

YOUTH ACTIVITY

Rain stick

- Paper towel roll
- Duct tape
- Aluminum foil
- Mixture of corn kernels, rice, and small noddles

1. Cover one end of the paper towel roll with duct tape.
2. Insert a long rolled-up piece of aluminum foil into the paper towel roll.
3. Fill the inside of the paper towel roll 1/4 full with the mixture of corn kernels, rice, and small noodles.
4. Cover the other end of the paper towel roll with duct tape.
5. Wrap construction paper around the paper towel roll.
6. Wrap duct tape over the construction paper on both ends.
7. Move the rainstick from side to side and listen to the sound it makes!



Conservation Houses

The Soil Conservation District worked with Karagan Damjanovich's Community Development class at the MRPHS to build Conservation Houses. There are four houses scattered across the parks in Mott with educational material and activities to encourage outdoor exploration!



SUMMER 2026 NEWSLETTER

SLOPE- HETTINGER SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Mission: Focus attention on land, water, soil, and natural resource problems.

Slope-Hettinger SCD Employees:

Kerstan Cole- District Manager/Technician

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Hannah Nordby- Education Program Coordinator

email: slopehettingerscd@gmail.com

Natural Resources Conservation Services:

Darrin Olin- District Conservationist

Ryan Pietrzyk- Soil Conservationist

Anthony Ulrich- Area Civil Engineering Technician

Slope-Hettinger SCD Board Members:

Dale Friedt-Chairman, Mott

Stan Blickensderfer-Vice-Chairman, Mott

Keith Witte-Regent

Stuart Nielsen-New England

Brent Belland-New England

Facebook Page:



SCD Website:



Important Dates:

August

- **28th-30th: Slope County Fair, Amidon**

September

- **9th: SCD Annual Budget Hearing Meeting**
- **18th: EQIP and CSP Batching Dealine**
- **18th: Conservation Kids Camp, Indian Creek**
- **30th: Family Fun Night: Exploring the Amidon Nature Trail, 5:00-7:30 pm, Amidon**

ALL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES OF THE SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT ARE OFFERED ON A NONDISCRIMINATORY BASIS WITHOUT REGARD TO RACE, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, RELIGION, SEX, MARTIAL STATUS, AGE OR HANDICAP. USDA IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER, EMPLOYER AND LENDER



Arbor Day

The Slope-Hettinger Soil Conservation District, with help from Heather with NDSU Extension as well as Joel with ND Forest Service, planted 4 Honeycrisp apple trees with the Mott/Regent and New England 5th Grade classes.



Unearth A Story

The SCD collaborated with the New England and Mott Public schools to provide weekly youth education throughout the summer! From making pollinator ice cream and soil horizon cups to exploring the outdoors through nature sit spots and nature bingo! Lot's of fun AND learning was had!



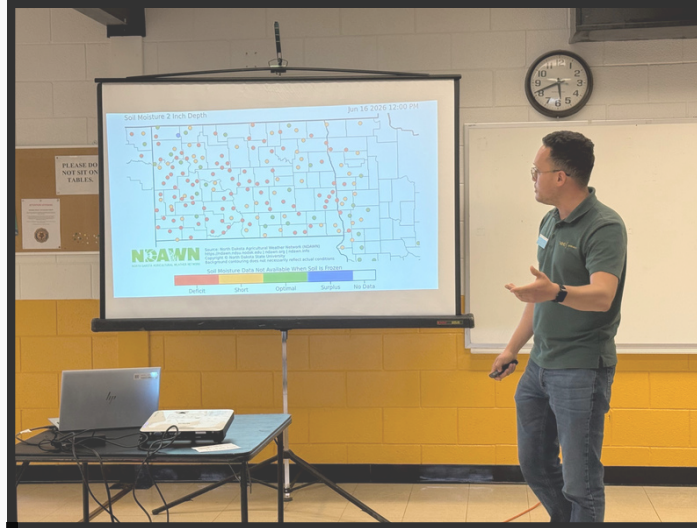
Water Sampling

Kerstan went out weekly from May-October taking water samples from the lower cannonball watershed! If you live in this watershed, stay tuned for cost-share opportunities.



