

# THE LANDSAVER



## LAMOURE COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Winter 2026

Volume 36, Number 1



LaMoure County 2025 Achievement Winner, Geinert Family Farm, holding their plaque after being recognized on stage.

### *Geinert Family Farm Recognized at Convention*

This past December, LaMoure SCD attended the 87th Annual Convention for North Dakota Association of Soil Conservation Districts, where North Dakota district employees, district supervisors, conservation partners, and achievement winners came together for learning, discussion, and recognition.

Our 2025 Achievement Winner, the Geinert Family Farm, was recognized at the Awards Banquet for their dedication to conservation practices on their operation.

In 1958, Roy and Helen Geinert were the award winners and have passed their passion for conservation on to their children. Tim and Joanne Geinert now live on the family farm and continue to pursue conservation through establishing shelterbelts and enrolling in CRP with the help of Tim's siblings and their 101-year-old mother, Helen. Their main focus is preventing erosion, enhancing wildlife habitat, and maintaining windbreaks that protect their vegetable high tunnels.

The family takes special pride in their lifelong commitment to grassed waterways, which prevent erosion and gully formation. Despite challenges from stronger storms and changing weather, they remain dedicated to maintaining and establishing these vital conservation practices.

Tim Geinert sharing his thoughts, ideas, and experiences on stage with fellow Achievement Winners from southeast North Dakota, alongside Annual Convention's keynote speaker, Clay Conry of Working Cows Podcast.





## Recognition at Annual Convention ...Continued!



At the Annual Convention, awards are recognized to the top five North Dakota Soil Conservation Districts for amount of linear feet of trees planted, as well as total number of trees planted. LaMoure County brought home awards for both categories for 2025 tree planting season! Susan Muske accepted the awards of Excellence in Tree Planting with 272,087 feet of tree row plantings and fabric installed, as well as Award of Excellence for 24,520 trees planted.



Melissa Shockman (left) and Susan Muske (right) are holding LaMoure County Soil Conservation District awards for total linear feet of tree plantings and for total trees planted in 2025 field season.



## 30 Years of Service !

Lynn Haro and Boyd Dallmann were recognized at the 2025 Annual Convention for their 30 years of service as LaMoure County District Board Members — congratulations on this achievement!



Lynn Haro (left) and Boyd Dallmann (right) celebrated their 30 years of service as LaMoure County Soil Conservation District Board Supervisors

## And with that... ...Boyd Retires!

In the spirit of our award and achievement recognitions, we also want to give Boyd Dallmann a congratulations and farewell as he retires from his position as a District Board Supervisor — we are incredibly grateful for the 30 years you dedicated to LaMoure County, but we sure wish we could hold onto you longer! Enjoy all your travels, adventures, and time in Arizona — don't forget to stop by and say hello when you are around — and drop off a jar of pickled watermelon while you're at it, too!

# *2025 Year in Review*

## **LaMoure County Soil Conservation District**

Planted 153,556 ft (29.1 miles) of trees

Installed 118,531 ft (22.4 miles) of weed barrier fabric

Sold over 7,500 trees to individual customers

Assisted the Forest Service with the Windbreak Renovation Initiative program.

Offered assistance to landowners for grass plantings, cover crops, and pollinator plantings

Provided information and assistance for cost share programs

Rented equipment (manure spreaders, post pounder, tree site tiller) for 64 days of use

Sold grass mixes and wildflower seed

Rented out no till and grass drills for 1,100 acres

Conducted field visits for producer requests, program follow ups, etc.

