

# 2026 Spring Newsletter

## SCD Supervisors

Brett Hendrickson

*Chairman*

Cory Blaser

*Vice Chairman*

Tanner Fischer

*Treasurer*

Tony Pierce

Vern Brown

## SCD Employees

Sierra Lee

*District Manager*

Tonya Tysver

*District Technician*

## NRCS Staff

Amanda Berg

*Conservation Team Leader*

Kraig Motzko

*District Conservationist*

Tracy Boll

*Area Range Management*

*Specialist*

Rachel McKittrick

*Area Biologist*

Morgan Olm

*Soil Conservationist*

## NDSU Extension Staff

Penny Nester

*Bowman County*

Elise Anderson

*Slope County*

## Bowman-Slope SCD Update

The Bowman-Slope SCD is slowly starting to get ready for their summer work!

Trees will be coming in at the end of April! Tonya will be contacting everyone who has placed orders to set up a time for them to come pick up their trees! If you have a tree planting plan in place, Tonya will also be in touch about scheduling a time for us to come out and plant them!

Tonya is also working on cost-share opportunities for anyone who may be interested! If you are interested, you can stop in at the office and ask about what cost-share practices may be available!

Sierra is currently working on the new 319 Bowman-Haley Watershed project! She has been meeting with producers in the watershed area to see if they can install some practices and help improve the water quality of the Bowman-Haley Watershed. She is also collaborating with the Water Board and Brosz Engineering to see if there are any other avenues that can be taken to decrease the amount of phosphorous in the lake and therefore decrease the chance of a Harmful Algal Bloom.

Please note that the Bowman-Slope SCD has also updated their mailing address to the same address as the NRCS and FSA. The new mailing address for the Soil Conservation District, Farm Service Agency, and Natural Recourse Conservation Service is:

1608 Old Airport Trail  
Bowman, ND 58623



## Upcoming Deadlines and Events

Cover Crop Summit- April 2<sup>nd</sup> 10am-4:30am

(FSA) General CRP Signup Deadline- April 17<sup>th</sup>

(FSA) Farmer Bridge Assistance Deadline- April 17<sup>th</sup>

Bovine Emergency Response Plan and Training- April 25<sup>th</sup> 7:45am-5pm

Spring into Gardening- April 26<sup>th</sup> 2pm-4pm

(FSA) Supplemental Disaster Relief Program enrollment Deadline- April 30<sup>th</sup>

West Farm Safety Camp- June 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>

OHF Tree Cost-Share Deadline- July 10<sup>th</sup>

### Are You Interested in Planting Trees?

We currently have cost-share available to plant trees in Spring of 2027! If you are interested come in and we can work together to make a plan! If you are wanting cost-share for the trees, the plans need to be finalized by July 10<sup>th</sup>. We hope to see you in our tree shed soon!

## All About Trees

What you should be doing to care for your trees right now?

- Inspect trees and shrubs for insects and diseases
- Prune dead branches
- Prune fruit trees
- Plant new trees!
- Mulch your landscape
- Avoid damaging trunks when mowing lawns

### SCD Services

No-Till Drill Rental

Light Harrow Rental

Tree Planting Services

Tree Grow Tubes

Weed Barrier Fabric

Plantskydd

Livestock Drinking Water Testing

Contact the Bowman-Slope SCD on questions of any of the listed services that we can provide to you!

### SCD Contact

Phone: 701-523-8733

Website: [bowmanslopescd.com](http://bowmanslopescd.com)



### 319 Bowman-Haley Watershed Project

The Bowman-Slope SCD will again be sampling on the Bowman-Haley Reservoir and it's tributaries! But this time, it will be for the new 319 Bowman-Haley Watershed Project! This project has a goal of reversing the amount of nutrients that are being deposited into the lake! This will be done through the process of Best Management Practices!

There are already a few contracts in place to start some of these practices, and we are continuing to work on getting other contracts put in place!

# TREE PLANTING SITE PREP 101

1608 Old Airport Tr, BOWMAN, ND, 58623  
CELL: 307-290-0528 EMAIL: BSSOILCONDIST@GMAIL.COM

## 1 ND One Call

The site must be clearly marked of all buried utility lines in the tree planting area.

