

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

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“Assisting Residents of Stark and Billings Counties”

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Non-profit  
Organization  
Permit #12  
Dickinson, ND

## **2019 Annual Report**

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

**Bob Klein, received the 2019 District Employee Award at the 2019 State Convention, for his efforts in promoting soil and water conservation. Bob began his journey as District Technician with the Central Stark and Western Soil Conservation Districts in February of 2007.**



CONGRATULATIONS



**STATE 2019 DISTRICT  
EMPLOYEE AWARD**  
**Congratulations Bob and Thank  
You for all your hard work!!**



## EDUCATION PROGRAMS

### "Kids Day at the Farm"



The Soils Tunnel gives kids a peek at what lives underground.

### "PROJECT TREES"

(The Regional Environmental Education Series)



"SAM TING" teaches natural resource conservation awareness through the story of the weasel family.

"Private George Gibson" shares his experience from the Lewis & Clark Expedition.

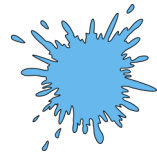


### "Make A Splash"

### Water Festival



Bob Klein & Bonnie Twogood demonstrated the surface water model and what happens after a rain storm.



Tom Gibson as Gunner demonstrated his amazing water machine and how water will evaporate .

23rd Annual Diversity, Direction & Dollars held on January 15, 2019



**Diversity, Direction & Dollars**  
Agriculture Forum Sponsors

Agri Insurance Inc. -Beach  
American Bank Center  
-Dickinson  
Arysta LifeScience  
BASF  
Bayer Crop Science  
Beach Coop Elevator  
Choice Financial Bank  
-Dickinson  
CHS - Southwest Grain  
Commercial Bank of Mott

Corteva Agriscience  
Dekalb/Asgrow  
Dickinson Area Chamber of  
Commerce Ag Committee  
FMC  
Farm Credit Services -Dickinson  
Fitterer Sales -New England  
Helena Chemical Company  
-Dickinson  
KDIX Radio AM 1230  
Missouri West Seeds -Belfield  
Mosaic

Mott Equity Exchange  
Natural Resources  
Conservation Service  
NDSU Extension Service:  
Adams, Bowman, Dunn,  
Golden Valley, Hettinger, Slope,  
& Stark-Billings Counties  
North Dakota Barley Council  
Northern Pulse Growers  
Association  
Quality Quick Print  
Ramada Grand Dakota Lodge

Scranton Equity  
Slope Electric Coop. Inc.  
-New England  
Soil Conservation Districts:  
Dunn, Golden Valley,  
Slope/Hettinger, Stark  
and Billings Counties  
Stark-Billings Ag  
Improvement Association  
Syngenta  
Western Coop. Credit Union  
-Dickinson  
Wilbur Ellis - Mott

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***Stark and Billings Soil Conservation District  
2019 Overall Achievement Winner  
Jerry & Jackie Anheluk***

**The Anheluk Family Ranch was selected for the 2019 Overall Achievement Winner for the Stark and Billings Soil Conservation District.**

**Over the years the Jerry and Jackie have been progressive in utilizing the services offered by the Soil Conservation District and NRCS to enhance and improve their farming and ranching operation. They have adopted minimum till farming and incorporated the use of cover crops to improve their soil health and crop diversity. Seeded cropland back to grass for forage production and grazing, installed cross fencing along with livestock pipelines, water wells, and watering facilities to enhance their grazing distribution and grazing management and improve water**



**quality for their livestock and the area wildlife.**

**Decommissioned abandoned wells and installed a spill containment facility to prevent contamination of ground and surface water.**

**The Anheluk's utilize portable windbreak panels for livestock protection during winter feeding on cropland for nutrient management and water quality enhancement.**

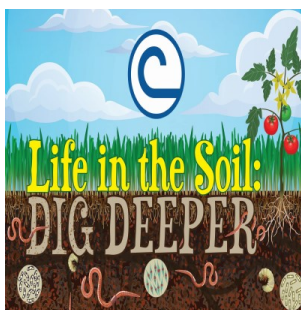


# Award Winners!

## Stark and Billings Soil Conservation District



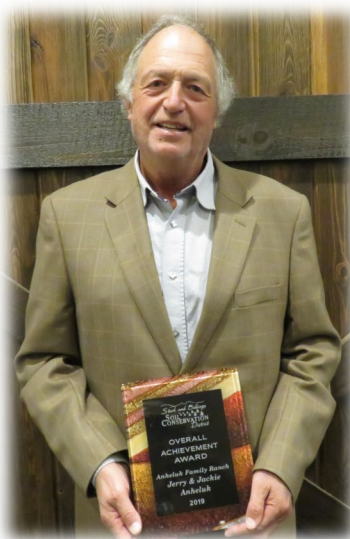
**TREE AWARD**  
*Eddy & Beth Dvorak*



**SOIL HEALTH AWARD**  
*Russell & JoAnn Hoff*



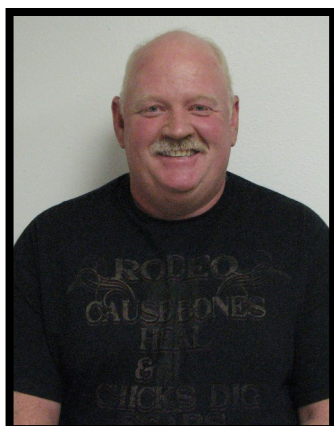
**COMPOST MANAGEMENT AWARD**  
*Stockmen's Livestock Exchange  
Larry & Judy Schnell*



**OVERALL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**  
*Anheluk Family Ranch*



**RANGE MANAGEMENT AWARD**  
*Clint & Peggy Ridl*



The Board and staff would like to thank Ron Decker for his dedicated service over the years and the accomplishments that he helped bring about. Ron served as an elected supervisor for the Western Soil Conservation District from 2005 to 2016.

