Conservation News

Freeborn County Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD)

Spring 2016

In this Issue

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www.freebornswcd.org

Diane Honsey Honored as 2015 Outstanding Conservationist

The Freeborn County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) recognizes a landowner every year for outstanding accomplishments with implementing conservation practices and improving Minnesota's natural resources. This year's Outstanding Conservationist is Diane Honsey from Emmons. Diane's efforts in conservation were highlighted at the MN Association of Soil and Conservation District's annual convention this past December. Diane owns a 49 acre RIM/WRP wetland restoration and native grass planting. When they first moved onto the property they called this area the "peat slough" and thought that it would be nice to restore it to a wetland someday. Now it has been converted from a patch of reed canary to a large wetland that is used by lots of ducks, geese, and other wildlife.

Diane has installed about 10 acres of grassed waterways to help prevent concentrated flow erosion on her farm. Her son-in-law Lane helps with the day to day farm operation. She has enrolled in the Conservation Stewardship Program to enhance her operation with spring nutrient application, phosphorus placement, sprayer shutoffs, integrated pest management, nitrogen inhibitors, plant tissue testing, precision nutrient application, cover crops, and drift reducing spray nozzles. Currently the U of M is conducting a side dress nitrogen stabilizer trial on her corn acres. Diane had 40 acres of cover crops aerially applied in the end of August this past year. Future plans include transitioning a portion of her farm to organic to continue her conservation efforts.

If you know of other producers or landowners that have shown dedication to conservation and improving our natural resources, please nominate them for the 2016 Outstanding Conservationist.

Diane Honsey on her RIM-WRP easement

An aerial photograph captures several of the conservation practices Honsey has implemented on her land

Picturesque scenes can be found throughout Honsey's RIM-WRP easement

Want to restore your farmland back into natural habitat? See our article about easement programs inside!

How to Keep Your Tree Seedling Alive

Proper care and management of trees throughout their life is very important for their survival. There are many mistakes that can happen during planting that can have a long term effect on a seedlings survival and growth.

You will get the best seedling survival and vigor if you plant them within 24 hours. If this is not possible, trees should be kept in a dark cool place. Tree roots exposed to hot sunlight and drying winds for just three minutes can cause seedling mortality. The SWCD packages their trees with a planting gel to protect roots from drying out between their transitions.

When planting it is important to avoid: submerging roots in a bucket of water for more than few minutes, planting too deep or too shallow, positioning roots so they curl back towards the top of the hole, planting in dry soil. Avoid planting where there is: brush competition, insufficient sunlight or where species are not adaptable to the site. Contact your SWCD office to determine if your soils are suitable for the trees you would like to plant. It is anticipated there will be some mortality in a new planting but by avoiding the above situations it can give your trees a better start. Seedlings have undergone a lot of stress in the process of moving from a nursery to their new location and it is important to keep an eye on how well they are adjusting. Trees should be checked to make sure all trees are firmly in the ground with good soil-to-root contact. An inch of rain a week should provide adequate moisture for a transplanted tree. If you get less than an inch a week you should provide each tree with a couple of gallons of water a week for the first year.

Ensure your new tree planting has the best chance at survival by following proper planting techniques

If you take the right steps in planting and feel like your tree is taking its sweet time becoming that beautiful sixty foot oak just remember the old nursery saying: "The first year it sleeps, the second year it creeps and the third year it leaps."

General CRP Sign-Up Ends February 26th

Celebrate Arbor Day on April 29th 2016 by planting a tree!

Conservation Reserve Program

The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) has been a popular choice for landowners to enroll their agricultural land into conservation. Landowners have many different CRP practices to choose from based on their goals, land needs and eligibility. Landowners can choose practices that help increase wildlife and pollinator habitat, restore wetlands, protect homes and livestock from winter winds with shelterbelts, or reduce erosion and sediment delivery to surface waters with filter strips or grassed waterways. Landowners that enroll in CRP receive an annual soil rental rate based on the top three most prevalent soil types located in their field.

Interested landowners are asked to stop by their local Farm Service Agency (FSA) office for a tract map of the land they would like to enroll. FSA will determine the land's eligibility by looking at the lands cropping history and ownership length. To meet eligibility, land must have had crops reported 4 out of the 6 years between 2008 and 2013. A member of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) will provide technical assistance to FSA in determining practice eligibility. If land meets eligibility, landowners then have the choice to enroll into a 10 or 15 year contract.

