- Expand Grazing Systems
- Improves Drought Tolerance



LaMoure County SCD **PO BOX 278** LaMoure, ND 58458

Return Service Requested



Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage Paid Permit #4 LaMoure, ND 58458

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WE HOPE YOU HAVE A SAFE & BOUNTIFUL HARVEST

Thank Gou for Putting onservation on the Ground!

District Staff: Susan Muske District Manager

Ellie Lux Education & Outreach Coordinator

Board Members: Christof Just, Chairman Aaron Stroh, Supervisor Boyd Dallmann, Supervisor Lynn Haro, Supervisor Ann Moch, Supervisor

NRCS Staff: Amanda Brandt District Conservationist

Rani Llovd **Business Tools Specialist**

Office Location : 211 Main St • LaMoure | 701-883-5344

District Programs are offered on a non-discriminatory basis without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, marital status, or handicap. UDSA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

District board meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of each month, 7 p.m., LCSCD office, but are subject to change. Be sure to contact the office for the latest info. Meetings are open to the public.