

LaMoure County SCD
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THE LANDSAVER



LAMOURE COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Winter 2025

Volume 35, Number 1

<p>Board Members: Christof Just, Chairman Aaron Stroh, Supervisor Boyd Dallmann, Supervisor Lynn Haro, Supervisor Ann Moch, Supervisor</p> <p>Office Location: 211 South Main St., LaMoure</p>	<p>District Staff: Susan Muske, District Manager</p> <p>NRCS Staff: Amanda Brandt, District Conservationist Rani Lloyd, Business Tools Specialist</p> <p>Office Phone: 701-883-5344 Ext. 3</p>	<p><i>District programs are offered on a non-discriminatory basis without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, marital status or handicap.</i></p> <p><i>District board meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of each month, 7 p.m., LCSCD office, but are subject to change. Be sure to contact the office for the latest info. Meetings are open to the public.</i></p>
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Outreach Coordinator

Year-round, part-time position

Duties include:

- * Organizing camps and events
- * Promoting poster contests
- * Mailing out newsletters
- * Updating office finances
- * Sending and paying bills

Wages starting at \$22.00/hr. depending on experience, skills, and abilities.



Tree Planting Crew

Seasonal positions

Two types of positions available:

- * Machine plant trees in the field and installing weed barrier fabric
- * Bagging tree orders in the shed & scheduling pick up with customers.

Starting approx. May 1 (weather dependent) until about the third week in June

Wage starting at \$19/hr if 18 yrs old or more, \$16/hr if under 18.

Ladies' Ag Night has continued to be a favorite among many. It started in 1998 as an annual program, however quickly switched to a biennial event in 2020. The celebration of women in ag over the years has provided lots of laughs, great food, and a variety of themes, info and speakers from canning, to backyard birding, to hilarious entertainment.

Join us this year on April 23rd at Dakota Summers in Grand Rapids for our 13th biennial Ladies' Ag Night featuring Dr. Kerry Petsinger who will be teaching us how to cope with the stress of farming in a motivating and inspirational way.

Register by April 15th by calling the office at **883-5344 ext. 3** or text **Susan at 701-320-8724.**

FREE

LaMoure County Soil Conservation District's

Ladies' Ag Night

Grab your girlfriends and treat yourself to an unforgettable evening.



- **Wed., April 23rd**
- 5pm: Social ● 6pm: Meal
- Guest Speaker -
- **Dr. Kerry Petsinger to follow**
- **Dakota Summers**
- **Grand Rapids, ND**

Dr. Kerry is known worldwide for her "Mornings that Matter" routine. Come learn how to decrease the emotional exhaustion that comes with farming. Reduce the stress & burnout by starting each day with her G.E.T.U.P formula.

Register by: April 15th
 Call the LCSCD office to register
 883.5344 ext.3 OR Susan @ 320.8724



LaMoure County
Soil Conservation District

NDSU
EXTENSION
LaMOURE COUNTY

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Call 701-320-8724 or visit www.LaMoureSCD.org Positions open until filled

2024 Yearly Review

LaMoure SCD



- Planted 110,622 ft. (21 miles) of trees
- Installed 75,000 ft. (14.2 miles) of weed barrier fabric
- Sold over 9,000 trees to individual customers
- Offered technical assistance to landowners
- Provided assistance for cost share programs
- Rented spreaders, tiller, post pounder for 90 days use
- Sold grass mixes and wildflower seed
- Rented no till and native grass drills for 630 acres use
- Conducted field visits for programs and requests
- Sponsored Eco-Ed camp for 61 students
- Sponsored first Mini Ladies' Ag with over 40 attending
- Attended NDASCD convention and banquet
- Sponsored Annie's Project
- Published 2 newsletters sent out to over 550 people
- Maintained District's website and Facebook page
- Co-sponsored EAB training with over 60 attending
- Promoted public arboretum
- Sponsored Grazing Logic meeting
- Sponsored Keep ND Clean poster contest
- Attended various meetings and trainings

Find us on the web at
www.LaMoureSCD.org

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/ parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

See you down the road... literally a block away

As I wrap up my time at the LaMoure County Soil Conservation District, I'm deeply grateful for the rewarding experiences and the opportunity to learn about conservation practices and their implementation throughout our county and state. It has been especially fulfilling to help educate and engage with the community about our local SCD and the important work they do! I feel privileged to have collaborated with such dedicated individuals that became good friends. Thank you all for your support and collaboration throughout my time here. I'm excited to share that I've made a career change and will now be continuing to work with many of you as a Financial Services Representative at Ag Country at the LaMoure office—literally a block away!



