

The Clearwater SWCD Conservator



Volume 3, Issue 1

Spring 2012

Clearwater SWCD...

- Provides **technical assistance** to residents doing conservation projects along lakes, rivers, & wetlands
- Offers **cost sharing** on conservation projects that prevent erosion & protect water quality
- Can **advise you about trees** that are likely to be successful at your site

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Clearwater SWCD
312 Main Ave N, Ste 3
Bagley, MN 56621

Phone: 218-694-6845
Website:
www.clearwaterswcd.org

Protect Your Investments— Put Windbreaks to Work

Beat Old Man Winter at his game with a shelterbelt or windbreak to protect your homestead, farm operation, or driveway.

Well-designed shelterbelts and windbreaks can reduce energy consumption by up to 25%, help control where the snow piles up, and make the farmstead more pleasant for people and animals. Cattle and other livestock with good winter wind protection have less stress and can have significantly lower feed intake and consumption needs. Field

windbreaks on cropland can manage the force of winds by reducing topsoil loss by up to 4T/acre on some sites, keeping the best soil on your fields and out of our ditches, stream, and lakes.



An established windbreak adds protection and beauty to working lands.

Incorporating a diversity of plants, such as flowering and fruiting shrubs, can make a shelterbelt or windbreak beautiful as well as useful. Additional benefits are the harvesting of fruits and berries for jams and jellies and providing food and shelter for grouse, songbirds, and other wildlife.

Purchasing trees from Clearwater SWCD is an affordable way to begin a windbreak at your site. We also have the technical expertise to talk you

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Meeting the Challenges of Lakeshore Protection

A warm spring breeze will be a welcome transition from blowing snow. As winter finally begins to loosen its icy grip from our lakes and streams, lakeshore owners excitedly anticipate getting the dock out, putting the boat in the water, and preparing for the upcoming open water season. However, the enjoyment of these activities can be postponed by impassible shorelines created by the forces of winter.

This past winter proved to be one of the most docile in his-

tory, but the pattern of freeze and thaw also produced the perfect conditions for ice to flaunt its strength. Ice heaving is a regular and natural process on many of our area lakes, but its effects could be especially bad on a year such as this.

Objects ordinarily sound and secure in their placement at the lake's edge become vulnerable as the weight of a lake's massive ice sheet bears itself against them. Boulders, concrete boat ramps, and shoreline embankments are

all defenseless against the movement and expansion of ice. The force of ice can quickly turn a well-maintained shoreline into a disaster area.

So, what can you do to protect your shoreline against these forces of nature? Significant protective and restorative effects can be achieved by planting native sedges, flowers, and shrubs to create a natural buffer at the lake's edge. Once established these plantings will

(Continued on page 2)

It's in the Bank: New Ag Wetland Banking Options



Producers looking to make farm improvements in or around wetlands now have a new resource. The Minnesota Board of Soil and Water Resources (BWSR) is working with producers to create an agriculture-only wetland banking cooperative.

This cooperative aims to reduce costs of wetland replacement or mitigation for agricultural projects. Wetland banks are a convenient way to offset impacts to wetlands by restoring wetlands for "credit." Wetland credits are then purchased by individuals or companies wishing to perform projects having impacts to wetlands.

Wetlands located on agricultural lands are regulated by the Swamp Buster Act of 1985, which states that no additional acreage of wetlands can be drained or filled for a producer to be eligible for USDA program benefits. Before any clearing or drainage is done, a producer should visit their local USDA office to ensure compliance.

The cooperative wetland bank is an innovative approach to wetland regulation on agricultural lands. Interest has been generated by farmers wishing to perform activities impacting wetlands as well as those wanting to receive compensation for restoring wetlands. Lands eligible to receive wet-

land credits include altered wetlands in need of restoration and possibly restored wetlands coming out of CRP contracts.

The credits are administered by BWSR. More about wetland banking can be found at www.bwsr.state.mn.us/wetlands/. Producers wishing to participate in this wetland banking program should contact Mike Stenseng, Clearwater County Environmental Services, at 694-6183 for additional information.

