

**SPINK COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT
2016 PROGRESS REPORT**

The objective of the Spink Conservation District is to support and encourage efforts on the local level to conserve and improve, when possible, present natural resources while using them to their full advantage.

DISTRICT SERVICES:

1. Planted 46.95 acres of trees and shrubs on 22 sites. A total of 13,505 trees and shrubs
2. Applied 119,867 feet of weed barrier fabric to newly planted trees
3. Applied chemical to 10 sites
4. Provided two 15' grass drills with option to include operator. Over 4100 acres have been seeded in 2016 using our drills.
5. Provided opportunity to purchase grass seed, cover crop seed, alfalfa seed, and food plot seed.
6. Prepared 2 sites with tiller for tree planting
7. Provided handplants to over 150 customers
8. Provided tree protector tubes and chemical to protect trees from rabbits and deer. Sold 1294 tree tubes to producers.
9. Provided hand auger for hand planting trees
10. Clipped CRP for 11 producers using our batwing mower
11. Created 5 landscape designs for residents and local organizations.

NRCS/DISTRICT COOPERATIVE SERVICES:

1. 50 CCRP conservation plans
2. Finished 2016 Contribution Agreement and started 2017 Agreement with NRCS/SDACD
3. Completed payment documentation for 200 CSP contracts
4. Completed QAR for 24 CSP contracts
5. EWP status reviews were completed
6. WRP status reviews were completed
7. 14 applications for FY '17 EQIP
8. 10 new applications for FY '17 CSP
9. 11 re-enrolls for CSP
10. Identified resource concerns throughout the county
11. Flagged CRP sites

CONSERVATION EDUCATION:

1. Volunteered 5 days and helped sponsor Rangeland & Soils schools/contests in Woonsocket, Faulkton and Wessington Springs.
2. Helped sponsor Northern Plains Water Festival in Aberdeen where over 800 students attended.
3. Helped sponsor and attended Women in Ag in Faulkton
4. Helped sponsor SDSU Ag Day in Brookings.
5. Donated to Ag in the Classroom
6. Purchased conservation educational materials for a local church during Stewardship Week

CONTEST AND PROMOTIONS:

1. Provided Karst Scholarship forms and other scholarship information to Redfield, Tulare, Doland, and Northwestern schools.
2. Provided monetary awards to 4-H conservation award winners
3. Promoted and distributed SDACD Speech contest information to Redfield, Tulare, Doland, and Northwestern school 9th-12th grade students.
4. Promoted the Arbor Day Essay Contest. Over 40 essays were entered.
5. Promoted and attended the Legislative Supper held in Webster.
6. Promoted our services at the Pheasant Forever Habitat Pays Workshop.

OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

1. Attended Area meeting in Webster
2. Attended SDACD Convention in Deadwood
3. Attended SDACDE Leadership in Pierre
4. Donated to SDACD Endowment Fund
5. Attended Coteau Area employee meeting in Watertown and hosted an area meeting in Redfield.
6. Approval of Annual Plan of Work
7. Approval of Long Range Plan
8. Acceptance of Cooperative Working Agreement between NRCS, State of South Dakota, SDACD, and the District
9. Paid dues for SDACD, SDACD Auxiliary, Tree Research, SDACDE, and NACD
10. Contacted legislators about conservation issues
11. Published two newsletters
12. Dispersed cost share money from James River Water Development District grant to producers for tree planting.
13. Member of the Arbor Day Foundation
14. Partnered with the local 4-H clubs to sell trees to raise money for the 4-H Fairgrounds
15. Donated trees to local Pheasant Forever banquet
16. Hosted supervisor supper
17. Held 75th Anniversary open house