- Call 811 ND One Call before digging within 48 hours of planting schedule.
- Share ONE CALL ticket # with SCD office.

## 2 Timeline

- Prep Site by May 1st
- Down payment by February 1st
- April- SCD will reach out about scheduling planting dates
- Modifications to tree plans should be done by end of 2025

## 3 Tree Site Prep:

- Till the planting site to a depth of 6-10 inches, using a cultivator, disk, or tiller.
- Remove ALL rocks, tree branches, tree roots, garbage, etc.
- AFTER trees are planted please keep the site lightly tilled and free of vegetation until we are able to return to lay the fabric.
- Landowners must supply the tractor and driver to pull the tree planter
- When tilling strips, each strip must be a minimum of 12 ft. wide
- Pay the tree portion of your bill by May 1st

### First Fall Pass:



### Second Fall Pass:



### First Spring Pass:



*Bowman Slope*  
Soil Conservation District

### Day of Planting:



# We Are Hiring!

The Bowman-Slope SCD is looking for Highschool and College age students to help with tree season this year!

## Job Includes:

- helping to plant trees
- helping with installation of fabric
- helping with other jobs around the tree shed
- Seasonal (May-June)

## Bonus!!

We will provide donuts, ice cream, pizza, and other snacks!

Contact Tonya Tysver to apply!

(307) 290-0528

Or stop in at the Tree Shed on the East end of the Fairgrounds!

*Bowman Slope*  
Soil Conservation District

Sunday, April 26

# SPRING INTO GARDENING

2:00 - 4:00 PM

Bowman Regional Public Library

### Starting A Backyard Orchard

Tom Kalb - NDSU Extension Horticulturist

### Soil Testing For Gardens

Dr. Chris Augustin - Soil Scientist -  
NDSU Dickinson REC Director

### Vegetables for North Dakota

Penny Nester - NDSU Extension Bowman County



NDSU EXTENSION  
BOWMAN COUNTY

County commissioners, North Dakota State University and U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating. NDSU is an equal opportunity educator and employer. For more information, or call 701-290-0528 for more information. Requests for accommodations related to disability should be made to Penny Nester at 701-523-9271 or penny.nester@ndsu.edu by April 10, 2026.



Saturday, April 25, 2026

7:45 AM—5:00 PM

Dickinson State University Ag Building  
Dickinson, ND

Lunch provided by

Nodak Insurance Company - Clare Messmer, Agent

# BOVINE EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN & TRAINING

## HANDS-ON TRAINING FOR

Law Enforcement  
Fire and EMS Emergency Management Public Safety  
Officials Educators  
Veterinarians  
Local Farmers and Ranchers  
continuing education credits available

Register by April 13, 2026

To register, contact  
Stark Billings Extension Office  
701-456-7665



Funded by the Beef Checkoff.

NDSU EXTENSION

**ndfb**  
Stark/Billings County

The Bovine Emergency Response Program is a proactive specialized training that minimizes additional animal harm while assuring responder and public safety at livestock transportation crashes.



# 2026 WEST FARM SAFETY Camp

**Ages: 13-16 • Cost: \$300 • Camper Limit: 16**

Registration opens March 2 and closes April 7.

## June 2-4

Dickinson State University  
400 State Ave  
Dickinson, ND 585601

**Check-in:**  
10 a.m. CDT Tuesday, June 2

**Check-out:**  
Thursday, June 4

Parent Leadership in Action  
Event at 3 p.m., graduation  
ceremony and check-out to  
follow

Farm Safety Camp is an overnight, hands-on, workforce safety skill development program designed for youth ages 13-16 years old who plan to work for a farmer/rancher, either on their own farm or for a non-family-related operator.