—
By Jaime Thibodeaux, Soil Conservation Technician, Natural Resources Conservation Service



The USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



Welcome to Jaime Thibodeaux, the newest staff member at the Bagley NRCS office. Jaime moved to Bemidji from south Louisiana in 2010 with her husband Craig. Currently she is working toward her master's degree at Bemidji State University. She earned her bachelor's degree in Wildlife Biology at the University of Wisconsin in 2003. Her professional experience includes Farm Bill Biologist for the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources and Coastal Scientist for the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources.

Lakeshore Challenges, continued



An established restoration on Roy Lake lends color, beauty, and strength to a vulnerable shoreline.

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stabilize shifting soils, filter runoff from your lawn, provide benefits for wildlife species from butterflies to fish, and add beauty, form, and color to the lakefront.

Other affordable interventions such as installing coir logs and marine plantings can add to your protection against erosion and shoreline damage. In some extreme cases, reshaping or adding rock rip-rap at the water's edge may be necessary to limit erosion during the open water months.

Caring for shorelines diminished by ice and wave action involves effort and dedication. However, with this change comes the opportunity to improve the area for years to come.

If you are looking to clean up after winter's assault on your shore or simply want to improve the resilience of your lakefront, please get in touch with us. We can help you make a plan, identify beneficial plant species, or even work with your lake association to restore multiple lots on the same lake. Call us or stop by our office for more information, 694-6845.



2012 Tree Order Form

Clearwater Soil & Water Conservation District

312 Main Ave N, Suite 3, Bagley MN 56621

Phone/Fax (218) 694-6845 ■ www.clearwaterswcd.org

Name _____

Date _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Street or Box

City

Zip

Email _____

Please provide your email address if you have one. We will use it to remind you when trees are in.

**This column
is for office
use only.**

NEW: MULTI-VARIETY NATIVE SPECIES PACKS

Species	Size	Price/Bundle	# of Bundles	Total Cost	Packed
Bird & Grouse Small Pack: Cranberry, Highbush (5); Dogwood, Gray (5); Hawthorne, Downy (5); Hazelnut (5); Nannyberry, Viburnum (5); 25 total	same sizes as listed below	\$30.00			
Bird & Grouse Large Pack: Cranberry, Highbush (25); Dogwood, Gray (25); Hawthorne, Downy (25); Hazelnut (25); Nannyberry, Viburnum (25); 125 total	same sizes as listed below	\$130.00			
Jam & Jelly Small Pack: Cherry, Pin (5); Chokecherry, Common (5); Grape, Riverbank (5); Plum, American (5); Serviceberry/Juneberry, Alleghany (5); 25 total	same sizes as listed below	\$30.00	Sold Out		
Jam & Jelly Large Pack: Cherry, Pin (25); Chokecherry, Common (25); Grape, Riverbank (15); Plum, American (25); Serviceberry/Juneberry, Alleghany (25); 115 total	same sizes as listed below	\$122.00	Sold Out		

Multi-variety tree packs are in limited supply, order soon for best availability. **NO SUBSTITUTIONS.**

Drought tolerance: T=Tolerant; A=Average tolerance; S=Sensitive to drought

Please call us for more information!

SHRUBS, SMALL TREES, ETC.; Acceptable site drainage: P=Poor drainage; M=Moderate drainage; E=Excessive drainage