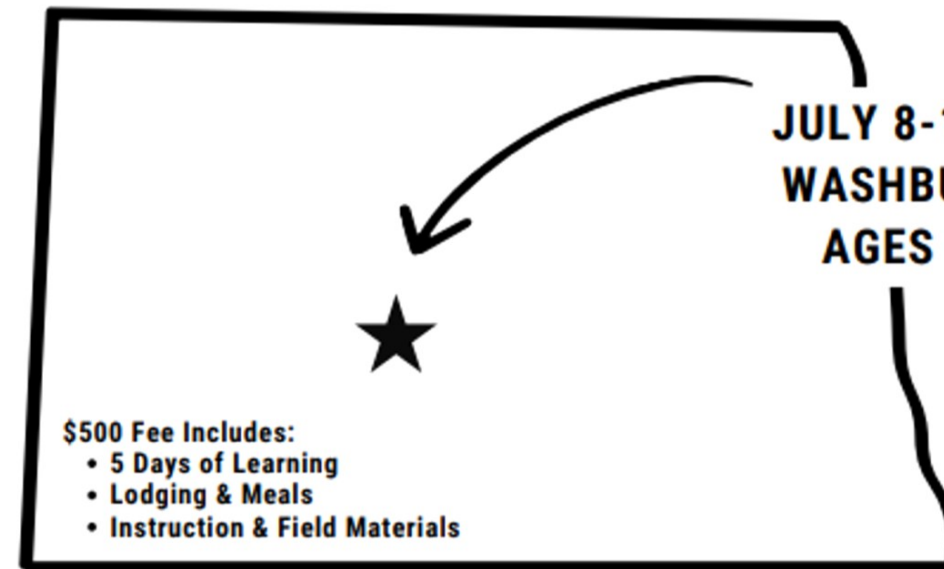
There is still time to order trees!

Orders are preferred by March 15th. Orders placed afterwards maybe be limited to varieties in stock or may have shipping charges and minimum order requirements. Order forms can be picked up at the office or found on our website at www.LaMoureSCD.org, or call 883-5344 Ext. 3 to have one mailed out to you.



NORTH DAKOTA WATERFOWL BRIGADE

"Conservation Leaders in Every Community"



WHAT IS NORTH DAKOTA WATERFOWL BRIGADE?

- WATERFOWL HABITAT MANAGEMENT
- WETLAND & PLANT IDENTIFICATION
- WATERFOWL ECOLOGY
- LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT
- PUBLIC SPEAKING
- CONSERVATION ADVOCACY

As a program of Texas Brigades, the North Dakota Waterfowl Brigade provides a full and immersive curriculum designed to educate and provide hands-on experiences that build awareness and appreciation for natural resources. The goal of Texas Brigades is to empower adolescents to become conservation ambassadors.

Brigade camps are wildlife and natural resource-focused leadership camps that provide an intensive and exciting educational experience. Cadets learn from professionals about the biology, habitat, and ecology of each camp's focal subject while strengthening leadership, team building, and critical thinking skills. Tuition sponsorships available!

APPLY NOVEMBER 1 - MARCH 15
SEEKING YOUTH AND ADULT APPLICANTS

www.texasbrigades.org/applications
camps@texasbrigades.org





Danielle Dinger

is the new Family & Community Wellness Extension Agent in LaMoure County.

Danielle will develop and deliver research-based educational programs in family and community wellness. She will provide leadership to both family and community wellness, as well as, the 4-H youth development programs to include the areas of healthy aging, leadership and civic engagement, parent and family education, personal and family finance, and food, nutrition and health.

Danielle is an on-the-go mom of three rapidly growing boys; her and her family have lived in Oakes for 20 years.

It's a new year with new Field to Fork webinars!


Join Danielle each week at the courthouse for a watch party; we will sample recipes, dig deeper into the topic of the week and learn from one another what works best in the garden. No registration is necessary to join Danielle, arrive at 1:30pm in the community room at the courthouse each Wednesday Feb. 12th – May 7th.