Native grass & wildflower plantings like this provide excellent habitat for wildlife & pollinators

Filtering the Myths & Misconceptions of the MN Buffer Law

Just as quickly as Governor Dayton announced his proposal for the buffer initiative in January 2015, landowners far and wide heard many different reports on what the new law would require. Since the law was passed in the first special session in June of 2015 we would like to filter through some common misunderstandings of the new law.

Misconception: 50ft buffer needs to be installed along all surface waters

This was the original idea proposed by the Governor but is not what made it into legislation. A 50 foot buffer is only required along surface waters that have been designated as public waters. Public drainage ditch systems require a minimum of a 16.5 foot buffer on ditches within the benefited area. Some public drainage ditches will need a 50 foot buffer if it is classified as a public water by the DNR and falls under the shore land ordinance. The MN-DNR is working towards creating digital maps that identify which surface waters need buffers. Mapping will be completed by July 1st 2016.

A draft map is available for viewing at the MN-DNR's website. (See link)

Misconception: The MN-DNR will be in charge of enforcing the buffer law

Again, this was the original idea proposed by the governor but is not what made it into final legislation. The MN-DNR's role with the buffer initiative is limited to mapping. The local SWCD's role is to help landowners implement the buffer requirement which includes planning, technical assistance, tracking and reporting progress. The county or watershed district will work with landowners that are out of compliance with the new law and may issue monetary penalties for violations.

Myth: Only native grasses can be planted for the buffer

Legislation only states that perennial non-invasive vegetation needs to be planted. So lawns, forests, hayed land and other areas with perennial vegetation, native or non-native, meet the new requirements.

Myth: Land that requires a buffer is not eligible for financial assistance

Landowners are eligible to seek financial assistance through a number of sources. Landowners interested in going above and beyond the minimum buffer should consider a Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM) buffer easement. The USDA-NRCS Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) offers cost sharing to establish buffers. The USDA Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) offers a yearly payment for a 10 or 15 year contract for filter strips. Landowners are required to comply with state law by November 1st 2017 for buffers along public waters and by November 1st 2018 for buffers along public drainage ditches. For certain programs, landowners are no longer eligible for cost share once they receive written notices of being in violation of the law.

A buffer has been installed on the north side of this drainage ditch; the neighbor to the south will need to install a buffer to be in compliance.

More Information

Feel free to contact the Freeborn County SWCD with questions regarding cost-share options, requirements and any technical assistance.

Visit these sites to learn more about buffers

www.bwsr.state.mn.us/buffers/index.html

www.dnr.state.mn.us/buffers/index.html

Soil Erosion Ordinance

Minnesota's Soil Loss Ordinance, first enacted in 1984, was also changed with the buffer law but has received far less attention. Originally counties were given the choice to adopt a soil loss ordinance but only a handful of counties throughout the state chose to do so. The new law makes the Soil Loss Ordinance effective for the entire state of MN.

This statue creates a formal process for adversely affected landowners, elected or appointed officials of the local government, or a SWCD board member to submit a written complaint of excessive soil loss to the local government. The SWCD will assist the local government in determining if excessive soil loss is occurring on the land. SWCD will help work with the landowner to take corrective action to fix the issue if needed. If a landowner is unwilling to work towards correcting the issue the local government may choose to forward the complaint to the county attorney.

Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program

In the land of ten thousand lakes it is no surprise that Minnesotans value the quality of their water. Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program (MAWQCP) is a partnership between state and federal agencies along with local Soil and Water Conservation Districts that aims to recognize farmers who are ensuring the water leaving their farm is of good quality before it reaches those precious bodies of water.

Farmers have always strived to be good stewards of the land and the MAWQCP is a first of its kind program that reviews the entire farm operation as it relates to water quality. This voluntary, commonsense program works with landowners and producers to identify and mitigate risks to water quality on a field by field basis.

Landowners and producers who implement and maintain approved farm management practices are certified and in turn receive regulatory certainty for a period of ten years. During the ten year term of certification farmers are deemed to be in compliance with any new water quality laws or rules enacted by the state. Producers that have applied will also have increased priority for technical and financial assistance to implement best management practices on their operation.

"Producers I have worked with are interested in MAWQCP for several reasons including leaving a legacy, evaluating their operation and making improvements, adding value to direct sales of products, and moral obligation," says Mark Root Freeborn County Area MAWQCP Certifier.

