

2015 Activity Report

District Services

- Planted 70 acres of trees on farmsteads, field windbreaks or wildlife cover
- Cultivated 174 acres of trees
- Seeded 20 acres of grass into older tree sites too large to cultivate with equipment
- Leased out the John Deere 20' no-till drill for the seeding of wheat, oats and soybeans on 2070 acres
- Leased out our new Great Plains 15' no-till grass drill (with operator) for the seeding of 900 CRP acres
- Sold over 8000 hand plant trees, both conservation grade and taller/specialty trees, plus several perennial grasses and plants
- Provided hand auger rental
- Offered tree protector tubes and Plantskydd products for the protection of newly planted trees from damage from small animals, and transfilm to protect evergreens from windburn

Education/Youth Activities

- Sponsored a booth at the Watertown Winter Farm Show featuring "Soil Health"
- Promoted Arbor Day and Soil Stewardship activities in Codington County
- Donated cash and helped with the Big Sioux Water Festival held on SDSU's campus in Brookings. Over 1000 4th graders from northeast SD attend this event
- Entered a local producer for the Leopold Conservation Award and he was the 4th place SD winner.
- Promote and support the Resource Conservation Speech contest and the Karst Memorial Scholarship
- Offered sponsorship for 2 campers to the SD Wildlife Conservation Camp held in the Black Hills area
- Supported NESD Land and Range Contest and SD Ag in the Classroom with financial contributions
- Donated 100 bare root cedar trees to Pro Pheasants for a fund raising auction item for their organization
- Publish and distribute over 700 conservation district newsletters three times a year to keep producers in Codington County informed

Conservation Projects/Programs

- Participate in multi-county grant projects – **Prairie Coteau Water Development** promoting stock watering development and wetland creation; **Prairie Coteau Grassland Management Project** utilizes pipelines, tanks, rural water hookups, well and dugouts to improve erosion control, improve water quality and benefit wildlife; **Tree Planting Cost Share grant** for tree belts not eligible for federal cost share programs

- Support and partner with the Upper Big Sioux River Watershed Project offering additional funding on top of CRP programs that are along or touch the Big Sioux River and major tributaries

Miscellaneous District Activities

- Promote and attend the Coteau Area Legislative Dinner held in October where elected officials attend from a 12 county area
- Help to financially support, through dues, the South Dakota Association of Conservation Districts, SDACD Auxiliary, SDACD Employees Association and the National Association of Conservation Districts
- Donate to SDACD Endowment Fund, recognized for reaching milestone in donations at SDACD
- Promote local workgroup meeting in Codington County
- Supervisors and employees attend training workshops and area and state association meetings throughout the year