Species	Drought Tolerance - Site Drainage	Size	Price/Bundle	# of Bundles	Total Cost	Packed
Climbing Vine: Grape, Riverbank (10)	T - P, M, E	18 - 24"	\$12.00	Sold Out		
Arrowwood (25)	T - P, M	12 - 18"	\$26.50			
Ash, American Mountain (25)	A - P, M	18 - 24"	\$26.50			
Cherry, Nanking (25)	T - M, E	18 - 24"	\$26.50			
Cherry, Pin (25)	A - M, E	16 - 24"	\$26.50	Sold Out		
Chokeberry, Black (25)	T - P, M, E	18 - 24"	\$26.50			
Chokecherry, Common (25)	T - M, E	18 - 24"	\$26.50			
Crab, Midwest Manchurian (25)	S - M	18 - 24"	\$26.50			
Crab, Red Splendor (25)	S - M	18 - 24"	\$26.50			
Cranberry, Highbush (25)	T - P, M	18 - 24"	\$26.50			
Dogwood, Gray (25)	T - M, E	18 - 24"	\$26.50			
Dogwood, Red Osier (25)	A - P, M	18 - 24"	\$26.50			
Elderberry, American (25)	A - M	18 - 24"	\$26.50			
Hawthorn, Downy (25)	T - M, E	18 - 24"	\$26.50			
Hazelnut (25)	A - M, E	12 - 18"	\$26.50			
Lilac, Common (25)	A - M	18 - 24"	\$26.50			
Lilac, Vilosa (25)	A - M	18 - 24"	\$26.50			
Nannyberry, Viburnum (25)	T - P, M, E	18 - 24"	\$26.50			
Ninebark (25)	T - P, M, E	18 - 24"	\$26.50			
Plum, American (25)	T - M, E	18 - 24"	\$26.50			
Serviceberry/Juneberry, Alleghany (25)	S - M	18 - 24"	\$26.50	Sold Out		

CONIFERS

Species	Drought Tolerance - Site Drainage	Size	Price/Bundle	# of Bundles	Total Cost	Packed
Cedar, White (25)	A - P, M	TR 10 - 16"	\$28.00			
Pine, Jack (25)	T - M, E	8 - 14"	\$18.00			
Pine, Red (Norway) (25)	S - M, E	6 - 12"	\$13.50			
Pine, Red (Norway) (25)	S - M, E	TR 16 - 26"	\$25.00			
Pine, White (25)	S - M	5 - 12"	\$13.50			
Pine, White (25)	S - M	TR 10 - 16"	\$25.00			
Spruce, Black (25)	A - P, M	5 - 12"	\$18.00	Sold Out		

CONIFERS, continued						
Spruce, White (25)	S - M	5 - 12"	\$13.50			
Spruce, White (25)	S - M	TR 12 - 18"	\$25.00			
Tamarack (25)	A - P, M	6 - 12"	\$20.00	Sold Out		

TALL TREES

Species	Drought Tolerance - Site Drainage	Size	Price/Bundle	# of Bundles	Total Cost	Packed
Ash, Green (25)	T - P, M, E	18 - 24"	\$26.00	Sold Out		
Birch, Paper (25)	S - P, M	18 - 24"	\$26.00			
Birch, Yellow (25)	S - P, M, E	5 - 12"	\$26.00			
Cottonwood, Siouxland (25)	T - P, M, E	18 - 24"	\$26.00			
Hackberry (25)	T - P, M, E	18 - 24"	\$26.00			
Maple, Red (25)	S - P, M	18 - 24"	\$26.00	Sold Out		
Maple, Silver (25)	T - P, M	18 - 24"	\$26.00			
Maple, Sugar (25)	S - M	18 - 24"	\$26.00			
Oak, Bur (25)	T - M	12 - 18"	\$26.00			
Oak, Red (25)	S - M	18 - 24"	\$26.00			
Poplar Cuttings, Hybrid (25)	S - M	18 - 24"	\$26.00			
Walnut, Black (25)	T - M	18 - 24"	\$26.00			

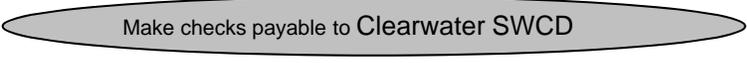
TREE TUBES			COST	Quantity	Total Cost	Packed
Tree Tubes, 48"			\$3.75			
Stakes for tree tubes	call Clearwater SWCD to find out stake prices					

DEER REPELLANT	SIZE	Plants Treated	COST	# of Boxes	Total Cost	Packed
Plantskydd Pre-mixed Spray	1 Liter	100	\$22.00			
Plantskydd Powder	1 lb. Box	200-400	\$22.00			
Plantskydd Powder	2.2 lb. Box	400-800	\$40.00			

CLEARWATER COUNTY PLAT BOOKS		SHIPPING	COST	Quantity	Total Cost	Packed
2011 Plat Book (add \$3.00 and we will mail book to you)		\$3.00 (optional)	\$28.00			

I understand the Clearwater SWCD does not guarantee survival, size, or replacement of tree stock. Due to the perishable nature of the stock, the Clearwater SWCD will not be responsible for the condition of trees after pick up or if picked up after the scheduled dates. It is not the intent of the SWCD to compete with private nurseries.