Landowners interested in enrolling into the certification program will first work with their local SWCD staff to complete the MAWQCP Assessment Tool for their operation. The assessment tool looks at the following factors: field and soil characteristics, nutrient management, tillage management, pest management, irrigation, tile drainage, and conservation practices. Producers can implement additional conservation practices to achieve a passing score.

This is the first time something like this has been available to producers across the state of Minnesota and we hope that many of our local producers will seek certification. If you are one of those producers please contact the Freeborn County SWCD to learn more about the program and how to get started.

Easement Programs

Grain prices are reaching new lows, conservation payments are financially competitive, and with the new state buffer law coming into place turning to an easement might be a great option for you. If you own land that contains drained altered wetlands with adjoining buffers that can be restored wetland ecosystems then you could be eligible for a wetland easement. Wetland easements are available through both the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Landowners who enroll in a wetland easement receive an easement payment and agree to retire their land from farming and development, and restore wetland ecosystems. These programs also provide financial assistance (up to 100%) for landowners to restore, protect, and enhance wetlands and surrounding native vegetation. Land under these easements is not open to public hunting and landowners retain ownership. Wetland restoration on privately owned land provides benefits not only to the landowner but to the surrounding community by enhancing wildlife habitat, reducing flood damage, improving water quality, enhancing aesthetic quality of the landscape and so much more. If you are interested and would like to know wetland easement options for your property or know anybody that might be interested, don't hesitate to call Chad Billat, at 507-373-5607 ext. 3, or email, at chad.billat@mn.usda.gov . Chad is located in the Albert Lea USDA Conservation office.

This restored wetland on former farmland provides excellent habitat for a variety of wildlife

Soil Conservation Word Search

Directions:

Find the words highlighted in BOLD below and learn more about soil erosion and soil conservation

S N O I S O R E L H E D L X V Y A N
K T S H E E T P N L U W G N A E O P
T I A G L X K R G K I E S W J I L O
H D F T Y W J X Y Z Y T R L T U P R
Z B X L E B O C S A W E O A X C R C
P K X M V C X X F Q T W Z N G V D R
Q E J H M O O A R A N I Z L Q L C E
T Q Y A L W J S W U L P C D Z U V V
W I I I Q N H D T I Y P S O U X S O
J P Z R K L E T B S W U U C R E C C
Q V P O H S B A Q L H Y X N I P W B
B D V L S E T F S Y W A L C L P U V
W L E A C S Y W B L F O R L L B P U
Y S R H E T Y E V R A U Q E U K O F
J G I D P I R T S R E T L I F G L Q
B T A X H N O L F C X L J P R L T P
P R E A R D P D I B D P W Y J N N G
G W C A F B Q E N W I A P C O U Y G

COVER CROP- a crop grown in between regular crops and primarily for the purpose of protecting and improving the soil between these periods; helps protect soil from sheet and rill erosion

CSP- aka. Conservation Stewardship Program provides financial assistance through the USDA-NRCS for landowners interested in maintaining existing practices and implementing new practices that are designed to protect and improve soil and water resources

EROSION- detachment and movement of top soil through wind or water. Types of erosion by water are sheet, rill and gully erosion.

EQIP- aka Environmental Quality Incentive Program provides financial assistance through the USDA-NRCS for landowners to implement practices that are designed to protect and improve soil & water resources

FILTER STRIP- is a vegetative buffer adjacent to surface waters that help remove sediment and nutrients from sheet & rill erosion

GRADE STABILIZATION- is a structure used to stabilize and control gully erosion occurring in natural or artificial waterways

GRASSED WATERWAY- a shaped channel established with erosion-resistant vegetation to help slow down surface water and stabilize gully erosion

GULLY- erosion process where water flow concentrates in a channel and can remove soil to considerable depths, ranging from 1-2 feet to as much as 75-100 feet.

NO-TILL- a system where a crop is planted directly into a seedbed where no tillage activities have occurred since harvest of the previous crop; helps protect soil from sheet and rill erosion

RILL- an erosion process influenced by surface waters where many small channels are formed on the soils surface

SHEET- an erosion process that removes a fairly uniform layer of soil from surface runoff

STATE COST-SHARE- financial assistance available through the SWCD for landowners to implement practices that are designed to protect and improve soil & water resources

WASCOB- aka. Water & Sediment Control Basins are an earth embankment used to form a sediment trap & capture water along a slope

A Defense Against Climate Change

A changing climate may mean a change in how we manage our soil on agricultural land in the state of Minnesota. Extreme rainfall events and a trend of extreme heat are both things that are likely not going to go away and are expected to increase in intensity in the future. Many know how detrimental a four inch rainfall in less than an hour can be especially if it happens in the spring when there is very little vegetation or residue to protect the topsoil. The impact on a crop's yield a stretch of droughty weather can have when they need moisture the most is also noticeable.