If you are interested in watching from home, register for these free webinars: ndsu.ag/fieldtofork2025

Check out the lineup for this year:

- **Feb. 12:** How to Start Your Own Transplants Indoors
- **Feb. 19:** Anatomy of a Food Recall
- **Feb. 26:** Growing Tips for Summer and Winter Squash
- **March 5:** Let's Preserve Salsa (Live Demonstration)
- **March 12:** The Science Behind Indoor Plant Lighting
- **March 19:** Pickling Safety
- **March 26:** Tips and Tricks for Vegetable Production
- **April 2:** Plant Pathology 101: Common Plant Diseases
- **April 9:** All About Alliums: Garlic, Green Onion, Dry Bulb Onion, Leeks and Shallots
- **April 16:** Ghosts in Your Gardens
- **April 30:** Food Preservation Toolkit
- **May 7:** Healthy Soil, Healthy Food





The North Dakota Conservation Forage Program  Audubon | DAKOTA

NEED FORAGE?

CFP will work with North Dakota's producers to restore marginal crop lands back to grasslands to improve forage availability and quality. By providing support through financial and technical assistance to landowners, CFP aims to accelerate grassland restoration and recover overall soil health and grassland bird habitat across the state. Call: Julianna Bosmoe at 605-290-2571 or email: Julianna.bosmoe@audubon.org



The Economics of Soil Testing

John S. Breker

Soil Scientist, AGVISE Laboratories, Northwood, ND

This article was first published in the AGVISE Winter Newsletter 2024-2025.

You might recall an old AGVISE poster that said "Soil Testing Makes Dollars and Sense." It was a clever turn of phrase, but it really summarized the principal reasons why we soil test in the first place. An obvious response to that statement is "Well, duh! How else would I learn how much fertilizer to buy, where to put those fertilizer dollars in my fields, or if I were neglecting some crop yield-limiting nutrient or soil property?" It may seem obvious to most of us, but we still hear comments from agronomists or crop consultants who have clients that remain unconvinced or do not see that soil testing is the first step on the path to profitable nutrient management.

To help illustrate the economics of soil testing, we put together three different scenarios examining the profitability of soil sampling methods, flat-rate versus variable-rate (VRT) fertilizer application, and the potential costs associated with over- and under-applying fertilizer in the field (including crop yield loss from under-application). There are countless scenarios that we could examine, but let's keep things simple with a real corn field from south-central North Dakota (Table 1). The three scenarios include a crop removal-based fertilizer rate, a whole-field composite soil test-based fertilizer rate, and zone soil test-based variable fertilizer rates. The corn price was \$4.00/bushel. The fertilizer prices were \$500/ton urea (46-0-0), \$810/ton MAP (11-52-0), and \$450/ton potash (0-0-60). The cost of soil sampling and analysis was estimated at \$150 per field or zone. The additional cost for zone map creation and VRT application was estimated at \$5.00/acre. The fertilizer guideline type was university sufficiency, which is the most conservative guideline option.

The zone-based variable rate scenario generated the highest crop yield, gross revenue, and partial profitability because it matched the appropriate fertilizer rates with crop yield potential and soil test levels

Table 1. Soil test levels for zone soil test results and whole-field composite average.

	Zone Management			Whole-Field Composite
	Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3	Average
Acres	45	60	15	120
Nitrate-N, lb/acre	37	21	12	26
Olsen P, ppm	17	5	8	10
K, ppm	242	182	169	203

across the field and did not over- or under-apply fertilizer. The extra cost associated with zone map creation and VRT application was more than worth it.

The whole-field composite flat rate scenario over-applied N on Zone 3, over-applied P on Zone 1, under-applied P on Zone 2, and under-applied K on Zones 2 and 3. The under-application of fertilizer in some zones did reduce crop yield and gross revenue, but the whole-field composite soil test did help save overall fertilizer cost across the field.

The crop removal flat rate scenario over-applied N on all zones, over-applied P on Zone 1, under-applied P on Zone 2, and over-applied K on all zones. The under-application of fertilizer in some zones did reduce crop yield and gross revenue, and the over-application of fertilizer across much of the field increased overall fertilizer cost. The over-application of fertilizer is not only expensive but also creates additional concern for nutrient losses to the environment. This was the least profitable scenario and emphasizes why crop removal-based fertilizer strategies are simply a bad idea.

These scenarios should help illustrate how soil testing not only helps save fertilizer costs but also can help maximize crop yield potential and profitability across the field, especially if coupled with precision nutrient management tools like grid or zone soil sampling. After all, soil testing DOES make dollars and sense.

Table 2. Fertilizer rates, crop revenue, fertilizer cost, and partial profit for three soil test and fertilizer rate scenarios.