Ron then served on the Stark and Billings SCD from 2017 to 2019.

**THANK YOU RON!**





## TREES ARE AN INVESTMENT

Trees are an ongoing effort to make a successful planting. Though a lot of work, the reward is worth it. It is what you make of it.

It starts with tree planning and selecting the best soils possible, plus the right trees for the right soil. Then it's up to you the producer to work the location into a garden like atmosphere.

Tillage with a minimum of 6 inches, free of all sod and weed. Tillage should be done 1 year prior to planting and should be reworked in the spring of the year. A tractor is required to pull the tree planter, but not the weed barrier machine.

Trees should be straightened and packed after trees are installed. It takes a little time but it improves the chances of survival. After trees have been stomped the ridges should be driven down either with a small tractor or a four wheeler, the ground should be ready for weed barrier if being applied.

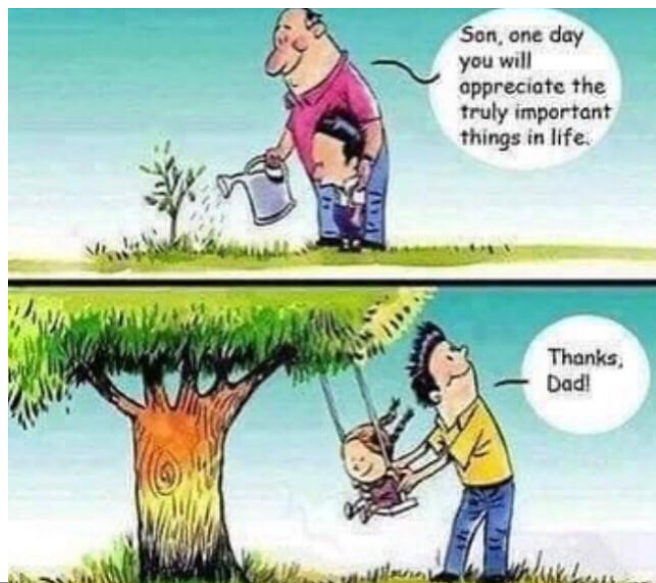
Watering of the trees is a big plus right after planting and during the season.

Warm season grasses could be planted between the rows with weed barrier for cooler soil temperatures and taller grasses for wind protection and snow catch.

Trees should be kept clear of grasses and weeds, even with weed barrier some grasses will grow at the trunk of the trees.

If located near any good water source drip emitters are good investments.

**We do staking of plots and tree rows if you need help with the design.**



## 2019 TREE PROGRAM

**Weed Barrier** crew applied **276,801** feet of black fabric in Stark, Billings and Dunn Counties.



**Tree Planting** crews planted **179,775** linear feet of trees by machine in Stark and Billings Counties in 2019.



Check out our  
website:  
**[starkandbillingscd.com](http://starkandbillingscd.com)**  
Order trees on-line  
View the ND Tree Handbook



## Grass Drill for Rent



The drill rents  
for \$10/acre  
with a \$100  
deposit. Call  
(701) 225-3811  
Ext#3 for  
available dates.

# WELCOME



**CHAD BRUSSEAU** is our new Stark and Billings SCD Supervisor. Chad Brusseau has been farming since 2007, while also working full time for Corteva Agrisciences for the past 31 years. Chad, his wife Carol, and children Amanda and Tyler grow wheat, corn, sunflowers and occasionally oats and soybeans when it fits into his no-till farming practices and rotation. Chad has been actively working with the NRCS, through the EQIP program and is currently involved in a 5 year CSP program. The Brusseau farm is in its second generation and both generations have planted numerous trees around the farmstead established by his parents, Judeen and Delores Brusseau.

***“Understanding the soil and soil health are the next big advancements in crop production and revenue increases.”***

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Welcome **TY NORDBY**, from Amidon, ND. He started working for the Stark and Billings Soil Conservation District in February as a District Technician.

Ty recently graduated from DSU with a major in Integrated Farm and Ranch Management and a minor in Agribusiness. He grew up on his family ranch where his parents also have an ABS business.

Ty's hobbies include hunting, being outdoors, and spending time with friends and family.



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Welcome **MIKE GERBIG**.



In September of 2019, I started as the Conservation Delivery Unit Supervisor for the Badlands CDU. This position was created by NRCS's reorganization efforts. Originally from Dickinson, I have worked for NRCS for over seventeen years. My previous work experience has consisted of serving as Soil Conservationist in Bismarck, Steele and Ellendale, as District Conservationist in the Steele and Carson field offices and most recently as a Range Conservationist in the Dickinson Area Office. In my spare time I enjoy working on my family's ranching operation and attending my kids' various activities. I am now located in the Dickinson field office, but I also spend many of my days in Beach and Killdeer. I look forward to working with the farmers and ranchers in both Stark and Billings counties.

**NRCS RESTRUCTURE** In July of 2019 NRCS reorganized its structure in North Dakota. NRCS's previous structure consisted of field offices in most counties which were supported by 3 area offices throughout the state. This structure worked very well when NRCS staffing levels were static. However, as the staffing levels have changed, NRCS was forced to look at alternative methods for servicing its customers. NRCS's new structure eliminated the area offices and now consists of several field offices working together to service the customers in a larger area. Locally, the Beach, Killdeer and Dickinson field offices were combined to create the Badlands Conservation Delivery Unit. The field offices in Beach, Killdeer and Dickinson will all remain open, and the staff in these offices will be working together to implement conservation practices and programs. The service you receive in each office shouldn't change. However, you may be contacted by a staff member from any of those field offices or see several new faces when you visit the office.