To help manage these increased challenges connected to climate change farmers can look at practices that help to build their soil's health. Practices like cover crops, no-till or strip till help build a healthy soil. These practices improve soil structure and organic matter which helps increase infiltration and water holding capacity. That means when heavy rains hit, water infiltrates into the soil instead of running off and causing sheet, rill or gully erosion or ponding and drown outs in low areas.

The cover crops pictured above were selected to survive the winter to help protect the soil in the spring

If you are interested in preparing your soil for extreme weather events by building your soil's health stop into our office to learn about how to get started, information on future soil health field days and cost-share options.

If you provide a service that helps build soil health like custom strip-tillage, cover crop application or cover crop seed contact the SWCD to be added to our list. It will be distributed to landowners that are looking for local services.

Freeborn County SWCD
Spring 2016 Tree Order Form

1400 W Main Street, Albert Lea, MN 56007
507-373-5607 Ext. 3
email: brenda.lageson@mn.nacdnet.net
www.freebornswcd.org

Name: **Date:**

Address:

City, State, ZIP:

Phone:

Email Address:

Check#:

Order bare root in multiples of 10 or 25
No minimum order for pots

Native Evergreens

	Size	Price ea.	Qty.	Total
Arborvitae, Am.: bare root	12-18"	$1.50		
Arborvitae, Am.: **1 gal. pot**	15-18"	$7.50		
Arborvitae, Am.: **2 gal. pot**	18-24"	$11.00		
Cedar, Eastern Red: bare root	9-15"	$1.50		
Pine, Red: bare root	7-15"	$1.50		
Pine, Red: **1 gal. pot**	15-18"	$7.50		
Pine, White: bare root	7-15"	$1.40		
Pine, White: **1 gal. pot**	15-18"	$8.00		
Pine, White: **2 gal. pot**	18-24"	$11.50		
Spruce, White: bare root	7-15"	$1.50		

Native Deciduous Trees

Birch, River: bare root	2-3'	$1.50		
Cherry, Black: bare root	3-4'	$1.50		
Chokecherry, Common: BR	2-3'	$1.50		
Hackberry: bare root	2-3'	$1.50		
Maple, Red: bare root	2-3'	$1.50		
Maple, Red: **2 gal. pot**	2-3'	$9.00		
Oak, Bur: bare root	2-3'	$1.50		
Oak, Bur: **2 gal. pot**	2-3'	$11.00		
Oak, Red: bare root	2-3'	$1.50		
Oak, Red: **2 gal. pot**	2-3'	$10.00		
Plum, American: bare root	2-3'	$1.50		

Native Shrubs

Arrowwood: bare root	18-24"	$1.50		
Cranberry, Am. Highbush: BR	18-24"	$1.50		
Dogwood, Redosier: bare root	18-24"	$1.00		
Dogwood, Redosier: **2 gal. pots**	2-3'	$7.50		
Hazelnut, American: bare root	18-24"	$1.50		
Nannyberry: bare root	18-24"	$1.50		

Non-Native Evergreens

	Size	Price ea.	Qty.	Total
Spruce, Black Hills: bare root	12-18"	$1.50		
Spruce, Black Hills: **1 gal. pot**	15-18"	$8.00		
Spruce, Black Hills: **2 gal. pot**	24-30"	$12.50		
Spruce, Colorado: bare root	12-18"	$1.75		
Spruce, Colorado: **1 gal. pot**	15-18"	$7.50		
Spruce, Norway: bare root	7-15"	$1.50		
Spruce, Norway: **1 gal. pot**	15-18"	$8.00		
Spruce, Norway: **2 gal. pot**	18-24"	$12.00		

