

# *Stark and Billings* **SOIL** **CONSERVATION** *District*

U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Non-profit  
Organization  
Permit #12  
Dickinson, ND

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Return Service Requested

“Assisting Residents of Stark and Billings Counties”

## **2017 Annual Report**

*Assistance is available without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, marital status or handicap.*



### **2017 District Employee Award**

**MARVIN HAUGLAND** was selected for the 2017 District Employee Award. He received this award based on his 16 years of dedicated service to the District Tree Program. Marvin Haugland began his tree planting career in April 2001. In the 16 years that he has been planting trees for the District, Marv has so far planted 2,449,111 feet of trees or 464 miles of trees; which is longer than North Dakota. One can go from Beach, ND to past Alexandria, MN. The dedication that Marv shows to the

District's Tree Program started with his first day of planting and continues to this day. Marv is more than just a guy that sits on a planter and sticks trees in the ground. He not only promotes the District's Tree Program he also assists in all aspects of it in any way that he can. His love of trees, work ethic and attitude assures the District that the tree planting will be carried out successfully each year.

## EDUCATION PROGRAMS

### "Make a Splash" Water Festival

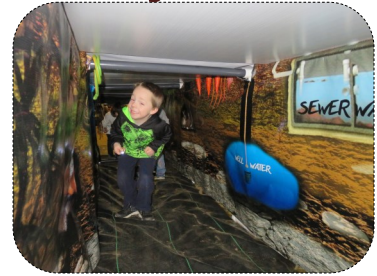
The Districts participated in the "Make a Splash" Water Festival held in September. The 5th grade students were shown the ground water model and the infiltration rate of water by **Kaylee Stein & Shasta Patterson** from the Dunn Co. SCD. **Bob Klein & Bonnie Twogood** demonstrated the surface water model and what happens after a rain storm.



### **S o i l s T u n n e l**



### **"Kids Day at the Farm"**



## TREES (The Regional Environmental Education Series)



**"Darin Ewe" host of a fast moving, energetic game show "Common Cents"**

Taking us back to the early 1800's, "Gunnar" portrays the captivating struggle to obtain adequate water in the everyday life of a settler.



**Experiencing a bit of the Lewis and Clark Expedition with this program by "Private George Gibson"**

## 21st Annual Diversity, Direction & Dollars



The **DDD Workshop** was held on January 4, 2017. Around 80 Producers attended the annual Diversity, Direction and Dollars.





***Stark and Billings Soil Conservation District  
2017 Overall Achievement Winner***



***Brusseau Family Farm***

**Chad and Carol Brusseau and their kids Amanda and Tyler have been awarded the 2017 Stark and Billings SCD Achievement Award. The Brusseau's farm is located SE of Dickinson. Their passion for farming and conservation is shown by the many conservation practices they have implemented. The Brusseau's farming operation consists of no-tilling a diverse crop rotation, raising crops such as wheat, oats, corn, sunflowers, canola,**



***Chad & Carol, Amanda, Tyler***



**soybeans, peas and cover crops. They have implemented enhanced nutrient management, integrated pest management and irrigation water management. They have also seeded sensitive and saline cropland back to grass. And they have planted numerous trees for farmstead protection and wildlife.**



# **Award Winners!**

## **Stark and Billings Soil Conservation District**



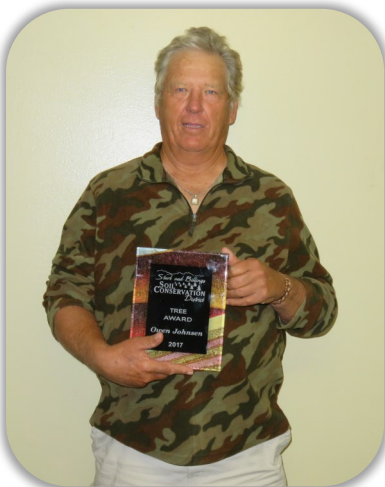
**OVERALL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**  
*Brusseau Family Farm*  
*Chad, Tyler, Carol & Amanda*



**SOIL HEALTH AWARD**  
*Gailen & Linda and Tye Schneider*



**FARMSTEAD AWARD**  
*Peter and Karen Reis*



**TREE AWARD**  
*Owen Johnsen*



**RANGE MANAGEMENT AWARD**  
*Jonathan Klym*



**ALTERNATIVE PRODUCTION AGRICULTURAL**  
*Fluffy Fields Vineyard and Winery*  
*Kevin & Deb Kinzel*



**POLLINATOR ENHANCEMENT AWARD**  
*Jim & LaVonne Bobb*



Vision West ND is conducting a food hub feasibility study through a USDA Rural Business Development Grant. This study is part of an overall strategy by Vision West ND to help communities diversify their local economies and build local economic resilience. The purpose of a food hub is to create opportunities to supply **locally grown** products into the **local** economy. Food hubs are more than CSAs and Farmers Markets. Food Hubs focus on product aggregation to meet a larger consumer demand such as schools, hospitals, grocery stores, restaurants, etc.

The USDA defines a food hub as: “a business or organization that actively manages the aggregation, distribution, and marketing of source-identified food products primarily from local and regional producers to strengthen their ability to satisfy wholesale, retail, and institutional demand.”



Food hubs can:

- Provide a link between farmers, producers, and buyers.
- Give individual farmers and producers the means to market and sell their products together as one larger entity, allowing them the opportunity to sell to high-volume buyers.
- Offer farmers and producers the ability to receive fair and consistent pricing for their products.
- Provide larger buyers with a supplier that can, not only meet high levels of demand, but can also consistently provide fresh local foods.
- Educate buyers about food and facilitate information flow and sharing.
- Help farmers extend their season which, in turn, helps provide buyers with a more consistent supply of product.

Please help us take a look at this opportunity for southwestern North Dakota by completing the following survey for local producers.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VWNDProducers>

## 2017 TREE PROGRAM

Our weed barrier crew applied **306,338** feet of black fabric in Stark, Billings and Dunn Counties.



## Tree Planting



**Bob Klein & Braden Beerbower  
&  
Marvin Haugland & Rocky Hushka**



Over **175,050** linear feet of trees were machine planted in Stark and Billings Counties in 2017.