Drought Mitigation

Heather Fisher, with NDSU Extension, teamed up with the SCD to bring information to producers about how to reduce losses in a drought year.



Tallow & Tales

In March we hosted an educational event geared towards bringing people together to tap into overlook and undervalued resources! Kaitlyn Dix demonstrated how to make whipped tallow and we heard from a panel of producers on navigating challenges and building resiliency!



Youth in AG

In April Hettinger County Extension and Soil Conservation District teamed up to educate New England Freshmen and Sophomore's about different agricultural related fields. We heard from a variety of folks from Allison Urlacher with Daph's Flowers on starting your own flower farm to Ron Kessel with Helena on big farming. Dantae Anderson with Farm Credit Services of Mandan helped youth understand the basics of developing a budget and balance sheet. Youth also learned about writing resumes, handling stress, and how to more effectively work with others!



2026 Scholarship Recipients:

Congratulations to the high school seniors who received a scholarship from the Slope-Hettinger Soil Conservation School District! The Board of Supervisors was impressed by your knowledge of conservation and your strong desire to help protect and conserve our natural resources. We are proud to support students who are committed to making a positive difference in the future of our land and communities.

These scholarships were made possible thanks to monies raised through the 2026 Winter Ball!



\$1,000
Scholarship
Recipient:
New England
BRADLY KREBS



\$1,000
Scholarship
Recipient:
Mott-Regent
RUBY NASSET



\$500
Scholarship
Recipient:
Mott-Regent
RYLEE GREEN



\$500
Scholarship
Recipient:
Mott-Regent
JAYCIA
THOMAS



\$500
Scholarship
Recipient:
Mott-Regent
NATALIE
WIESINGER



\$500