Non-Native Deciduous Trees & Shrubs

Cherry, Nanking: bare root	2-3'	$1.50		
Crabapple, Red Splendor: BR	2-3'	$1.25		
Lilac, Common Purple: bare root	18-24"	$1.50		
Linden, Little Leaf: bare root	2-3'	$1.50		
Maple, Sugar: bare root	2-3'	$1.60		
Maple, Sugar: **3 gal. pot**	30-36"	$14.00		
Oak, Pin: bare root	2-3'	$1.50		
Poplar, Norway: bare root	3-4'	$1.50		
Walnut, Black: bare root	2-3'	$1.50		
Willow, Hybrid: bare root	2-3'	$1.50		

Custom Orders

Other		Price ea.	Qty.	Total
Tree Mats (one per tree) 3'x 3'	ea.	$1.50		
Fertilizer Packets	ea.	$0.20		
4' Tree Tubes	ea.	$4.00		

Subtotal	
Sales Tax 7.875%	
Total	
Less Deposit	
Balance Due	

Order by February 25th for best selection

Make checks payable to:
Freeborn County SWCD

conserving natural resources
for our future

If you want something not listed here we may be able to order it for you.

- **The SWCD sells good quality trees, but offers no guarantee of survival or availability of items ordered.**
- **Our stock is limited to what our wholesale suppliers can provide.**
- **A 20% deposit is required on all orders over $50.00 with the balance due at the time of pick-up.**
- **We will contact you when the orders are ready to be picked up, generally around the *3rd or 4th week of April***

Evergreen

Arborvitae, American: *Thuja occidentails*— Height of 40 – 50'. Also known as Northern White Cedar. Pyramid shaped tree with flat, soft green scale -like needles. Excellent windbreak tree for home sites. Susceptible to drying out in dry, cold winters so water well.

Cedar, Eastern Red: *Juniperus virginana* – Height of 40 – 50'. Native to IA. Sharp green scale-like needles. Good for wildlife. Tolerant of most light and soil conditions.

Pine, Red: *Pinus resinosa* – Height of 50 - 80'. Also known as Norway Pine. Long needled, pyramid shaped tree. Prefers well-drained, sandy soils. Popular Christmas tree species. Needs up to 20' spacing to avoid overcrowding of lower branches.

Pine, White: *Pinus strobus* – Height of 80 - 100'. Fast growing, tallest conifer species in MN. Needles in groups of 5. Pyramid shaped when young, broadening with age. Prefers sandy or silt loam soils, but will tolerate a wide range. Needs at least 20' spacing to avoid overcrowding of lower branches.

Spruce, Black Hills: *Picea glauca var. densata* – Height of 40 – 50'. Native to Black Hills, SD. Strain of white spruce. Slow growing, conical tree with dark green needles. Hardy and more drought resistant than White Spruce.

Spruce, Colorado: *Picea pungens* – Height of 50 – 100'. Native in Rocky Mountains region. Dense conical tree. Prefers moist soil but can do well in dry sites, and is intolerant of shade. Slow-growing. Susceptible to Cytospora canker and diseases.

Spruce, Norway: *Picea abies* – Height of 80 – 100+'. Native to Europe. Pyramidal tree with drooping branches. Fastest growing, and tallest species of spruce.

Spruce, White: *Picea glauca* – Height of 40 – 80'. Native to north central U.S. and Canada. Prefers fertile soils and is tolerant of most light conditions. Good for windbreaks and winter wildlife cover.

Deciduous Trees

Maple, Red: *Acer rubrum* – Height 40-70'. Native to MN. Saw toothed lobed leaves. Shade tolerant, grows in very wet to dry conditions, moderately fast growing. Leaves can turn red, yellow or orange in fall.

Maple, Sugar: *Acer saccharum* – Height of 60-80' Produces dense, oval crown and bright fall colors ranging from yellow to orangish red. Slow-growing, needs well-drained, loamy soils. Not tolerant of wet soils. Shade tolerant. Used to make maple syrup.

Oak, Bur: *Quercus macrocarpa* – Height of 70-80+'. Has simple lobed leaves and produces acorns. Good for wildlife. Tolerates a variety of soil types. Long-lived but slow growing initially.

Oak, Red (Northern): *Quercus rubra* – Height of 60-80+'. Simple lobed, bristle-tipped leaves. Red or brown fall leaf color. Good for wildlife. Prefers deep, rich soils, intolerant of drier alkaline soils. Long-lived and fastest growing oak.

Oak, Pin Quercus palustris - Similar to red oak but likes drier and acidic soil.

Plum, American: *Prunus americana* – Height of 12-25'. Fast growing small tree. Fragrant white flowers are followed by edible fruits, yellow or red in color suitable for jellies. Quite adaptable. Thicket forming.

