

**SPINK COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
2017 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 54.2 acres of trees and shrubs on 32 sites. A total of 14,535 trees and shrubs
2. Applied 116,448 feet of weed barrier fabric to newly planted trees
3. Applied chemical to 5 sites
4. Provided one full service 15' no till grass drill. Over 3360 acres have been seeded in 2017 using our drill.
5. Provided opportunity to purchase grass seed, cover crop seed, alfalfa seed, and food plot seed.
6. Prepared 4 sites with tiller for tree planting
7. Provided handplants to over 175 customers
8. Provided tree protector tubes and chemical to protect trees from rabbits and deer. Sold 1360 tree tubes to producers and installed tubes on 1 site.
9. Provided hand auger for hand planting trees
10. Clipped CRP for 10 producers using our batwing mower
11. Created 6 landscape designs for residents and local organizations.
12. Provided our Gopher-Getter to 2 customers.

**NRCS/DISTRICT COPPERATIVE SERVICES:**

1. 115 CRP conservation plans
2. Finished 2017 Contribution Agreement and started 2018 Agreement with NRCS/SDACD
3. Completed payment documentation for 225 CSP contracts
4. Completed QAR for 15 CSP contracts
5. EWP status reviews were completed
6. WRP status reviews were completed
7. 15 applications for FY '18 EQIP
8. 15 new applications for FY '18 CSP
9. 25 re-enrolls for CSP
10. Flagged CRP sites

**CONSERVATION EDUCATION:**

1. Volunteered 5 days and helped sponsor Rangeland & Soils schools/contests in Woonsocket, Wessington, 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 and volunteered at Ag in the Classroom
6. Volunteered to host 2018-2019 Rangeland and Soils Days contest.
7. Planted trees and laid fabric at the 4-H grounds with the help of 4-H members

**CONTEST AND PROMOTIONS:**

1. Provided Karst Scholarship forms and other scholarship information to Redfield, Tulare, Doland, and Northwestern schools. A local Redfield student won one of the three scholarships.
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 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students.
4. Promoted the Arbor Day Essay Contest. 55 essays were entered.
5. Promoted the Legislative Supper held in Webster.
6. Volunteered at the Regional Collegiate Soils Contest

**OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

1. Attended Area meeting in Webster
2. Attended SDACD Convention in Sioux Falls
3. Attended SDACDE Leadership in Pierre
4. Donated to SDACD Endowment Fund
5. Attended Coteau Area employee meeting in Watertown and Hecla.
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 three 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. Donated tress to local Pheasant Forever banquet
15. Took supervisors on a tour of Big Sioux Nursery