

# FOSTER COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

## 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

### 2024 Supervisors, Advisors, & Staff

SCD Chairman	Cody Montgomery
SCD Vice Chairman	Robert T House
SCD Supervisor	Curtiss Klein
SCD Supervisor	Karl Hoppe
SCD Supervisor	Samuel Partlow
NRCS District Conservationist	Kayla Feiring Bjork
NRCS Soil Conservationist	Zachary Compson
NRCS Soil Conservationist	Kelly Satrom
NRCS Conservation Unit Supervisor	Paul DuBout
Foster County Extension Agent	Jeff Gale
SCD Manager	Dionn Schaaf
SCD Technician	Easton Brown
SCD Education Coordinator	Jill Vigesaa



SCD Supervisors Curt Klein and Cody Montgomery helping first graders plant a tree for Carrington Arbor Day.

### 2024 Foster County SCD Highlights

#### *January*

- Radio segment on KDAK - Schaaf
- 2024 Plan-of-Work and Budget approved
- Discussion begins on Climate Smart Ag project with ND Farmer's Union

#### *February*

- 2023 annual report published
- Carrington Tree Board meeting
- Radio segment on KDAK – Schaaf and Feiring Bjork
- Schaaf attends grass workshop in Mandan
- Foster County Roundtable meeting for Year 1 of Alliance for Climate Smart Agriculture pilot project
- Ford F150 and Ranger sold; Chevy Silverado 1500WT and business cell phones purchased

#### *March*

- Radio segment on KDAK – Schaaf
- Ford F350 sold
- Cory Stangeland selected as Foster County 2024 Conservation Achievement Award recipient
- NDCDEA annual meeting held in Fargo
- 2024 NDASCD dues paid

#### *April*

- Stewardship Week presentation to Ministerial Association; materials provided to local churches and schools as requested
- Radio segment on KDAK – Brown
- Pallet forks and pallet jack purchased for unloading deliveries
- New office lease agreement signed with USDA
- Carrington Tree Board meeting
- Classroom vegetable pot supplies delivered to Midkota Elementary

#### *May*

- Radio segment on KDAK – Schaaf
- Carrington Arbor Day and first grade tree planting; presentation to Kensal 1<sup>st</sup> graders; first grade tree seedlings and Arbor Day materials provided to Carrington, Midkota, and Kensal schools
- Carrington Tree Board meeting
- Handplant tree order pickup day
- Maintenance on pollinator garden and updated handouts
- District began machine planting trees and shrubs, hand planting replacement trees, and early grass seeding
- Project TREES conservation education program completed 343 programs during the school year reaching 14,637 students across ND

## June

Radio segment on KDAK – Feiring Bjork  
Weed barrier application and tree shelter installation began  
Excess conservation grade tree and shrub sale held after tree planting completed  
2020-2022 audit results received from State Auditor's office  
SCD tree planting crew assisted with Carrington Boulevard Tree program  
SCD booth at Foster County Fair and interview with yourliveevent.com  
Program on animal adaptations and habitat presented at Carrington Library Summer Reading Program  
Office siding replaced and wall repaired; topper purchased for the new pickup

## July

Radio segment on KDAK – Feiring Bjork  
Spring planting and installation was completed and tree site mowing service began  
2025 tree order and conservation planning began

## August

Radio segment on KDAK – Schaaf  
Draft 2025 budget and mill levy request submitted  
Applications submitted to 2025 ND Outdoor Heritage Fund SCD Tree Planting Initiative  
Tree survival and variance success checks began  
CRP status reviews completed  
Brown attends Northern Plains Leadership Conference in Billings

## September

Midkota and Carrington sixth grade students attend Eco Ed Day at Juanita Lake Park  
Radio segment on KDAK – Schaaf and Feiring Bjork  
NDASCD Area I meeting held in Park River  
Schaaf attends Urban Conservation workshop in Grand Forks  
Foster County SCD receives Friend of 4-H Award from Foster County 4-H Council

