



*202 East 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.  
Flandreau, SD 57028*



# 2017 Conservation Newsletter

**Moody County Conservation District**  
**202 East 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Flandreau, SD 57028**  
**997-2949 ext. 3**

## **Emerald ash borer - Update**

This summer's confirmation of emerald ash borer in Buena Vista County in Iowa, a mere 80 miles from South Dakota, has heightened concern about its eventual presence in South Dakota. The day is certainly getting closer. Confirmed infestations are found in the Omaha, Nebraska and Minneapolis-St. Paul Minnesota metro areas and now in about half the counties of Iowa. The most ominous finding with the Alta Iowa discovery is that it was about 100 miles from the closest known population in Iowa.

### **Things to Watch For!!**

1. Extensive canopy decline.
2. Suckers around base.
3. (Most Important) D-shape emergent holes.

## ***SD Conservation Award Winner***

Jeff and Drew Hemmer have been selected to receive the SD Conservation Award for Moody County, Jeff and Drew practice conservation tillage and crop rotation for residue management to reduce soil erosion; Grassed waterways are installed and maintain properly, Grasslands are managed for sustainable productivity.

Current state residents or groups may nominate any active South Dakota farming or ranching operation for the award by submitting a nomination form to the producer's local Conservation District. These forms are available at any Conservation District office.

Nominations must be received by the Conservation District by no later than January 1 of each calendar year.

## **Board of Supervisors**

Jack Majeres, Chairman  
Dean Jaycox, Vice Chairman  
Warren Jackson, Treasurer  
Steve Doyle, Supervisor  
Brian Bergjord, Supervisor

## **District Employees**

Harvey Shafer, District Manager

## **NRCS Staff**

Rhonda Nelson, District Conservationist  
Travis Van Buren, Soil Conservationist  
Cody Rolfes, Pheasants forever



Jeff and Drew Hemmer Received 2017 Soil Conservation Farm and Ranch Award at the annual conservation tour. Attending the tour, County Commissioner, District Supervisors, NRCS, and 39 FFA students from Colman Egan School.

**Please Return Your Hand plant Orders by December 1, 2017**

## *Tree Plantings*

Now is a good time to plan your 2018 tree plantings. Planning early gives the landowner time to prepare the ground this fall much as you would to prepare your garden or fields for spring planting. A well prepared seedbed gives better root to soil contact and moisture intake for best tree survival and growth. A diverse species selection of trees and shrubs within the planting is always a good hedge against a disease which may affect a certain species of tree.

The Conservation District offers free design assistance to the landowners for wildlife habitat, riparian area buffers, farmstead shelterbelts and field windbreaks. District staff will come to your site, discuss your plans, and suggest design and species that are adapted to the soils and intended purpose of the planting. A plan and planting cost estimate will be provided to you at no cost.

Some tree and shrub plantings may be eligible for cost share assistance if they meet program requirements. We can explain these programs and see if they fit your tree planting plans. Cost share may be available through the USDA Farm Service Agency or SD Game, Fish and Parks.

Please give us a call or stop in our office if you are interested in design assistance for a 2018 or future tree planting.

Moody Conservation Planted 40 Acres of new seedlings this past spring.

With one acre of trees taking CO2 out of the air equal to one car driving 26,000 mile.

The new trees for 2017 will reduce CO2 by 1,040,000 miles in Moody County!

September is an excellent time to check your trees for survival. Check not only this year's planting but also those planted within last few years. You should order trees this fall for spring 2018 replacement to maintain shelterbelt density. Also check the weed barrier fabric to make sure the opening is large enough to prevent girdling or damaging the tree and enlarge the slit if necessary.

## **Equipment Sponsors**

**C & B Operations Pipestone, MN**

**O'Keefe's Implement Brookings SD**

## *Livestock Watering Sources*

Increased livestock gains can be realized by establishing an alternative water system by providing cleaner supply of water. Above ground pipeline is a less expensive option than cleaning out your old dugout. This type of water system is being used in many areas of the state. We have three landowners in the county successfully using this type of pipeline. Our office has an example of the plastic pipe and fittings for you to look at if you are interested.

A rotational grazing system which includes cross fencing and the alternative water source can be cost shared in some cases if it assists in meeting the Central Big Sioux project goals.

If you are interested in converting cropland to pasture or establishing a rotational grazing system on existing grazing land, cost share is available. SD Game, Fish and Parks or US Fish and Wildlife have cost share available if the grazing system meets their criteria.