Signed _____ Date _____

Total Cost of Trees, Deer Repellants, Plat Books, & Shipping	_____
Add MN Sales Tax 6.875% (total cost x .06875)	_____ + _____
Example 1: \$26.50 x .06875= 1.821875 so your tax is \$1.82	
Example 2: \$130 x .06875= 8.9375 so your tax is \$8.94	
TOTAL =	_____
	

Planting Site:
 County _____ Township _____ Section _____

TERMS

Payment must accompany all orders unless other arrangements have been made with the Clearwater SWCD office. For assignments of payment through NRCS and FSA programs please contact our office to make arrangements. Tax-exempt individuals or organizations must have a tax-exempt certificate completed and filed with this office.

TREE PICK-UP INFORMATION

The SWCD office will notify you of any changes to the scheduled pickup dates. Please check our website for updates at clearwaterswcd.org. The pickup site is located at the DNR Forestry storage building north of Bagley on Hwy 92. Questions please call 218-694-6845 or email kathy.rasch@mn.nacdnet.net Pickup times and dates are as follows:

Thursday, April 26th 4-6 / Friday, April 27th 3-7 / Saturday, April 28th 8-1. Due to staff shortages prior arrangements must be made to pick up trees outside scheduled hours.

SWCD SERVICES & INFORMATION

If you would like info on any of the following items please contact our office at 218-694-6845: Cost Share Program Opportunities; Tree Species Information Sheet; Tree Planter Rental; Custom Tree Planting Bid; SWCD Conservation Farm Educational Trails; Buffer Strip or Field Windbreak Information.

Observe and Protect: Preventing Runoff Erosion



Spring runoff reveals erosion challenges

Early spring warmth replenishes moisture in our topsoil as it melts our late season snowfalls. It seems like rivulets of water are running everywhere, soaking into the ground or making their way into nearby ditches and waterways.

This makes now a perfect time to identify areas in your fields that could use a little extra protection from spring runoff and significant rainfall events. A casual survey of your fields in early spring will yield lots of

knowledge as to where water travels and the amount of topsoil it carries with it. Fields which are black and ready for this year's seed are especially vulnerable to the loss of soil from spring runoff. Problem areas are magnified under these circumstances.

Some challenging areas can be managed simply by maintaining crop residue on fields or through other conservation practices. However, certain areas may pose more stubborn challenges. Areas which see concentrated flows on an annual basis are great candidates for the installation of grassed waterways.

Grading the slope in problem areas and seeding with appropriate perennial vegetation will stabilize the soil on the location, slow the velocity of overland flow, and ultimately retain soil on the field. Grassed waterways simultaneously achieve two

essential goals: maintaining the functionality of the field and preserving good topsoil where it is needed.

When you're out touring your fields this spring waiting for the right conditions to start fieldwork, keep your eyes open for areas you can improve. Taking care of these problem areas will not only conserve soil for your fields, but will also improve the quality of our lakes and streams.

Clearwater SWCD can help you address areas causing you concern. Give us a call or stop by the office to find out what we can do for you, 694-6845.



Grassed waterways reduce unnecessary topsoil loss

When you're out touring your fields this spring waiting for the right conditions to start fieldwork, keep your eyes open for areas you can improve.

Spring time is tree time— Protect your growing trees!

Spring is just around the corner and so is tree planting time. Whether you are thinking about a larger windbreak, fruiting species for jam and jelly or just some berries for the birds, the SWCD still has a good selection of bare root conifers, hardwoods, and berry-producing trees and shrubs. Trees and shrubs ordered now will be available for pick-up starting April 26.



