

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

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

2493 4th Ave West, Room C
Dickinson, ND 58601
Phone: 701-495-7689

Email: bonnie.twogood@nd.nacdnet.net
Website: www.starkandbillingsgcd.com

“Assisting Residents of Stark and Billings Counties”

Return Service Requested

August 2019

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

Grass Drill for Rent



The Stark and Billings Soil Conservation District

Will be providing a 10-foot John Deere BD1110 grass drill for rent. The drill rents for \$10/acre with a \$100 deposit. The minimum charge for the rental of the drill is \$100 nonrefundable.

Please call (701) 225-3811 Ext#3 for available dates.

Payment, rental agreement and map with acres to be seeded will be needed before renting.

WELCOME SUSAN!

Susan Hepper has joined the NRCS team as an administrative assistant working in the Billings, Stark and Dunn counties. She has worked many years in an administration and enjoys working within agriculture. Being a lifelong resident of North Dakota; she and her husband, Kurt Froelich (Billings/Stark County Ag Extension Agent) live in the county and enjoy their horses and cattle which are part of Froelich Legacy



Quarter Horses and the Froelich ranch. In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with her daughters Samantha, Kara and Kara's husband Tyler.

Financial Assistance to Plant Trees!



Soil Conservation District in North Dakota have been awarded funds through the ND Heritage Fund to assist landowners with the cost of tree planting. A landowner is eligible to receive 75% cost share of the actual project cost of machine planting trees and installing weed barrier fabric.

APPLICATIONS DUE BY AUGUST 23, 2019

To apply contact the Stark and Billings Soil Conservation District at the USDA Service Center, 2493 4th Ave West, Dickinson, ND 58601 or call # (701) 225-3811 Ext#3.



2020 TREE PLANTING

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN MACHINE PLANTING TREES NEXT SPRING CONTACT THE OFFICE

AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT

CALL 701-225-3811 Ext#3
OR STOP IN ANYTIME.

HANDPLANTS/ REPLACEMENT TREES

Need handplants for 2020 spring planting season, please fill out enclosed green tree form and return to our office by **October 1, 2019**. OR order trees on line.

Go to our website at starkandbillingssscd.com

DISTRICT SERVICES AVAILABLE:

Machine Tree Planting

(Spring) - \$22.00 per 100 linear feet. This rate includes the tree stock. The ground site needs to be prepared prior to service. A 25% nonrefundable down payment is required prior to ordering.

Fabric Weed Barrier and Application

\$45 per 100 linear foot. A 25% down payment is required.

Bare Root/Seedling Handplants

\$1.50 per tree. These trees are conservation grade about 12-18 inches in height.

Tree Tubes

5 feet high tree shelters. Enhance growth, protection from deer browse, rabbits & rodents, mower and herbicide spray. Tube is \$4.00 each or Tube with Stake is \$6.00 each.

Plantskydd

Repellent to protect trees or gardens from browsing by deer, rabbits, and rodents.



Planning for EQIP

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is accepting applications for 2020 EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentives Program) funding source to help producers improve water and air quality, build healthier soil, improve grazing land, conserve energy, and achieve other environmental benefits. EQIP provides financial assistance for a variety of conservation activities, such as cover crops, no-tillage, nutrient management, tree and grass plantings,

livestock watering systems, rotational grazing systems and much more. Sign up now to beat the fall deadline and allow for adequate time to complete the conservation planning process. Please contact the NRCS office with any questions or to set up a field visit at 701-225-3811 Ext#3.



Attention All EQIP and CSP Contract Holders

Another summer is nearly gone and harvest is right around the corner. However, if you are a current EQIP or CSP contract holder, you need to keep in mind that you must get your practice(s) installed by the schedule noted in your contract to remain in compliance with your contract obligations. There are a lot of practices that still need to be installed prior to freeze up. Please notify the NRCS office at 225-3811 Ext #3 prior to the installation of any practice. We want to make sure the practice(s) will be installed to meet our NRCS standards and specification and to make sure all necessary field visits and paperwork is completed prior to installation. Feel free to contact the office if you have any questions and/or changes in your operation.

Our Water

Keeping it Clean

North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality

Harmful Algal Blooms

What to Look For – What to Do

By Jim Collins, Jr., Environmental Scientist,
North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality

The recreation season is upon us, as is the potential for increased occurrences of harmful algal blooms.

Harmful Algal Blooms

A harmful algal bloom (HAB) is not only uninviting but also potentially harmful. Typically, a HAB is an overgrowth of cyanobacteria (blue-green algae) in surface water. Cyanobacteria are microscopic organisms found in all types of water. They are more like bacteria than plants, but because they live in water and use sunlight to create food

make oxygen as a by-product of photosynthesis, and they are a food source for other organisms.

The Harmful in HABs

Under certain environmental conditions, cyanobacteria can multiply quickly and form a bloom. Some species of cyanobacteria produce cyanotoxins that are released when the cells die and rupture. The toxins can cause harm to people, wildlife, livestock, pets, and aquatic life. Almost every year in North Dakota, a few cases of pet and livestock deaths occur due to drinking water with HABs. Additional effects of HABs include:

- Blocking sunlight needed for other aquatic organisms
- Raising treatment costs for public water supply systems and industries
- Depleting dissolved oxygen

as the algae dies off, resulting in fish kills

Specific human health effects are:

- Allergic-like reactions

- Skin rashes
- Eye irritation
- Gastroenteritis
- Respiratory irritation
- Neurological effects

What to Look For—What to Do
HABs can range in appearance from looking like grass clippings in the water to a thick, blue-colored mat.

If you suspect a HAB is occurring, call the Watershed Management Program and/or use the online reporting tool at https://deq.nd.gov/WQ/3_Watershed_Mgmt/8_HABs/HABsReporting/.



2016 HAB on a central North Dakota lake.

For More Information

To learn more about HABs, please visit www.deq.nd.gov or contact the North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality's Watershed Management Program at 701-328-5210.

NORTH Dakota | Environmental Quality
Be Legendary.™

Gold Seal Center, 4th Floor
918 East Divide Ave.
Bismarck, ND 58501-1947
701-328-5150
www.deq.nd.gov



2018 HAB at Lake Ashtabula.

(photosynthesis), they are often called “blue-green algae.”

Cyanobacteria are important to freshwater ecosystems because they