

DUNN DEALS IN CONSERVATION

APRIL 2008

Goodbye to Paula Jo

Hello Dunn County producers. I'd like to thank you for the wonderful working experience I received here in Dunn County. It was great working with all of you and I will truly miss it. I enjoyed your community and especially the people in it.

I will be sticking a little closer to home now days. I got a job working as a ranch hand for my husband. I'm sure the wages will be great!!! ☺ I wish you all the best in every thing that you do. Keep up the good work guys. I respect farmers and ranchers so much; your dedication, hard work, and sacrifices are appreciated by me and many, many others. I pray you have the best crops this year and that your calves pack on the pounds. I hope to see you around sometime.

-Paula Jo Wanner



Paula Jo and Bradyn McPherson, son of clerk Shannon staking his grandparents 2007 tree planting.

SOME THINGS NEVER CHANGE

Some things never change
And I like it that way.
Things I can depend on -
Like night follows day.

Seedtime and harvest, cold and heat,
Summer and winter, Nature's ways,
Ever new, yet always the same
Cycles of life that order my days.

Spring comin' on forever,
With baby calves and brand-new hope.
The all-day strength of an honest horse,
The usefulness of nylon rope.

The independent spirit
Of folks who love the land.
A quiet pride in self-reliance,
Ridin' for the brand.

Heat and dust and burning hair,
They're all part of a whole.
The never changing elements
Of a life that is part of my soul.

I love some things that never change -
Birds twittering at first light.
Cottonwood leaves rustling in breeze,
A familiar trail on a moonlit night.

The smell of greasewood after rain,
A fresh clean wind across the range.
The kingdom, the power, the glory -
Thank God for things that never change.

Audrey Hankins, © 1997

IMPORTANT DATES

April 22
April 27-May 4
May 5
May 26
June 2

Earth Day
Soil Stewardship Week
Regular Board Meeting
Memorial Day-Office Closed
Regular Board Meeting

2008 TREES

We are gearing up for the 2008 tree season. Our trees will start arriving on April 23rd. Machine Plantings will begin as soon as we get all the trees in from the nurseries. Producers who are planting trees this spring, PLEASE make sure your ground is worked one last time. The site should be free of weeds and grass to provide a good seedbed for the trees. For those who ordered handplants, we will be contacting you about a pickup day for those. The tree sale will be held after the machine plantings are all done. Call the office and leave your name and address if you would like to receive a postcard about the date of the tree sale. Remember that the tree sale is a first come first serve basis so get there early to make sure you get the trees you want. The board also chose to give a discount to those producers who buy trees in bundles. Most of our trees we receive from the nursery are packaged in bundles of 25 and by purchasing them in bundles, it makes easier handling for us and also gives those who are planting larger numbers a discount.



2008 Tree Charges and Policies

Replacement handplants (purchased individually)	\$1.25/seedling
Handplant bundles	\$25/bundle of 25 trees
Tall stock trees	\$3.25/tree

- Bundles are usually packaged in 25's. This may be subject to change depending on nursery delivery.
- All bundles purchased have to be on the **same tree species** in order to receive the discount.
- Tall stock trees not available for discount.



EQIP Contract Scheduling

By Suzi Tuhy, District Conservationist

I would like to remind everyone who has an EQIP contract that it is very important to stay on schedule. Our ability to be flexible and reschedule practices from year to year is limited. If you get behind schedule, then your contract is in non-compliance. Once in non-compliance, you could be in contract violation. When contract violation occurs, there usually is a financial penalty. This could involve paying back all cost share monies you have received plus interest. The important issue to remember is that this is a binding contract. You should never enter into a contract if you are unsure of the terms, or if you can't comply fully with the terms of the contract.