Participants will learn about the following:

- Safe tractor operation, including a tractor-driving obstacle course
- Livestock handling
- ATV certification through North Dakota Parks and Recreation
- Rules of the road
- Farm machinery operation
- Farm first aid, including official Stop the Bleed certification
- Agricultural youth laws
- Equipment operation and maintenance

Click here for more information and to register:  
[ndsu.ag/farmsafety2026](https://ndsu.ag/farmsafety2026)



County commissions, North Dakota State University and U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating. NDSU does not discriminate in its programs and activities on the basis of age, color, gender expression/identity, genetic information, marital status, national origin, participation in lawful off-campus activity, physical or mental disability, pregnancy, public assistance status, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, spousal relationship to current employee, or veteran status, as applicable. Detail inquiries to Vice President, Title IX/ADA Coordinator, Old Main 108, 701-231-7208, [ndsu.ada@ndsu.edu](mailto:ndsu.ada@ndsu.edu). This publication will be made available in alternative formats for people with disabilities upon request, 701-231-7681.



EXTENSION



NDSU | EXTENSION

# Cover Crop Summit

## A Practical Approach to Cover Crops

Curious about using cover crops in your operation? Join this hybrid event to explore current research, economic considerations, and real-world experiences from farmers and ranchers.

THURSDAY

# APRIL 2, 2026

## 10 AM - 4:30 PM CST

### LOCATIONS

- NDSU Dickinson REC - *Host Site*
- NDSU Research Extension Centers - *Remote Sites*
- NDSU Peltier Complex - *Remote Site*
- Online

### FREE TO ATTEND

Lunch provided at all host and remote locations. Registration required.



**REGISTER**  
[ndsu.ag/CoverCrop26](https://ndsu.ag/CoverCrop26)



# Regenerative Pilot Program

Regenerative Agriculture is a conservation management approach that emphasizes natural resources through improved soil health, water management, and natural vitality for the productivity and prosperity of American agriculture and communities.

This pilot program addresses whole-farm resource concerns through support for voluntary regenerative agriculture conservation plans. It puts American farmers first as a part of the solution to Make America Healthy Again (MAHA) by supporting access to American-grown whole foods, critical to addressing the chronic disease crisis nationwide.



## For Producers, this Means:

- Bundled practices will be integrated into a single application, making programs easier to access and more impactful;
- Whole-farm holistic conservation planning is the centerpiece of the program, ensuring that all resource concerns (soil, water, and natural vitality) are addressed together, not piecemeal;
- Conservation planning and producer objectives drive the process, ensuring site-specific solutions that work for the producer;
- Outcomes are tracked, measured, and credited back to the farmer; and
- Producers at every stage, from beginners just starting out with cover crops to advanced operations with years of conservation experience, will find a pathway through this pilot program.



## For Consumers, this Means:

- The NRCS Regenerative Pilot Program puts American farmers first as a part of the solution to Make America Healthy Again;
- Access to American-grown whole foods is critical to addressing the chronic disease crisis nationwide; and
- Engaging the supply chain to give farmers assistance and credit for taking care of the soil, water, and land while productively bringing food to our tables, gives American consumers more access to healthy choices.



Guidance documents lack the force and effect of law, unless expressly authorized by statute or incorporated into a contract. USDA may not cite, use, or rely on any guidance that is not available through their guidance portal, except to establish historical facts.



## Primary Practices

- ◆ Conservation Crop Rotation
- ◆ Contour Farming
- ◆ Contour Orchard and Other Perennial Crop
- ◆ Cover Crop
- ◆ Drainage Water Management
- ◆ Forage Harvest Management
- ◆ Forest Stand Improvement
- ◆ Irrigation Water Management
- ◆ Mulching
- ◆ Nutrient Management
- ◆ Pest Management Conservation System
- ◆ Grazing Management
- ◆ Residue and Tillage Management, No Till
- ◆ Residue and Tillage Management, Reduced
- ◆ Stripcropping



## Producer Requirements

As part of participating in Regenerative Pilot Program, producers must:

- Work with NRCS staff, partners, or technical service providers to conduct a whole-farm assessment;
- Use at least one primary regenerative management practice; and
- Agree to perform soil health testing in the first and last year of the contract (at a minimum) to establish a starting baseline and to record the resulting changes.

The whole-farm assessment includes all resource concerns, and it must meet NRCS planning criteria in the soil and water resource categories.



## MORE INFORMATION

Farmers and ranchers interested in regenerative agriculture are encouraged to apply through their local NRCS Service Center by their state's ranking dates for consideration in FY2026 funding.

Applications for both EQIP and CSP can now be submitted under the new single regenerative application process.