	Zone Management			Whole-Field Composite	Crop Removal
	Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3	Flat Rate	Flat Rate
Yield Potential, bushel/acre	200	180	150	184	184
Nitrogen Rate, lb/acre N	203	195	168	195	221
Phosphorus Rate, lb/acre P2O5	15	86	52	49	51
Potassium Rate, lb/acre K2O	0	18	26	0	35
Gross Revenue, \$/acre	\$735.00			\$707.04	\$719.27
Fertilizer Cost, \$/acre	\$152.95			\$143.15	\$172.47
Partial Profit, \$/acre	\$570.80			\$562.63	\$546.80

LaMoure NRCS
Conservation Practices and Contracts Installed in 2024

Crops:

- 65 ac. - Cover Crops- single species and multiple species
- 172.5 ac.- Forage Harvest Management
- 1,350 ac. - Nutrient Management- Reduce risk of nutrient losses
- 533 ac. - Reduced Till Management
- 1,068 ac. - No Till Management
- 210 ac. - Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management
- 241 ac. - Irrigation Water Management

Cattle:

- 650 Ft. of Cross fences
- 1,100 Ft. - Livestock Pipeline
- 2 Watering Facilities (Cattle Tanks)
- 159 ac. - Prescribed Grazing/Improve Grazing Management
- 15 ac.- Brush Management

Contracts:

- 7 New Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) contracts developed on 288.83 acres
- 20 Re-enrollments of CRP Contracts developed on 1,594.28 acres
- 57 Status review/field checks completed on active CRPs
- 25 Newly seeded CRPs checked
- 2 Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) Contracts funded on 643.4 ac.
*17 Total EQIP Contracts on 1,926.6 ac.
- 5 Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) Contracts funded on 8,447.1 ac.
*6 Total CSP Contracts on 9,514.3 ac.
- 2 Active Water Bank Contracts on 129.7 ac.
- 13 Active Wetland Reserve Easements

Thank you for putting conservation on the ground! *“Essentially, all life depends upon the soil. There can be no life without soil and no soil without life; they have evolved together”. --- Charles E. Kellogg, USDA Yearbook of Agriculture, 1938*

Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)- Classic: NRCS
Sign up deadline is February 28th, 2025.

The Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) is a comprehensive working lands conservation program designed to help farmers and ranchers protect and improve natural resources on productive and profitable farms. Through CSP, farmers and ranchers receive technical and financial assistance to actively manage and maintain current conservation systems and to implement additional conservation activities with incentive payments for installing these practices on your land.

- The list of enhancements/practices is long but has something for both farmers and ranchers. If you have been paid on practices through NRCS before, then you may not be eligible on those specific practices but could choose to go to a “higher standard” and be eligible for that practice.

Eligible lands include cropland, pastureland, rangeland and hayland. This program is for operators only and is a five-year program. Every piece of land that you operate, is required to be enrolled, unless you don't have control of that land for five years. The operators are required to have owners sign a form giving them permissions to apply certain conservation activities.

If interested, call Amanda at the office at 701-883-5344 ext. 3 or email her at amanda.brandt2@usda.gov.



LaMoure County
Soil Conservation District



USDA
NRCS



NDSU
EXTENSION

Growing Strong

Managing Salinity, Fertility, & Weeds

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26

9AM – 2PM

BANKNORTH MALL COMMUNITY ROOM
LAMOURE, ND





Salinity & Soil Health Discussion

Lee Briese, Centrol Inc of Twin Valley Agronomist



How Geology Impacts Soil Management

Tom DeSutter, NDSU Professor of Soil Science



Using a Winter Rye Cover Crop in Soybean Production Systems

Brady Goettl, NDSU Ext. Soil Science Specialist



Integrated Livestock/Cropping System on Soil Health, Crop Production, & Livestock Performance

Kevin Sedivec, NDSU Ext. Rangeland Mgmt Specialist



Pros & Cons of Tillage for Weed Management

Jeff Stachler, NDSU Ext. Cropping Systems Specialist



Updating Soybean P Recommendations Across ND

Dayne Tallier, NDSU MS Student of Soil Science

REGISTRATION REQUESTED

ndsu.ag/growingstrong

While there is no charge to attend, we ask that you register by **Feb 21, 2025** to secure an accurate meal count.

For more details contact NRCS office at 701-883-5344 ext. 3
OR NDSU Extension-LaMoure County at 701-883-6080



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