## October

Radio segment on KDAK – Schaaf and Feiring Bjork  
Schaaf completes RUSLE2 training for Alliance pilot project  
Fall cover crop planting and between-tree-row fall grass seeding completed  
First 2025 tree orders submitted to nurseries  
Carrington Tree Board meeting  
Brown attends NDCDEA grant writing workshop in Mandan  
New computer purchased  
Annual conservation book donations delivered to Carrington and Midkota Grade Schools and Carrington City Library  
Dormant grass seeding completed  
Break-out Box programs presented to 5<sup>th</sup> graders at Carrington Grade School through Project TREES  
2023 Audit materials submitted to ND State Auditor

## November

2025 NACD dues paid  
House re-elected to SCD Board  
Schaaf attends program training for Alliance pilot project  
Radio segments on KDAK – Schaaf  
First meeting of the 2025 Women's Ag Day committee  
Repairs and winter maintenance of SCD equipment began  
NDASCD annual state meeting held in Bismarck  
Tom Gibson, Project TREES presenter, is awarded the 2024 Excellence in Environmental Education award by NDASCD  
Brown elected Vice President of NDCDEA

## December

Radio segment on KDAK – Schaaf  
Hoppe and Partlow re-appointed as SCD Supervisors for 2025  
District policy reviewed and updated  
Year 1 Alliance project producers' completed practice worksheets submitted  
Supervisor training logs for 2024 submitted to NDSSCC  
SCD Booth at CREC's Central Dakota Ag Day  
Tom Gibson retires after 32 years with the Project TREES conservation education



Cory and Rhoda Stangeland receive the 2024 Foster County Soil Conservation Achievement Award.



Chairman Cody Montgomery (2nd from left) accepts the 2024 Friend of 4-H Award on behalf of Foster County Soil Conservation District.

## 2024 SCD Field Activities and Services

- 37,000 linear feet of trees machine planted (4,525 trees)
- 1,113 trees hand planted
- 37,103 linear feet of weed barrier fabric installed
  - 4 tree sites seeded with between-row grass mix
  - 4 field sites planted by drill services (16 acres)
  - 3 days rental of no-till drill (89 acres)
  - 4 days rental of box drill (23 acres)
  - 2 tree row sites mowed



Tom Gibson presented "Sam Ting" to Foster County Eco Ed Day students for the last time.

## 2024 NRCS Programs - Applied Conservation

6 CSP contracts                      \$1,200,728 in payments for 12,287 acres  
 6 EQIP contracts                      \$779,832 in payments for 1,096 acres

Practice:	Applied:
Conservation Crop Rotation (328)	215 acres
Cover Crop (340)	3,123 acres
Fence (382)	10,249 feet
Forage Harvest Management (511)	30 acres
Nutrient Management (590)	19,861 acres
Pest Management Conservation System (595)	57,774 acres
Prescribed Grazing (528)	5,669 acres
Pumping Plant (533)	2 units
Residue and Tillage Management, Reduced Till (345)	17,937 acres
Residue and Tillage Management, No Till (329)	22,374 acres
Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (644)	11 acres
Watering Facility (614)	3 units
Water Well (642)	2 units
Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment & Renovation (380)	896 feet



First graders each got a turn at the shovels to plant their Arbor Day trees.

## 2024 Alliance for Climate-Smart Agriculture Pilot Project

Practice:	Applied:
Conservation Crop Rotation (328)	1978 acres
Cover Crop (340)	1674 acres
Feed Management (592)	160 animal units
Nutrient Management (590)	747 acres
Pasture and Hay Planting (512)	320 acres
Prescribed Grazing (528)	382 animal units
Residue and Tillage Management, No Till (329)	1056 acres
Residue and Tillage Management, Reduced Till (345)	3774 acres



The newly repainted Tree Shed.



SCD Technician Easton Brown presents on wetlands and wildlife at the 2024 sixth grade Eco Ed Day.