Sponsored eco ed camp for 52 students

Sponsored Ladies A night with over 80 in attendance

Attended NDASCD convention and banquet

Published 2 newsletters to over 550 landowners and producers

Maintained District's website

Maintained District's Facebook page

Promoted education through public arboretum

Helped with regional Envirothon camp in Valley City

Assisted with NRCS water management workshop

Attended various meetings and trainings

Sponsored Keep ND Clean poster contest

Facilitated at NDSU Tri-County Extension Camp and neighboring county Eco Ed camp





# 2025 Year in Review



Livestock Water Tank

## **NRCS Conservation practices applied on cropland, hayland and pastureland by LaMoure County producers**

Livestock Pipeline: 2,145 feet  
Livestock Water Tanks: 2 installed  
Prescribed Grazing/Improve Grazing Management: 560 acres  
Nutrient Management: 4,063 acres  
Pest Management: 4,556 acres  
Cover Crops: 51 acres  
Pasture & Hayland Planting: 24.3 acres  
Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management: 240 acres  
Irrigation Water Management: 258.5 acres  
No-Tillage: 2,320.4 acres  
Mulch Tillage: 596 acres  
Forage Harvest Management: 172.5 acres  
Brush Management: 15 acres  
Field Borders: 60.5 acres



Water Bank  
Before and After



Field Border planting

## **Total Conservation Contracts in LaMoure County:**

6 - CSP- 1 of which is Beginning Farmer on 9,514.3 acres  
6 - EQIP- 1 of which is Beginning Farmer on 1,307 acres  
2 - Water Bank Contracts on 129 acres  
14 - Easement Contracts (WRE, WRP, EQPP-FPE, EWRP) on 1,454 acres  
11 New CRP contracts developed on 370.87 acres  
16 Re-enrolled CRP contracts developed on 947.39 acres  
16 CRP Status Review/field checks completed on active or expiring CRP contracts

***Thank you for putting conservation on the ground!***



# Soil Health Principle #2

By Amanda Brandt - District Conservationist - NRCS

Soil health research has determined how to manage the soil in a way that improves soil function. There are five Soil Health Principles. In the fall newsletter I started with #1- Maximize Soil Cover/Armor. Soil Cover or armor provides numerous benefits such as reducing erosion and evaporation rates, helping with compaction, suppressing weed growth and maintaining soil temperatures.

The next soil health principle I will cover is minimizing soil disturbance.

1. Maximize Soil Cover-Soil Cover/Armor (In fall newsletter)
- 2. Minimize Disturbance-Minimizing Soil Disturbance**
3. Maximize Presence of Living Roots-Continual Live Plant/Root
4. Maximize Biodiversity-Plant Diversity
5. Integration of Livestock- Add livestock to cropland

All information cited in this article can be found at: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/conservation-basics/natural-resource-concerns/soil/soil-health> or <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/state-offices/north-dakota/soil-health>



Wind erosion from tilled field, LaMoure County, Spring 2021.

## Principle #2- Minimize Soil Disturbance

The most significant soil health principle to begin building soil health is minimizing soil disturbance. Soil disturbance comes in three forms: physical, chemical and biological. Each form of disturbance affects soil functions and processes; there can be both good and bad forms of disturbance. Many agriculture practices cause more than one form of disturbance (grazing cattle are both physical and biological forms of disturbance). Disturbance can negatively affect both soil quality and health by reducing water infiltration, decreasing soil organic matter, and increasing erosion.

### *Physical Disturbance*

The most obvious and visible form of disturbance is tillage. Tillage begins degrading soil health almost immediately because it disrupts the soil's natural biological cycles, damages the structure of the soil, increases compaction, decreases infiltration and makes soil more susceptible to erosion.

While tillage is sometimes necessary, repeated tillage, season after season, is the most destructive force to soil health. Timing of tillage is another thing to consider, try not to till when the soil is wet or super dry.

Compaction, a result of tillage, leads to poor infiltration, which then leads to ponding, which then leads to crusting and salinity.

Agricultural implements, tractors, grain carts, etc. have dramatically increased in size and weight over the decades, which has also caused more soil compaction.

### *The benefits of reduced till/no-till include:*

- **Aiding in Plant Growth** – Soils managed with reduced/no-till for several years contain more organic matter and moisture for plant use. Healthy soils cycle crop nutrients, support root growth, absorb water and sequester carbon more efficiently.
- **Reducing Soil Erosion** – Soil that is covered year-round, not tilled black, is much less susceptible to erosion from wind and water. Farming implements & practices have come too far for our area to look like the top picture.
- **Saving Money** – Farmers can save money on fuel and labor by decreasing tillage. A good article by NDSU about this can be found at <https://www.ndsu.edu/agriculture/ag-hub/ag-topics/crop-production/soil-health/cost-soil-erosion>.