Scholarship
Recipient:
Mott-Regent
ALEXIA
SCHAIBLE



\$500
Scholarship
Recipient:
Mott-Regent
ALLISON GRIST

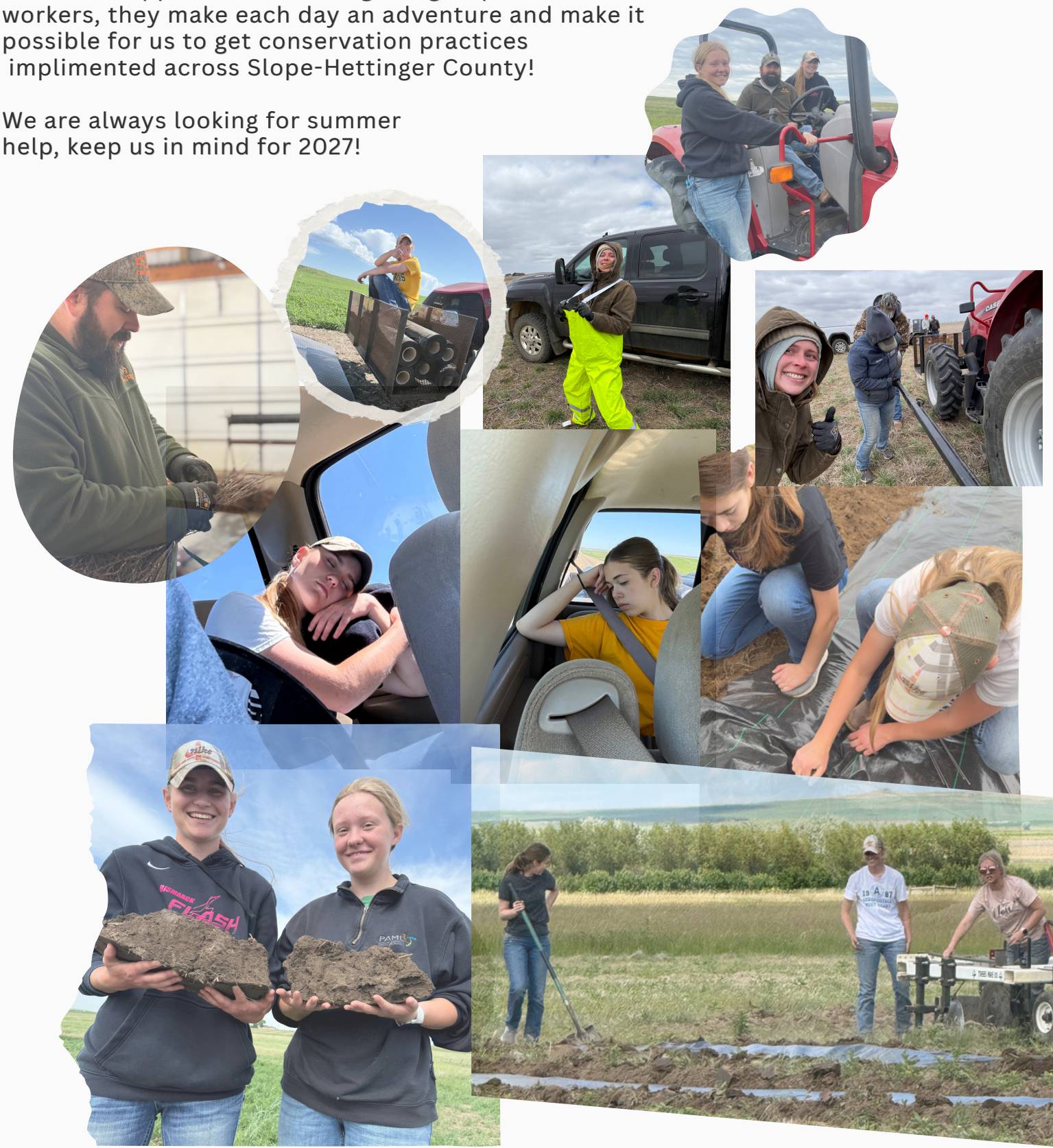


\$500
Scholarship
Recipient:
Mott-Regent
JADA OTTMAR

Tree Planting & Weed Barrier Season

We are SO appreciative of our great group of seasonal workers, they make each day an adventure and make it possible for us to get conservation practices implimented across Slope-Hettinger County!

We are always looking for summer help, keep us in mind for 2027!



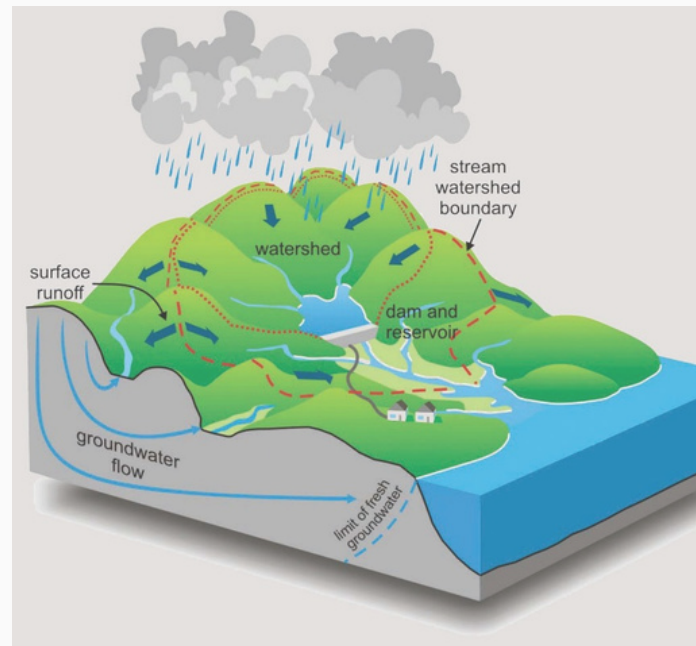


Keeping North Dakota's streams, rivers and lakes clean demands more than dockside diligence. Even if you don't live along the shores or banks, you may be contributing to the pollution of lakes and streams because they are larger than their shorelines. They're part of a system called a watershed.

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.



The Mississippi River watershed covers 58% of North Dakota and 41% of the United States.

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

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WATERSHED MANAGEMENT TIPS

Minimize erosion by adopting practices that slow the flow of water over your property.

Reduce excess nutrients that could wash off your land.

Collect waste oil and other automotive wastes to be recycled, rather than letting them run on to the ground.



No-till practices improve soil health and water quality. Photo credit No-Till Farmer



Rain gardens are shallow depressions that capture and treat stormwater naturally. Photo credit U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Feel free to use this information, but please credit the North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality.

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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.