SCAN THE QR CODE  
FOR MORE INFO.

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# Watershed Basics

Keeping North Dakota's streams, rivers and lakes clean demands more than dockside diligence. Even if you don't live along the shores or banks, you may be contributing to the pollution of lakes and streams because they are larger than their shorelines. They're part of a system called a watershed.

## WHAT IS A WATERSHED?

Water from rainfall or snowmelt that doesn't evaporate or soak into the soil runs into ditches, streams, wetlands or lakes. The area of land from which the water drains is called a watershed. Watersheds vary in size. If water from a few acres drains into a small stream, those few acres are its watershed. This stream and others like it run into larger streams or lakes. Small watersheds make up larger ones. It's easy to see how the watersheds of North Dakota's lakes can have land areas many times larger than their lake surfaces.

## HOW DO YOU FIT INTO YOUR WATERSHED?

Wherever you live in North Dakota you are in a watershed. Your watershed may be covered with towns, industrial areas or farmland. Any excess nutrients, sediments and pollutants in your watershed are carried by runoff to surface waters. You and the other people who live in the watershed potentially influence the water quality in nearby streams and lakes, depending on how careful you are in your day-to-day activities. Understanding that actions on land impact water quality should lead you to cast a more critical eye on many common activities such as gardening, lawn care, automobile maintenance, farming and ranching. These and other activities can contribute excess nutrients, sediment and pollutants to the streams, rivers or lakes in your watershed.

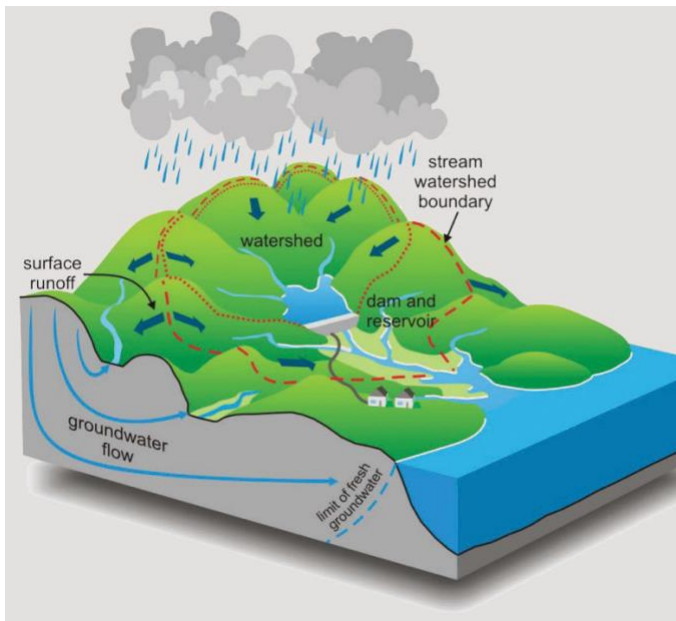
## WHAT CAN YOU DO FOR YOUR WATERSHED?

### In rural areas you can:

- Practice building soil health.
- Use conservation tillage.
- Practice crop rotation.
- Install grassed waterways.
- Plant filter strips around feedlots.
- Retire highly erodible land.
- Practice sound pesticide and fertilizer use.
- Recycle agricultural chemical containers.
- Construct diversion dikes or channels around feedlots.
- Recycle fluids from vehicles and machinery

### In urban areas you can:

- Maintain plant cover to reduce runoff.
- Mulch gardens and exposed soil.
- Terrace land to slow runoff.
- Direct runoff to areas where it will soak into the soil.
- Minimize pavement and impermeable surfaces.
- Minimize soil disturbance at construction sites.
- Maintain septic systems.
- Use low- or no-phosphate soaps.
- Recycle automotive fluids.



Information and Pictures Provided by  
the North Dakota Department of  
Environmental Quality

"Soil erosion is as old as agriculture. It began when the first heavy rain struck the first furrow turned by a crude implement of tillage in the hands of prehistoric man. It has been going on ever since, wherever man's culture of the earth has bared the soil to rain and wind."  
-Hugh H. Bennett and W.C. Lowdermilk, circa 1930's



**Bowman-Slope SCD**  
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**Bowman, ND 58623**