*"Soil Health Principle #2" Continued...*

## "Soil Health Principle #2" Continued....

### ***Chemical Disturbance***

Not as obvious or visible as physical disturbance.

Overuse of synthetic fertilizers, insecticides and fungicides cause this disturbance.

Broadcasting dry solid fertilizers can impact surrounding water sources due to run-off and volatilization.

Chemicals often eliminate both beneficial and pest organisms and can lead to plant resistance.

Follow the labels and only use the amount that is needed, do not over-apply. The 4-R Strategy is recommended.

### *The 4-R Strategy*

- The right fertilizer for the (right) crop
- The right rate of application
- The right time of application
- The right place of application



Rows of no-till soybeans in a field of rye residue help protect the soil from erosion.

### ***Biological Disturbance***

The first part of biological disturbance incorporates the other soil health principles: Maximizing Soil Cover, Maximizing Continuous Living Roots, and Maximizing Biodiversity.

This is because the positive aspects of these develop healthy soil biology while the negative aspects destroy soil biology.

Bacteria and fungi break down dead plant/animal matter, releasing nutrients back into the soil.

Soil biology converts atmospheric nitrogen into useable forms for plants.

The second part of biological disturbance is also a form of physical disturbance, caused by animals rather than machinery.

Livestock concentrate, and areas of high traffic become increasingly disturbed, leading to erosion. While some areas are intended for a higher concentration of livestock, the soil health near gates and along fence lines suffer.

Grazing with proper management can also be a beneficial form of disturbance.

*"It takes more than 500 years to create one inch of topsoil  
and only one season to destroy it"*

Soil science-USDA statistic

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, audiotape, 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.



# LaMoure SCD Equipment and Services

Call 883-5344 ext. 3 or 701-320-8724



Kuhn manure spreader \$350/day, Vertical spread, 600 bu.;  
Artsway manure spreader \$400/day, 700 bu. capacity

John Deere 16 ft. no-till drill \$10/ac  
Separate seed, fertilizer, and small seed box



Great Plains 16 ft. native grass drill \$10/ac  
Seed box agitators and large tubes  
accommodate fluffy seed mixes

Tree row tiller \$100/day



Montana post pounder \$200/day  
Easily attaches to skid steer loaders  
Strapped on a trailer to easily pull with a pickup



**Hire us to plant your  
tree rows!**

\$27.50/ hundred linear foot  
(includes trees)

Weed barrier \$55/hundred linear foot  
Cost share funding may be available



# HELP WANTED

Taking applications for

## Tree Crew

Seasonal positions May 1—June 30\*

\*depends on weather; weekdays

Tree Crew Position: In May, help plant trees with tractor mounted tree planter in the field or help sort and bag tree orders in the shed. In

June, help install tree fabric with tractor mounted fabric installer.

Starting Wage is \$16/hour if under age 18 and \$19/hour if over age 18.

If interested, please call the office at 883-5344 ext. 3 for an application or visit our website at [www.lamourescd.org](http://www.lamourescd.org)

Apply by March 20



There is still time to

*order trees!*

Order forms for handplant trees can be picked up at the office, found on our website at [www.lamourescd.org](http://www.lamourescd.org), or call 883-5344 ext. 3 to inquire more information.

Order by March 20



We have **RAIN BARREL** Kits!

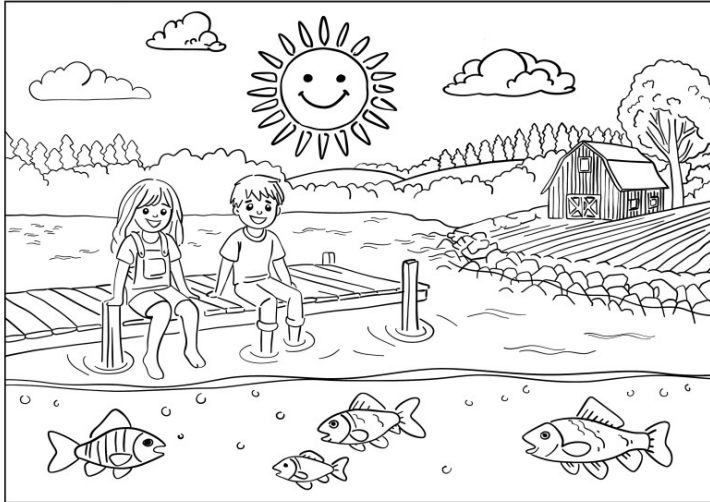
Capture rain water for your gardens, potted flowers, trees, backyard chickens...you name it!

