

# FOSTER COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

## 2023 ANNUAL REPORT



SCD Board & staff and NRCS staff assisted with Eco Ed Day

### 2023 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 Conservation Unit Supervisor	Paul DuBourt
NRCS District Conservationist	Kayla Feiring Bjork
NRCS Soil Conservationist	Zachary Compson
NRCS Soil Conservationist	Kelly Satrom
Foster County Extension Agent	Jeff Gale
SCD Manager	Dionn Schaaf
SCD Technician	Easton Brown
SCD Education Coordinator	Jill Vigesaa

### 2023 Foster County SCD Highlights

#### January

- Radio segment on KDAK - Schaaf
- 2023 Plan-of-Work and Budget approved
- NDASCD dues paid
- Schaaf attends Pesticide Recertification training
- 2022 annual report published

#### February

- Radio segment on KDAK – Schaaf
- Repairs to field equipment continued
- Donation made to 4-H Land Judging Team for travel to national contest

#### March

- Radio segment on KDAK – Feiring Bjork and Compson
- Jeremiah and Angie Blahna selected as Foster County 2023 Conservation Achievement Award recipients
- NDCDEA annual meeting held in Mandan
- Carrington Tree Board meeting
- Women’s Ag Day held at Crossroads Golf Club. Theme: Do Something for You Today!

#### April

- 2015 Chevy Silverado purchased
- Radio segment on KDAK – Schaaf and Gale
- SCD Stewardship Week materials provided to local churches and schools as requested
- Vegetable pot supplies delivered to Midkota Elementary
- Seeds provided for Carrington pumpkin-growing contest

#### May

- Radio segment on KDAK – Feiring Bjork
- Stewardship Week presentation to Ministerial Association
- Carrington Arbor Day and first grade tree planting
- First grade tree seedlings and Arbor Day materials delivered to Midkota and Kensal grade schools
- Handplant tree order pickup day
- Field crew orientation/training
- Maintenance on pollinator garden
- District began machine planting trees and shrubs, hand planting replacement trees, and early grass seeding
- Shrub row planted at CREC arboretum
- Trees planted at Carrington Cemetery in memory of Frank Davis
- Project TREES completed 351 programs during the school year reaching 16,362 students across ND
- Take-home materials provided to Progressive Ag Safety Day
- Case 585 tractor and Leer topper sold on bids



Women’s Ag Day main speaker Calli Thorne

## *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  
Carrington Tree Board meeting  
SCD tree planting crew assisted with Carrington Boulevard Tree program  
SCD booth at Foster County Fair  
Two pollinator programs presented at Carrington Library Summer Reading Program

## *July*

Radio segment on KDAK – Schaaf  
Spring planting and installation was completed and tree site mowing service began  
2024 tree order and conservation planning began  
Wooden shed purchased for outside storage at office building  
Carrington Tree Board meeting

## *August*

Radio segment on KDAK – Schaaf  
Draft 2024 budget and mill levy request submitted  
Legislature increased supervisor per diem rate (SB2246)  
Applications submitted to 2024 ND Outdoor Heritage Fund SCD Tree Planting Initiative  
AC units at the office were repaired or replaced  
Tree survival and variance success checks began  
CRP status reviews completed  
SCD staff attended conservation education workshop in Devils Lake

## *September*

Midkota and Carrington sixth grade students attended Eco Ed Day at Juanita Lake Park  
Radio segment on KDAK – Schaaf  
Brown gave presentation on watering systems at NDCDEA Windbreak Technology training course  
Drew Thurlow selected to receive Foster County Tree Care award for 2023  
NDASCD Area I meeting held in Devils Lake

## *October*

Radio segment on KDAK – Schaaf  
Fall cover crop planting and between-tree-row fall grass seeding completed  
First 2024 tree orders submitted to nurseries  
Carrington Tree Board meeting  
Root view boxes rebuilt  
Annual conservation library book donations delivered to Carrington and Midkota Grade Schools

## *November*

Radio segment on KDAK – Hoppe  
District policy reviewed and updated  
NACD dues paid  
Dormant grass seeding completed  
Repairs and winter maintenance of SCD equipment began  
NDASCD annual state meeting held in Bismarck  
Klein acknowledged for 35 years of service on Foster Co. SCD Board  
Brown elected President of NDCDEA

## *December*

Radio segment on KDAK – Schaaf  
Hoppe and Partlow re-appointed as SCD Supervisors for 2024  
Audit materials submitted to ND State Auditor  
Supervisor training logs for 2023 submitted to NDSSCC  
SCD Booth at CREC's Central Dakota Ag Day



Jeremiah and Angela Blahna received the 2023 Foster County Soil Conservation Achievement Award



Fifth graders with the SCD's 2023 conservation and natural resource book donation to Carrington Elementary library.

## 2023 SCD Field Activities and Services

- 89,705 linear feet of trees machine planted (12,368 trees)
- 48 trees hand planted
- 90,721 linear feet of weed barrier fabric installed
- 188 tree shelter tubes installed
- 7 tree sites seeded with between-row grass mix
- 2 field sites planted by drill service (66 acres)
- 3 days rental of no-till drill (76 acres)
- 3 days rental of box drill (21 acres)
- 2 tree row sites mowed



The SCD had a trifecta of rented tractors for 2023! Red, green and blue!

## 2023 NRCS Programs - Applied Conservation

20 CSP contracts	\$3,488,087 in payments for 36,782 acres
3 EQIP contracts	\$279,593 in payments for 1,725 acres

### Practice:

- Brush Management (314)
- Conservation Crop Rotation (328)
- Cover Crop (340)
- Fence (382)
- Forage Harvest Management (511)
- Irrigation Water Management (449)
- Nutrient Management (590)
- Pasture and Hay Planting (512)
- Pest Management Conservation System (595)
- Prescribed Grazing (528)
- Pumping Plant (533)
- Residue and Tillage Management, Reduced Till (345)
- Residue and Tillage Management, No Till (329)
- Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (644)
- Watering Facility (614)
- Water Well (642)
- Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment & Renovation (380)

### Applied:

- 50 acres
- 21,767 acres
- 5,850 acres
- 4,051 feet
- 64 acres
- 451 acres
- 53,650 acres
- 15 acres
- 43,785 acres
- 10,320 acres
- 4 units
- 12,604 acres
- 15,575 acres
- 11 acres
- 3 units
- 1 units
- 32,419 feet



First graders pose with their newly planted tree at Carrington Elementary School



Foster County Extension and FFA assisted with Women's Ag Day, and flowers were provided by Cows & Co.