SOIL TESTING UPDATE AND CHANGES

We are wrapping up soil testing for this spring and have had a very busy spring season. We have done over 12,000 acres of testing this spring alone. And although we would like to see some moisture in the soil, the lack of it made for an easy soil testing spring. We will be making a list for this fall's testing and would like to see our producers do all their testing in the fall. If you would like to get on the list for this fall, please call the office or stop by with your maps. The sooner you get on the list, the better chance you have of us being able to get it done before the winter freeze. Last year being our first year, we knew there would have to be some adjustments made, so the rates for the 2008 season are listed below. Thank you to all producers who utilized our services and we hope to test for you again. We always welcome suggestions or comments so don't be afraid to give us a call.

2008 Soil Testing Charges and Policies:

Charges:

100 acres or less	\$65/test
101-200 acres	\$80/test
200-300 acres	\$95/test
Postage	\$9/box (usually 8 tests)
Row Crop tests	\$5/test additional

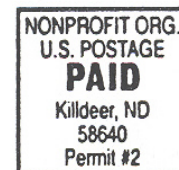
- ~ GPS unit used for all tests.
- ~ All lab costs are included in test charges.
- ~ Standard small grain test includes Nitrogen (2 depths), Phosphorus, Potassium, pH, Salts, Sulfur, Chloride, Copper, and Organic Matter.
- ~ Standard Row crop test includes Nitrogen (2 depths), Phosphorus, Potassium, pH, Salts, Sulfur, Zinc, Copper, and Organic Matter.
- ~Any individual or additional test will be provided at an additional charge.
- ~Policy on out of county testing: Any producer who has fields in county and also out of county will not be charged mileage. Mileage will be charged for strictly out of county producers at a rate of \$0.50/mile if the producer has less than 1000 acres to test. If the producer has more than 1000 acres to test, no mileage will be charged.

DUNN & MCKENZIE COUNTY SOIL HEALTH DAY

With Cover Crops and soil health being the new "hot" topic in farming, Dunn County SCD decided to get in on the action, so on February 26th we held a workshop at the American Legion in Killdeer. McKenzie County SCD jumped on the bandwagon and asked if they could help sponsor the workshop and then maybe next year we could talk about having one in their county. Burleigh County SCD Supervisors and Personnel are leading the way to bring the issues to North Dakota producers. The Burleigh County guys are in high demand and it's getting harder for them to get around to all the counties. Josh Dukart, BCSCD Technician, Jay Fuhrer, Burleigh Co. District Conservationist, and Glen Bauer, BCSCD Supervisor, spoke on topics of soil health, why it is important and how it can benefit the producers, cover crops and a diverse cropping systems. We included a producer panel that consisted of Dunn County producers Greg Steckler and Butch Pribyl, who spoke about their operations and Larry White of Northern Pulse who spoke about feeding peas and their benefits. Also from the Area Office, Jon Stika talked about how to check if soil is healthy and how to monitor it, and Dennis Froemke talked about soil quality on rangelands. Jolyn Wasem of the Dunn County SCD talked about the importance of soil testing. The districts provided a noon meal for the more than 50 producers in attendance with the help of the sponsors who included Northern Pulse, Southwest Grain, and Russ Pelton of Cropland Genetics. A door prize was given away by RDO Equipment and the jacket was won by Casey Fredericks of Halliday. Thank you to our sponsors and the ladies of the American Legion Auxiliary for the great meal.

Dunn County Soil Conservation District Supervisors

Chairmen—Larry Knudsvig
Vice Chairmen—Alex Lazorenko
Member—Gordon Kadrmaz
Member—Jim Danks
Member—Casey Gjermundson



District Personnel:

District Clerk: Shannon McPherson
District Technician: Jolyn Wasem

NRCS Personnel:

District Conservationist: Suzi Tuhy
Soil Conservation Technician: Lee Gosline

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Web Site <http://dunnsd.org>

All programs and services of the Dunn County Soil Conservation District are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis, without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, marital status, or handicap.

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR 2008 SPONSORS!

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Killdeer, ND 764-5514

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Halliday, ND 938-4311