**\$50.00**

Includes barrel, spout valve  
& rain gutter adapter



# Keep North Dakota Clean



## Youth Art Contest

*with* Keep North Dakota Clean

Keep North Dakota Clean aims to reduce littering in the state through education, beautification and litter reduction programs.

Materials and contest information for the 2026 Artwork & Media Contest are posted on the [keep-nd-clean.org](http://keep-nd-clean.org) website!

**Artwork Due by March 6**

Questions regarding the artwork contest, contact

Emilee Novak by calling 701.328.5240

or emailing [kndc.artcontest@gmail.com](mailto:kndc.artcontest@gmail.com)

Check out our Fall 2025 Newsletter at [lamourescd.org](http://lamourescd.org) to see THREE of last year's LaMoure County contest entry winners!

# 2026

**field to fork**

## WEBINARS

**VIRTUAL**

**ON WEDNESDAYS**  
**FEB 11 – APR 15**  
**2 P.M. – 3 P.M. CT**

**NDSU** | EXTENSION

**Register:** [ndsu.ag/fieldtofork2026](https://ndsu.ag/fieldtofork2026)

# 4-H CULTURAL COOKING LESSONS

## SIGN UP NOW!

**OPEN TO YOUTH**  
3<sup>rd</sup> grade and up

**3:30 PM – 5:30 PM**  
both locations

### CLASSES IN LaMOURE

March 3  
March 17  
April 21  
April 28

@ LaMoure Public School

**FREE**

### CLASSES IN EDGELEY

February 26  
March 24  
April 23  
April 30

@ Zion Lutheran Church

**OPEN TO ALL**  
4-H enrollment  
not necessary

## SPOTS ARE LIMITED! REGISTER YOUR CHEFS TODAY.

CALL: 701.883.6080

EMAIL: [DANIELLE.DINGER@NDSU.EDU](mailto:DANIELLE.DINGER@NDSU.EDU)

