

Nicollet Soil & Water Conservation District
501 7th Street, PO Box 457
Nicollet, MN 56074
507-232-2550

PRSR STD
US Postage Paid
Permit # 9
St. Peter, MN 56082



Nicollet SWCD

2021

January

Thank You Robby!

Robby Gieseke is awarded a plaque by Nicollet Soil and Water Conservation District Manager, Kevin Ostermann, for serving as District 4 Supervisor on the Nicollet SWCD Board from 2009—2020. Thanks for your many years of service Robby!!



Now Taking Tree Orders for Spring Planting



The Nicollet Soil and Water Conservation District Tree Program was developed to provide landowners with an affordable and convenient way to purchase trees and shrubs for conservation practices. Practices may include: windbreaks, shelterbelts, living snow fences and wildlife habitat.

The tree program is on a first come, first serve basis. If you place an order, you will be notified by postcard when the trees can be picked up. Approximate delivery time is the end of April. Trees can be picked up at the Nicollet SWCD in Nicollet. The tree order form is on the inside back page and can also be found on our website: www.Nicolletswcd.org. Give us a call with any questions or to request that an order form be mailed to you.

Conservation Planning Services—In the Middle MN Watershed

Local, State, and Federal Agencies have come together to target conservation in the Middle Minnesota Watershed. Jennifer Hahn, the Middle MN Watershed Planner, is working with the conservation offices and producers in Nicollet, Sibley, and surrounding counties to work with landowners and operators on their resource concerns, provide plans and designs to address those concerns, and connect the producers to programs for financial assistance.

Did you notice erosion, compaction, poor stand areas, soft spots, etc. during harvest? Are you interested in increasing infiltration and/or organic matter? Do you need a pit closed or need a composting facility? Would you like to tighten up your input costs with a nutrient management plan?

These and other concerns can be assessed and a tailored plan can be created for you and your land free of charge. We can also help you sign up for financial assistance programs to help with the costs of implementing these practices.

Land within the Middle MN Watershed is eligible for these services.

**Jennifer Hahn, Watershed Planner, Middle MN Watershed Phone: 651-485-7848
Email: Jennifer.hahn@mn.nacdnet.net**



Potential Projects

- Erosion control
- Nutrient management
- Pest management
- Cover crops
- Reduced tillage
- Composters
- Pit closures
- Alternative intakes
- Prescribed grazing
- Forage management
- Pollinator/wildlife
- Feedlot practices
- More

The Nicollet Soil and Water Conservation District

501 7th Street
PO Box 457
Nicollet, MN 56074
Phone: (507) 232-2550

District Board

Bruce Hulke, Chair
Eric Annexstad, Vice Chair
Tim Braun, Secretary
John Kral, Member
Don Hermanson, Member

District Employees

Kevin Ostermann
District Manager

Blake Honetschlager
District Technician

Eric Miller
District Technician

Judy Beetch
Administrative Assistant

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday
8:00am-4:30pm
Please call ahead to schedule an appointment.

Natural Resource Conservation Service

Phone: (507) 237-5435 ext. 3

April Sullivan
District Conservationist

Katie Mattila
Soil Conservationist

United States Department of Agriculture Conservation Financial Assistance Programs:

CRP (Conservation Reserve Program)

Ongoing-visit with FSA or NRCS

CSP (Conservation Stewardship Program)

Continuous Sign-up Now Accepting Applications for FY2021 Funds

EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentive Program)

Continuous Sign-up-currently accepting for potential 2nd round in 2021

WRE (Wetland Reserve Easements) Continuous Sign-up

For more information, contact the Sibley/Nicollet NRCS Office in Gaylord: (507) 237-5435

Natural Resources Conservation Service
112 5th Street, PO Box 868, Gaylord, MN 55334
An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

This newsletter is published by the Nicollet Soil and Water Conservation District, 501 7th St., Nicollet, MN 56074 and USDA NRCS, 112 5th St, Gaylord, MN 55334. For more information regarding this newsletter, contact (507) 232-2550. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

Board Meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at 8:30 a.m. Agenda posted on the website one week prior.



Online version available @ www.nicolletswcd.org
Email info@nicolletswcd.org for updates
"Like us" on the Nicollet Soil & Water Facebook page!

First Kernza® Perennial Grain Harvest in Nicollet County a Success



Dan Coffman holding his first Kernza® harvest.

Dan Coffman's first harvest of the new Kernza® perennial grain looked impressive, showing great promise for growing the crop in this part of the state. With 1,172 acres of Kernza® now planted in Minnesota (about 20 in Nicollet County), acreage is still gradually expanding as Forever Green at the University of Minnesota and growers across the state continue to learn more about the crop.

Kernza® offers exceptional opportunities for innovation and adding a new crop to growers' rotations. It's showing considerable interest for market development and it has excellent soil and water benefits too. Look for Kernza® products at local grocery stores, bakeries and breweries, or order flour at perennial-pantry.com to support Kernza's® establishment.

To find more information, resources will be available at 7-milecreek.org or email **Brad Gordon** at bgordon@greatrivergreening.org with questions.

Minnesota Soil Health Coalition

The Minnesota Soil Health Coalition is a farmer run, farmer led statewide organization with one primary goal — to improve soil health. Minnesota producers understood the importance of developing a coalition that was driven and led by producers to support and inform their fellow farmers in implementing best practices to improve soil health. As such, the Minnesota Soil Health Coalition was born in 2019. The importance of healthy soil is not only beneficial to the environment, but also to agriculture production.