The Conservation District works with the SD Association of Conservation Districts and the SD Grassland Coalition who provide grazing specialists. This is a free of charge service offered to livestock producers to assist in the development of grazing systems.

## *Maximize Farm Production*

Why not maximize grass production on your pastures much like you do crops on your cropland? Think pounds of beef per acre instead of bushels. This does not always mean adding more head of cattle. You can increase production per acre by increasing the weaning weight of your calves.

We have grazing specialist that have experience on their own ranches that can help by identifying the grass species present in your pastures and offer recommended stocking rates and best time to graze specific grasses.

This is free service offered by the Conservation District and its conservation partners.

### USDA Non Discrimination Statement

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To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call 202-720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



Since our last newsletter, Cody Rolfes (pictured left) and Travis VanBuren (pictured right) have joined the Flandreau field office team. Travis is an upstate New York native and came to Flandreau in December. Cody joined us in June. He is from Spencer Iowa, an SDSU graduate and has a diverse background in wildlife management. They both enjoy their time outdoors, hunting and fishing. We appreciate their hard work and passion for agriculture and the natural resources!

#### Five examples of how cover crops can benefit Pheasants and Other Wildlife

Written by: Ben Lardy, Pheasants Forever

- 1.) The most common use of cover crops in South Dakota typically entails planting a cool season cover crop following a cash crop. How does this practice benefit pheasants? One example are from producers that opt to graze their cover crops in late fall and early winter. When farmers utilize covers on their cropland they tend to put less pressure on their hayland and rangeland resources. Livestock can be removed from pastures earlier in the fall allowing additional regrowth on pasture and rangeland which will enhance nesting cover the following spring.
- 2.) Season long covers, which are usually composed of multiple broadleaf and grass species can provide tremendous brood rearing habitat in mid-summer. Brassicas, legumes, and other broadleaves such as sunflower and buckwheat attract a variety of insects critical to pheasant chicks during their first few weeks of life. Since these season long mixes are typically grazed instead of chopped or hayed, pheasant chicks can safely utilize these fields for long periods during the growing season.
- 3.) Deer, rabbits, migrating geese, even pheasants have been found to utilize cover crops as a food source. When planted across large tracts of cropland, a field of cover crops can give wildlife the extra boost they need to get through a difficult winter or a continental migration.
- 4.) How about nesting cover? Although difficult in northern states, flying cereal rye into standing corn has become very popular in the southern part of the Corn Belt. Several producers in Iowa have expanded their use of cereal rye to an extent where it is more profitable for them to grow small fields of rye as a seed source for their own cover crop. 20 acres of rye can produce enough cover crop seed for a typical 1,000 acre farm with a corn/bean rotation. Those 20 acres can also provide prime nesting for pheasants and other ground nesting birds much like winter wheat.
- 5.) Building biology from the soil up. Healthy biological activity below ground typically translates to greater biological production above ground. Cover crops fill the void in our soil, the growing season, and the overall landscape. Cover crops may not be able to provide wildlife with all the resources they need, but remain a very welcome addition to the agricultural landscape.

# Moody County Conservation District 2018 Price List

## Tree Planting

| Spacing               |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Trees >7 ft. spacing  | \$5.50per Rod Row<br>33.3 cents per foot  |
| Shrubs <6 ft. spacing | \$6.50 per Rod Row<br>39.3 cents per foot |

## Scalp Planting

| Spacing               |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Trees >7 ft. spacing  | \$6.00 per Rod Row<br>36.4 cents per foot |
| Shrubs <6 ft. spacing | \$7.00 per Rod Row<br>42.4 cents per foot |

**Scalp Planter**

\$50.00 per day

**\$50 site charge for each site.**

**There will be a minimum charge of \$250.00 per site.**

## Hand Plant Trees

|                                   |                                       |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Hand Plants Conservation<br>Grade | \$2.35 each<br><br>\$50.00 per bundle |
| 4-5 foot trees                    | \$7.50 each                           |
| 24"- 30" Spruce                   | \$30.00 each                          |
| 15-18" Ponderosa Pine             | \$13.00 each                          |

## Other Products

| Weed barrier Fabric         |                     |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| 4x4 Squares w/ 5<br>Staples | \$3.00 + tax        |
| 300 x 4 ft. roll            | \$125.00+tax        |
| Bulk rate                   | \$.35 per ft. + tax |
| <b>Staples</b>              | \$0.15 + tax        |
| <b>Flags</b>                | \$0.10 + tax        |
| <b>Tree Tubes</b>           | \$3.00 + tax        |