Purchase Plantskydd deer repellent at Clearwater SWCD

Bambi and friends are a problem on those tender new transplants, you may want to try using deer repellents or a physical barrier. There are several brands of deer repellents on the market. Frequency of application depends on the brand and weather conditions. Some brands, like Plantskydd, will last up to 6 months if applied under recommended conditions. Physical barriers may range from fencing large areas to individual wire cages to tree tubes which slide down around the seedling and are kept in place with a solid stake. Tree tubes may be left on for 5 years or more. Tree tubes can also help

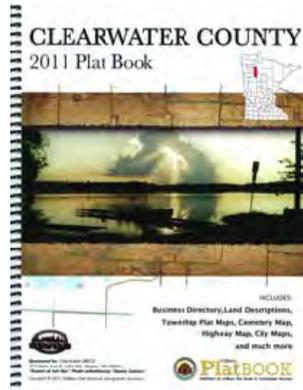
prevent sun scald on the trunk which can be a problem in the winter. **Plantskydd deer repellent and tree tubes are available at the SWCD.**

If you have any questions on choosing the best tree for your site and goals SWCD staff are happy to assist you. For those and any other questions or to place an order, please contact the Clearwater SWCD office, 694-6845.





**Do you have
the new
Clearwater
County Plat
Book?**



**Clearwater Soil and Water
Conservation District**

Clearwater SWCD
312 Main Ave N, Ste 3
Bagley, MN 56621
Phone: 218-694-6845
Website: www.clearwaterswcd.org

Our mission is simple - to promote the wise use and improvement of our county resources, in order that future generations will inherit an economically viable county that has made wise choices in resource management.

It's time to toss that old plat book! Clearwater SWCD carries the newest full color plat book edition available, published in 2011.

Stop by our office today to purchase a book for only \$28.00 plus tax. We are also happy to mail out plat books for \$33.00, pre-paid. You can even add a plat book to your tree order!

Buy one today and remember plat books are great gifts for the person who has (almost) everything!

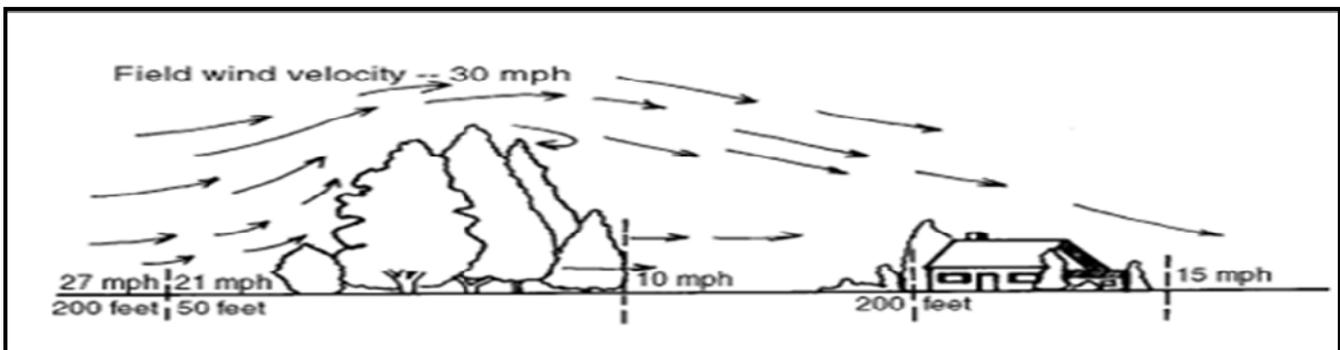


Windbreak Protection, continued

(Continued from page 1)
through your plans so you can receive the greatest benefits from your design. We even have mechanical tree planters to rent!

Some sites could be eligible for cost share assistance to establish a shelterbelt or windbreak or renovate an existing planting.

For more information on assistance available or on shelterbelt and windbreak designs and benefits contact the Clearwater SWCD, 694-6845.



Windbreak Protection Zone (adapted from USDA by NDSU,

"Farmstead Windbreak," <http://www.ag.ndsu.edu/pubs/plantsci/trees/f1055w.htm>)