Poplar, Norway: *Populus deltoides x nigra* – Height up to 80+'. Grows very fast and tall. Good for windbreaks when used as a temporary species. Short lived. Norway is best adapted of the poplar species.

Walnut, Black: *Juglans nigra* – Height of 50-60+'. Native to IA. Fast growing. Leaves are pinnately compound and produce a hard shelled nut. Good for wildlife. Prefers moist well-drained soils.

Willow, Hybrid: *Salix matsudana/ alba*— Large tree up to 75'. Single stemmed tree good for windbreaks. Avoid planting near other willows and in areas where uncontrolled spread is possible.

Shrubs

Arrowwood: *Viburnum dentatum* – Height of 6-10'. Native of eastern and mid-western U.S. Produces cream colored flowers followed by small blue or purple fruits. Favors moist but well-drained soils of varying pH. Good food source for wildlife.

Cranberry, American: Highbush: *Viburnum trilobum* – Height 10 – 16'. Produces white flowers and red edible fruit, with excellent fall color. When planted as a hedge, makes a good snow catch/ screen in the winter. Good for wildlife. Tolerates a variety of soils.

Linden,Littleleaf: *Tilia cordata* – Height 40-50'. Medium growth rate. Tree desirable as a landscape tree for its rounded crown and fragrant flowers. Prefers well-drained loamy soils. Produces creamy-white flowers. Full sun, tolerates some shade.

Birch, River: *Betula nigra* — Height of 40'-60'. Fast growing, but short lived. Tolerates wet areas. Shade intolerant. Light reddish brown bark with yellow leaves in the fall.

Cherry, Nanking: *Prunus tomentosa* - Height 6-10'. Tolerates wind and dry soils. Dense twigs make good screen. Needs full sun. Produces fruit for wildlife.

Dogwood, Redosier: *Cornus sericea* – Height of 8-10'. Fast growing native shrub. This shrub has bright red stems and produces clusters of white fruit. Good for wildlife. Prefers moist sites.

Cherry, Black: *Prunus serotina* - height of 30-60' and moderately fast growing. Prefers well-drained sites. Is moderately tolerant of shade and drought. Produces small fruits in late summer.

Chokecherry, Common: *Prunus virginiana* – Height of 15-20'. Produces edible reddish-purple or black cherries that ripen in late summer. Needs well drained soils. Pruning may be necessary. Excellent plant for wildlife food & cover.

Hazelnut, American: *Corylus americana* - Height of 3-10'. Shade tolerant. Produces edible nuts eaten by birds and mammals. Variable fall color. Can reproduce by suckering.

Lilac, Common Purple: *Syringa vulgaris*-Height of 10-15'. Large, round-headed shrub. Profuse bloomer, with purple flowers in the spring. Prefers well-drained soils and full sun for best flowering effect.

Crabapple, Red Splendor: *Malus "red splendor"* – Height and spread of 15-25'. Leaves are green or reddish, flowers are white or pink followed by fruits ¼" to 1" in diameter. Full sun. Quality food source for wildlife.

Hackberry: *Celtis occidentalis* – Height of 30-60+'. Tall, wide spreading crown. Has a scaly or warty bark. Produces dark purple fruit. Grows best in well drained, moist soils. Excellent cover and food source for wildlife. Intermediate shade tolerance.

Nannyberry: *Virburnum lentago* – Height of 10-20'. Fast growing. Glossy leaves with cream flowers followed by blue-black berries. Tolerates wide range of soils and pH. Attractive for shiny foliage and red

Fertilizer Packets, A small packet filled with a pre-measured amount of fertilizer that is placed alongside the seedling at time of planting. The packet slowly releases nutrients to help new seedlings get an extra boost.

Tree Tubes, A plastic, vented tube which protects hardwood trees and some shrub seedlings from animal browse, mower and spray damage. Stakes are not provided; any 5' stake will work along with zip ties.

Tree Mats, A three foot square permeable woven plastic sheet or solid plastic sheet that greatly reduces weed competition, reduces maintenance time, and increases soil moisture.

FREEBORN COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT (SWCD)
1400 W MAIN STREET
ALBERT LEA, MN 56007
507-373-5607 EXT. 3
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

VISIT US ON THE WEB: www.freebornswcd.org

Order your trees by Feb. 25th for best selection.