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Return Service Requested

“Assisting Residents of Stark and Billings Counties”

2018 Annual Report

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



ANNIVERSARY

On January 28, 1943

Central Stark SCD's first meeting was at the Soil Conservation Service office in Dickinson. The District supervisors were: Henry

Biel Jr., Lefor; Kenneth Dorhmann, Taylor; and Carl Kuhn, Hebron.

On January 29, 1943 Western Stark SCD's first meeting was at the Soil Conservation Service office in Dickinson. The District supervisors were: Joe V. Ridl, Dickinson; Nick Oe, Belfield; and Julius H. Larsen, Belfield.

On the 7th day of November, 1956 land occupiers living in townships in Billings county lying east of the Little Missouri river filed a petitions with the Board of Supervisors of the Western Stark Soil Conservation District requesting their territory be included in the Western Stark Soil Conservation District.

December 19, 1957 a resolution was filed with the Secretary of State asking that the name of Western Stark Soil Conservation District be changed to Western Soil Conservation District.

Central Stark and Western Soil Conservation Districts have been operating as individual districts and working together jointly with equipment and staff. After the primary voting in June 2016, the two Districts were consolidated into one district.

Creating the: Stark and Billings Soil Conservation District.

1943 TO 2018

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

"Kids Day at the Farm"



The kids received a flashlight to go through a soils tunnel to see what is underground. Approximately 1600 kids went through.

"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 by **Kaylee Stein & Shasta Patterson & Andrew Sampel** from the Dunn Co. SCD. **Bob Klein & Bonnie Twogood** demonstrated the surface water model and what happens after a rain storm. **Ruth Anderson**, NRCS Soil Scientist, used a rainfall simulator to demonstrate water erosion under different land management practices. **Tom Gibson**, as Pete Bogg and his Amazing Water Machine shared some ways to practice conserving water.



22nd Annual Diversity, Direction & Dollars



The **DDD Workshop** was held on January 4, 2018. Around 100 Producers attended the annual Diversity, Direction and Dollars.



***Stark and Billings Soil Conservation District
2018 Overall Achievement Winner***



***Hoerner Family Farm
Pete & Deb Hoerner***

The Hoerner Family Farm is the 2018 Overall Achievement Winner for the Stark and Billings SCD. The Hoerner's have installed numerous pipelines, tanks and cross fencing to facilitate and implement a prescribed grazing system.



They have adapted no-till farming practices with a diverse cropping system along with nutrient and pest management and have incorporated cover crops to improve soil health. Throughout the years the Hoerner's have planted and maintained trees for livestock protection and energy conservation.

Award Winners!

Stark and Billings Soil Conservation District

TREE AWARD

Daryl & Sheila Kostelecky & Family



OVERALL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

*Hoerner Family Farm
Pete & Deb Hoerner*



FARMSTEAD AWARD

*John & Marsha
Wieglanda*



SOIL HEALTH AWARD

Glenn & Vicky Gullickson



PARTNERING FOR CONSERVATION AWARD

*Medora Grazing Association
Wes Obrigewitch and Rene Fick*

WEED BARRIER IS AN AID..... **NOT A CURE - ALL**

PROS of Weed Barrier

- ❑ Your job of weed control is considerably less with weed barrier
- ❑ Weed barrier will hold moisture longer than if the ground was bare
- ❑ Trees have a higher rate of survival than with-out weed barrier

CONS of Weed Barrier

- ❑ The fabric does not biodegrade and the fabric surrounding the trees at minimum will need to be pulled or cut away from the tree trunk as the tree grows.

Myths of Weed Barrier

- ❑ With weed barrier you do not have to maintain the weeds in the tree hole. TRUTH: Your newly planted trees still need you to regularly weed.
- ❑ The weed barrier will biodegrade. TRUTH: While it will become considerably weaker, it does not degrade.

What happens when you have weed barrier applied?

- ❑ When we lay the weed barrier we will cut a hole large enough for a 5-6 year old tree trunk.

- ❑ **YOU NEED TO WATER YOUR TREES**
.... . Especially on dry years



WANT TO PLANT TREES IN 2020?

You need to come into the office and start planning your tree planting now! Our technician will assist you in selecting appropriate trees for your soil and needs. The area where the trees will be planted needs to be worked this year (2019).



2018 TREE PROGRAM

Weed Barrier crew applied **232,175** feet of black fabric in Stark, Billings and Dunn Counties.



Tree Planting



**Brett
Fischer
&
Braden
Beerbower**

AND

**Marvin
Haugland
&
Rocky
Hushka**



194,424 linear feet of trees were machine planted in Stark and Billings Counties in 2018.

CONSERVATION DELIVERY STREAMLINING INITIATIVE CLIENT GATEWAY

United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service



What is the Conservation Client Gateway?

Conservation Client Gateway is a new NRCS public website that provides individual landowners and land users the option to request conservation technical and financial assistance from NRCS.

Through Client Gateway, individual clients can also access conservation program financial assistance applications and contracts, and conservation plans and track payments due them.

Client Gateway Benefits

Client Gateway is a benefit to both clients and the NRCS Field Office staff.

- Requests can be made by the client and automatically sent to the NRCS Field Office where the land in the request is located
- Email notification are sent to the client and field office staff when requests have been submitted
- Documents can be electronically signed on-line by the client
- Financial assistance can be applied for on-line

All this can save gas and time on the part of the client and the field office staff.

Visit the Conservation Client Gateway website at
<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/clientgateway>

Choose the “Get Started Button” on
how to access the system for the first
time

If you already have access, choose
the login button