OUR PASSION

The Minnesota Soil Health Coalition is a farmer led and driven organization dedicated to providing education, farmer-to-farmer mentoring, networking, and plain language technical information. Two key goals of the Coalition are to provide farmer-to-farmer mentoring and soil health testing that couples management, economic, and agronomic data to more quickly provide real world information to the producers of Minnesota. The idea being that information is power—that the faster real world information is made available, the quicker management decisions can be made in the field.



WHAT WE DO

EDUCATE

We provide education and training to farmers, agencies, and the public through both in person events and online resources, including videos, podcasts, articles, and more. Visit mnsoilhealth.org for access to all our educational resources including a calendar of events.

MENTOR

We have developed a robust Farmer Mentor Network to provide farmers a personal resource to assist in achieving their soil health goals. Every one in our mentor network is thoroughly vetted and completed an onboarding process to ensure they are well versed in the best practices in soil health. Find a mentor online at: mnsoilhealth.org/mentor

CONNECT

Improved soil health is the result of uniting conservation agencies, farmers, and leaders in the industry to advocate for large-scale adoption of soil health principals.

RESEARCH

Soil health initiatives vary depending on the soil itself, and developing a plan of action involves conducting research. This includes collecting, analyzing, and disseminating field scale data on soil health, management, and economics each year.

ORGANIZE

MNSHC plans and executes several collaborative events, trainings, field days, and meetings with producers and other entities throughout the year.

DEVELOP

MNSHC works with Minnesota farmers in developing agreements to monitor management, soil health, and economics.

Find out more at www.mnsoilhealth.org. Check us out on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/mnsoilhealth/>

Find newsletters, events, videos, technical information, podcasts, and more!

For more information, contact **Jennifer Hahn** coordinator@mnsoilhealth.org

The Minnesota Soil Health Coalition, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, is led by an elected board and composed of Minnesota agriculture producers.



2021 Tree Order Form					Order Number (office use)
Mail Order NICOLLET SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT					Name:
To: 501 7th St., PO Box 457, Nicollet MN 56074					Address:
PHONE: (507) 232-2550					Email Address:
QUALITY NURSING STOCK FOR CONSERVATION					Phone:
CONIFER POTTED					Important Notice Trees are distributed in April. We will notify you of your pickup day. The cost of trees does not warrant free replacement and the district offers no guarantee of survival.
Species	Size	# of Trees	Cost		
1 Quart Red Pine	5-10"		x \$4.00/Tree =		
1 Quart White Pine	5-8"		x \$4.00/Tree =		
1 Quart Colorado Spruce	8-16"		x \$4.00/Tree =		
1 Quart Blackhills Spruce	8-12"		x \$4.00/Tree =		
1 Quart American Arborvitae	6-12"		x \$4.00/Tree =		
2 Gal. White Pine	18-24"		x \$15.00/Tree =		
2 Gal. American Arborvitae	18-24"		x \$15.00/Tree =		
2 Gal. Blackhills Spruce	24-30"		x \$15.00/Tree =		
2 Gal. Colorado Spruce	24-30"		x \$15.00/Tree =		
BARE ROOT DECIDUOUS 1 Bundle = 10 Trees					Payment due in full on day of order. No refunds on cancelled orders after February 23rd, 2020.
Black Walnut	18-24"		x \$15.00/Bundle =		
Hackberry	18-24"		x \$15.00/Bundle =		
Norway Poplar	18-24"		x \$15.00/Bundle =		
Sugar Maple	18-24"		x \$15.00/Bundle =		
Red Maple	18-24"		x \$15.00/Bundle =		
Swamp White Oak	18-24"		x \$15.00/Bundle =		
Red Oak	18-24"		x \$15.00/Bundle =		
Bur Oak	18-24"		x \$15.00/Bundle =		
SMALL TREES 1 Bundle = 10 Trees					
Elderberry	18-24"		x \$15.00/Bundle =		
Crab, Red Splendor	18-24"		x \$15.00/Bundle =		
Nanking Cherry	18-24"		x \$15.00/Bundle =		
American Plum	18-24"		x \$15.00/Bundle =		
Amur Maple	18-24"		x \$15.00/Bundle =		
SHRUBS 1 Bundle = 10 Trees					If you would like to be notified of your pickup day by e-mail, please provide that information in the space provided above.
American Hazelnut	18-24"		x \$15.00/Bundle =		
Common Lilac	18-24"		x \$15.00/Bundle =		
Serviceberry (Juneberry)	18-24"		x \$15.00/Bundle =		
Dogwood Redosier	18-24"		x \$15.00/Bundle =		
Flame Willow	18-24"		x \$15.00/Bundle =		
Cranberrybush	18-24"		x \$15.00/Bundle =		
FABRIC TREE SQUARES & ROLLS					Pickup location will be at the Nicollet SWCD 501 7th Street Nicollet, MN
Price Includes 6"x1"x6" Staples		# of Mats or Feet			
Pre-Cut Tree Squares	3' x 3'		x \$1.65/Square =		
Fabric Roll Mat (whole roll)	300 Feet		x \$110.00/Roll =		
			SUBTOTAL		
			SALES TAX (7.375%)		
			TOTAL DUE		
<i>Please Round Sales Tax Correctly</i>				Make Checks Payable to Nicollet SWCD	