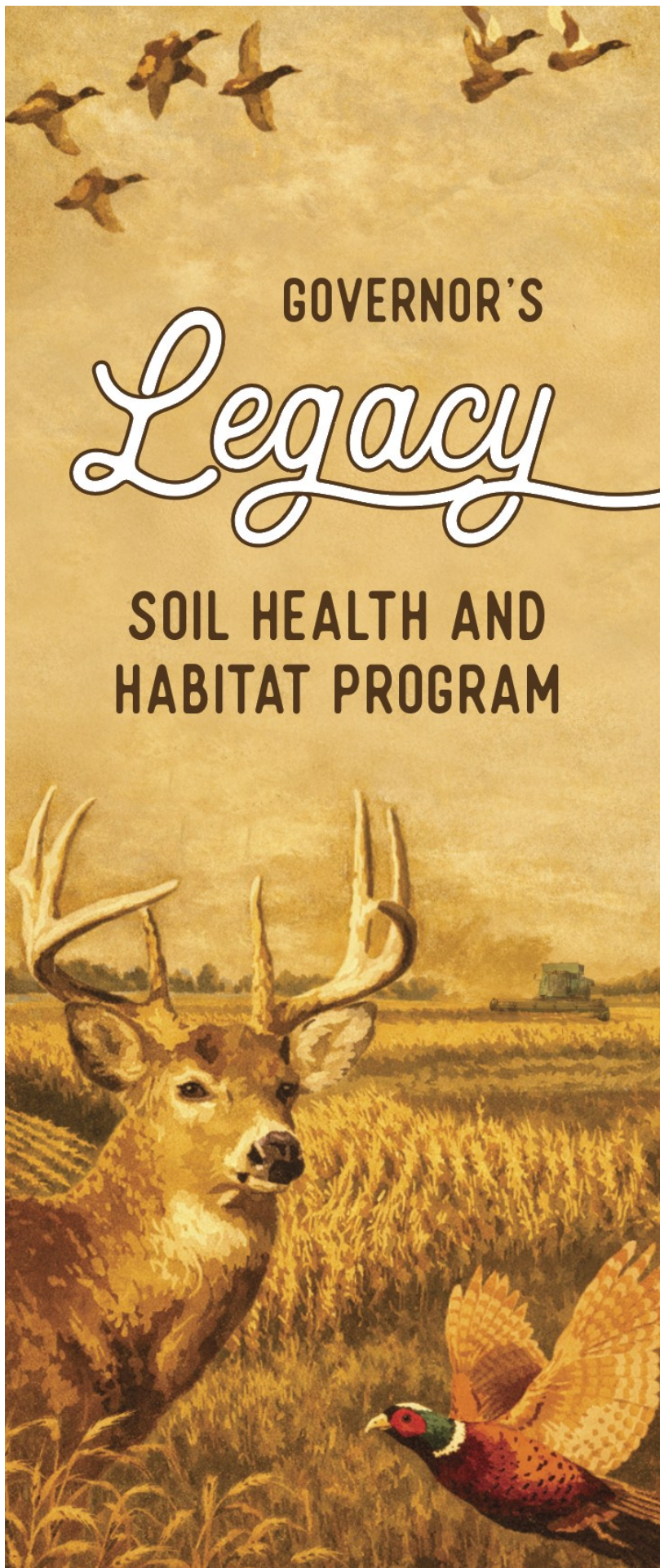
**NDSU**

EXTENSION  
LaMOURE COUNTY



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# New Program Opportunity

for ND Landowners and  
Growers to Consider

*with*

North Dakota Game and Fish Department,  
North Dakota Association of Soil  
Conservation Districts,  
and Outdoor Heritage Fund

## About The Program

The Governor's Legacy Soil Health and Habitat Program is designed to help North Dakota farmers strengthen cropland productivity and resilience with perennial grass cover.

This program is administered by the North Dakota Association of Soil Conservation Districts and delivered by local Soil Conservation Districts and partners.

## Program Details

Open to all types of cropland.

5-year agreement to establish and manage grass.  
Annual rental payment based on the average county rental rate.

Cost-share for grass seed and seeding - \$50/acre for seed | \$50/acre for establishment.

\$10 per acre crop insurance premium reduction for every acre of perennial grass established.

Optional \$15 per acre public access incentive through NDGFD's Private Land Open To Sportsmen program.

## How To Enroll

Contact your local Soil Conservation District for more information and application details.

LaMoure County SCD:

Melissa Shockman

Office Phone: 701-883-5344 x112

Email: [lamourescd\\_outreach@outlook.com](mailto:lamourescd_outreach@outlook.com)

Or visit NDGFD Website for more information:

<https://gf.nd.gov/private-lands/landowner-programs/governors-legacy-soil-health-and-habitat-program>

LaMoure County SCD  
PO Box 278  
LaMoure, ND 58458-0278

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Permit #4  
LaMoure, ND 58458

Pre-Sort

**Board Members:**

Christof Just, Chairman  
Aaron Stroh, Supervisor  
Lynn Haro, Supervisor  
Ann Moch, Supervisor  
Justin Fredenburg, Supervisor

**District Staff:**

Susan Muske, District Manager  
Melissa Shockman, Outreach Coordinator

**NRCS Staff:**

Amanda Brandt, District Conservationist  
Rani Lloyd, Business Tools Specialist

*District programs are offered on a non-discriminatory basis without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, marital status or handicap.*

*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.*

Office Location: 211 South Main St., LaMoure

Office Phone: 701-883-5344 Ext. 3

## NEW 5-year Grass Planting Program!

Check out the Governor's Legacy Soil Health and Habitat Program insert

in this newsletter for more information

Contact Melissa Shockman at LaMoure SCD to apply



Facebook.com/lcscd



# SAVE the DATE

## Mini Ladies Ag Night

April 8, 2026

Follow us on Facebook or visit our website for full event details to come!



lamourescd.org