## Grass Drill Rental

|                               |   |          |                                 |
|-------------------------------|---|----------|---------------------------------|
| 10' drill<br>15' Great Plains | \$10.00/Acre<br>\$22.00/ Acre Tractor, Operator | 8' drill | \$8.00/Acre<br>\$300.00 Minimum |
|-------------------------------|---|----------|---------------------------------|

**\$100.00 Deposit**

**\$300.00 minimum charge**

**Qty**

**Shrubs Bareroot**

- BLACK CHOKEBERRY- White flowers and black berries. Fruit attracts birds. Excellent fall color.  
CARAGANA- Drought hardy, fine leafed yellow flowers, non-edible pods.  
CHOKECHERRY\*-White flowers, blooms late April, fruit is used in jelly and jam.  
CHOKECHERRY, SCHUBERT\*- Red leafed selection. Uses and characteristics are the same as common chokecherry.  
COTONEASTER, PEKING- Glossy green leaves, non-edible fruit, ideal for hedges.  
CRANBERRY, Highbush-White flowers, red fruit. Excellent fall color. Fruit used for jelly.  
CURRANT, AMERICAN BLACK\*- Edible fruits used by birds and animals.  
DOGWOOD, REDOSIER \*- Red stems provide good winter color, tolerate wetter soils, white flowers.  
INDIGO, FALSE\*-Purple flowers. Fast growing. Prefers moist soil. Excellent riparian plant.  
LILAC, COMMON- Dense suckering growth, white to mostly purple flowers.  
NANNYBERRY\*-Shiny leaves, white flowers followed by black fruit containing a single flat seed. Excellent fall color.  
PLUM, AMERICAN\*- White flowers, edible fruit. Good for jelly and jam.  
PLUM, PRAIRIE RED-Similar to Am. Plum but produces larger, tasty red to yellow fruit.  
SUMAC, SMOOTH\*-Large shrub that suckers to form a colony. Excellent red fall color.  
WILLOW, SANDBAR\*- Suckers profusely to form thickets. Needs moist soil.

**Medium Trees Bareroot**

- APRICOT- Early flowering, some trees produce edible fruit.  
CRABAPPLE, SIBERIAN "Hardy crab"- White flowers. Red to yellow fruits 3/8" to 3/4" in diameter. Attracts wildlife.  
MAPLE, AMUR- Usually forms several trunks. Excellent fall color. Prefers moist well-drained soils.  
Little Leaf Linden: Fragrant Flowers.  
WILLOW, LAUREL- Beautiful glossy leaves, does better in moist soil.

**Qty**

**Tall Trees Bareroot**

- ASH, GREEN\*- Native tree, hardwood good for firewood, common in shelterbelts.  
BLACK CHERRY\*- Fast growing tree, white flowers, dark fruit. Attracts songbirds.  
BLACK WALNUT\*- Prefers deep, rich, moist soils, tolerates dry soils but grows slower.  
BUR OAK\*- Long lived native tree, good fall color, produces acorns.  
COTTONWOOD, HYBRID- Fast growing shade tree, male produces no cotton, female may produce some cotton.  
HACKBERRY\*- Hardy, good shade tree, drought tolerate.  
HONEYLOCUST\*- Fine fancy looking leaves, long brown pods.  
KENTUCKY COFFEE TREE\*- Produces flattened pod with hard round seed. Prefers moist well drained soils.  
MAPLE, SILVER\*- Fast growing, yellow fall color.  
POPLAR, WHITE-Leaves and twigs have white felt-like covering. May sucker to form a thicket.  
WILLOW, GOLDEN- Fast growing. Tolerates wet sites. Attractive golden-orange bark adds winter interest.  
WILLOW, PEACHLEAF\*- Usually multiple trunks. Usually seen along streams, rivers and lakes.

**Qty**

**Conifers**

- AUSTRIAN PINE- Medium length needles, shiny green, silvery white buds.  
BLACK HILLS SPRUCE\*- Soft rounded needles, dense, State tree of South Dakota.  
COLORADO BLUE SPRUCE- Sharp needles, green to blue color, most popular of the spruce.  
EASTERN RED CEDAR\*- Reddish brown winter color, prickly needles, very hardy.  
MEYER SPRUCE-Similar to Colorado spruce in size and color, appears to have less insect/disease problems.  
PONDEROSA PINE\*- Long needles, native to South Dakota.  
ROCKY MOUNTIAN JUNIPER\*- Silvery blue, prickly needles, very drought tolerate.

**Hand Plant Tree Prices**

**\$2.35 Per Tree**

***MINIMUM ORDER OF 5 PER SPECIES***