SOUTH MCLEAN SCD
DISTRICT DISCUSSION

QUARTER
2&3 2026

- Tree Planting Season
- New Employee
- “Unearth a Story” Event
- Join our Email List
- Phone Restructure
- NRCS News
- Drought Assistance
- Board Meetings
- 2027 Tree Order Form



NEW LOOK!

For more SMCSCD, find us at:
701-661-0244 | info@southmcleanscd.org | southmcleanscd.org

2026 TREE PLANTING SEASON



It's been quite the long, hot, dry summer this year, but that didn't stop the South Mclean County Soil Conservation District from putting down some roots. This 2026 tree season, SMCSCD District Manager Charlie and her tree crew planted 96,071 linear feet of trees, and laid down just as much fabric!

To up the odds of a new tree's survival, be sure to provide plenty of water. With strong North Dakota winds—and especially during periods of reduced rainfall—watering your trees is more important than ever.

August is the optimal time to stop watering trees so they go into drought stress, which allows trees to slow down their growth. Come mid-September, you can water your trees again until freeze-up. This helps trees take advantage of the fall root growth period.









NEW EMPLOYEE



Hi, I'm Hailee! I'm so excited to be the new Outreach Coordinator at the South McLean Soil Conservation District's Turtle Lake office.

Raised on our family farm just outside of Turtle Lake, I've grown up learning the value of conservation, and have a deep love for the rural life and the quietness of the nature out here. I'm an illustrator and designer by trade and studied Graphic Design & Communications at Bismarck State College, where I was also the first to graduate from their Digital Broadcasting program.

A wearer of many creative hats—mostly the cowboy kind—I am trained in graphic and web design, audio and radio, photography and videography, editing, social media marketing, copywriting, and branding. I have itchy hands that always have to be making something, and in my free time you'll find me either drawing, writing, or burning a new hat.

I'm looking forward to interacting with my community again, and can't wait to see all the new things I'll get to do in this role! I've already had a blast designing graphics and revamping the SCD's website. Do check it out! You can search it, or scan the QR code below. It's a great catch-all for events, answers, and tips. Be on the lookout for updates at **southmcleanscd.org**!

SCAN ME

“UNEARTH A STORY”

Thank you to the Washburn Public Library for inviting the South McLean SCD to be a part of their July 6th Summer Reading Program and present a mini-lesson, story, and craft!

Hailee explained how the sun plays a huge part in a tree's growth in a process called photosynthesis and how trees are vital to animal (and human) life, and read "A Kiss Goodbye" by Audrey Penn—a story about a family of raccoons who must find a new tree to call their home. After, she led a craft where the kids got to create their very own sun catchers with pressed flowers and leaves, replicating how sunrays scatter through foliage.

All those sun catchers were unbe-leaf-able!









EMAIL LIST

Get updates sent straight to your inbox!

Join our mailing list to receive emails about SCD events, news, and more. Visit our homepage and enter your email address in the mailing form to be added to our list at **southmcleanscd.org**.

PHONE RESTRUCTURE

Due to federal phone restructuring, the South McLean County Soil Conservation District and the NRCS are now operating under a new telephone system, resulting in new office numbers, as well as individual numbers for NRCS employees.

As of August 28th, 2026, the SCD office phone number is now: **701-661-0244**.

For more information as these changes take place, visit our website at **southmcleanscd.org/directory**.



ND NRCS ACCEPTING CONSERVATION PROGRAM APPLICATIONS

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) continues to put Farmers First through a historic investment in conservation on agricultural lands through USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) as a result of the conservation funding provided by the Working Families Tax Cuts Act.

"We know that America's producers know the land the best and are the best stewards," said NRCS State Conservationist Dan Hovland in North Dakota. "We encourage producers interested in conserving natural resources and keeping their operations productive, profitable and sustainable for future generations to contact their local NRCS office."

While NRCS accepts applications year-round, **interested agricultural producers in North Dakota should apply by September 18th, 2026** to be considered for fiscal year 2027 funding.

Programs include:

- **Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP):** The Agricultural Land Easement component of ACEP enables producers to protect their agricultural land from development by enrolling it in a permanent Agricultural Land Easement. The Wetland Reserve Easement component of ACEP helps landowners protect, restore and enhance wetlands which have been previously degraded due to agricultural uses.

- **Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP):** CSP helps producers build on existing conservation efforts while strengthening their operation.

- **Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP):** EQIP provides producers with the technical and financial resources they need to address resources concerns on their land including improved water and air quality, increased soil health, reduced soil erosion, improved natural vitality and more.

ND NRCS ACCEPTING CONSERVATION PROGRAM APPLICATIONS CONT.

NRCS is also providing additional financial assistance nationwide through the **Regenerative Pilot Program (RPP)**, which enables producers to implement whole-farm regenerative practices through a single application for EQIP and CSP. RPP is part of USDA's commitment to putting Farmers First and advancing the Make America Healthy Again (MAHA) agenda by building a healthier, more resilient food system.

For more than 90 years, NRCS has helped farmers, ranchers and forestland owners make investments in their operations and local communities to improve the quality of our air, water, soil, and wildlife habitat. NRCS uses the latest science and technology to help keep working lands working, boost agricultural economies, and increase the competitiveness of American agriculture. NRCS provides one-on-one, technical advice and financial assistance and works with producers to help them reach their goals through voluntary, incentive-based conservation programs. For more information, visit **nrcs.usda.gov**.



DROUGHT DISASTER

August 2026

The Drought Disaster Livestock Water Supply Project Assistance Program (Program) provides cost-share assistance to livestock producers with water supply shortages caused by drought.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

The livestock operation must be in the specific drought disaster counties, as specified in the Governor's most recent proclamation, or adjacent eligible counties, to qualify for cost-share assistance through the Program. See attached map of eligible counties.

A "livestock producer" means an individual who produces livestock or operates a dairy farm, who normally devotes the major portion of the individual's time to the activities of farming or ranching, and who normally receives not less than 50 percent of the individual's annual gross income from farming or ranching.

HOW TO APPLY

Applicants are required to submit to the Department of Water Resources (DWR):

1. A cost-share assistance application;
2. A map and/or aerial photo of the project area showing proposed works; and
3. An estimate of project costs.

The application and additional information are available via the DWR website at www.dwr.nd.gov.



ELIGIBILITY

Eligible items include: new water wells, rural water system connections, pipeline extensions, pasture taps, and associated works, labor, materials, and equipment rentals for work completed to develop new water supply projects.

- Labor and materials paid for on, or after August 18, 2026, are eligible for reimbursement.
- The state will fund the program to the extent funding is available. Priority for funding will be based on earliest date of application received.
- Cost-share assistance may only be used for water supply projects that will provide a long-term and immediate solution to a drought-related water supply shortage.
- All wells drilled with funds provided through this program must be drilled by a North Dakota certified water well contractor.
- The applicant may be reimbursed up to 65 percent, but no more than $10,000, of the eligible costs of the project. Each producer is eligible for cost-share on up to three projects.
- Cost-share payments made through this program can be considered taxable income. Successful applicants will need to submit IRS Form W-9 upon completion of their projects before program reimbursement can be made.

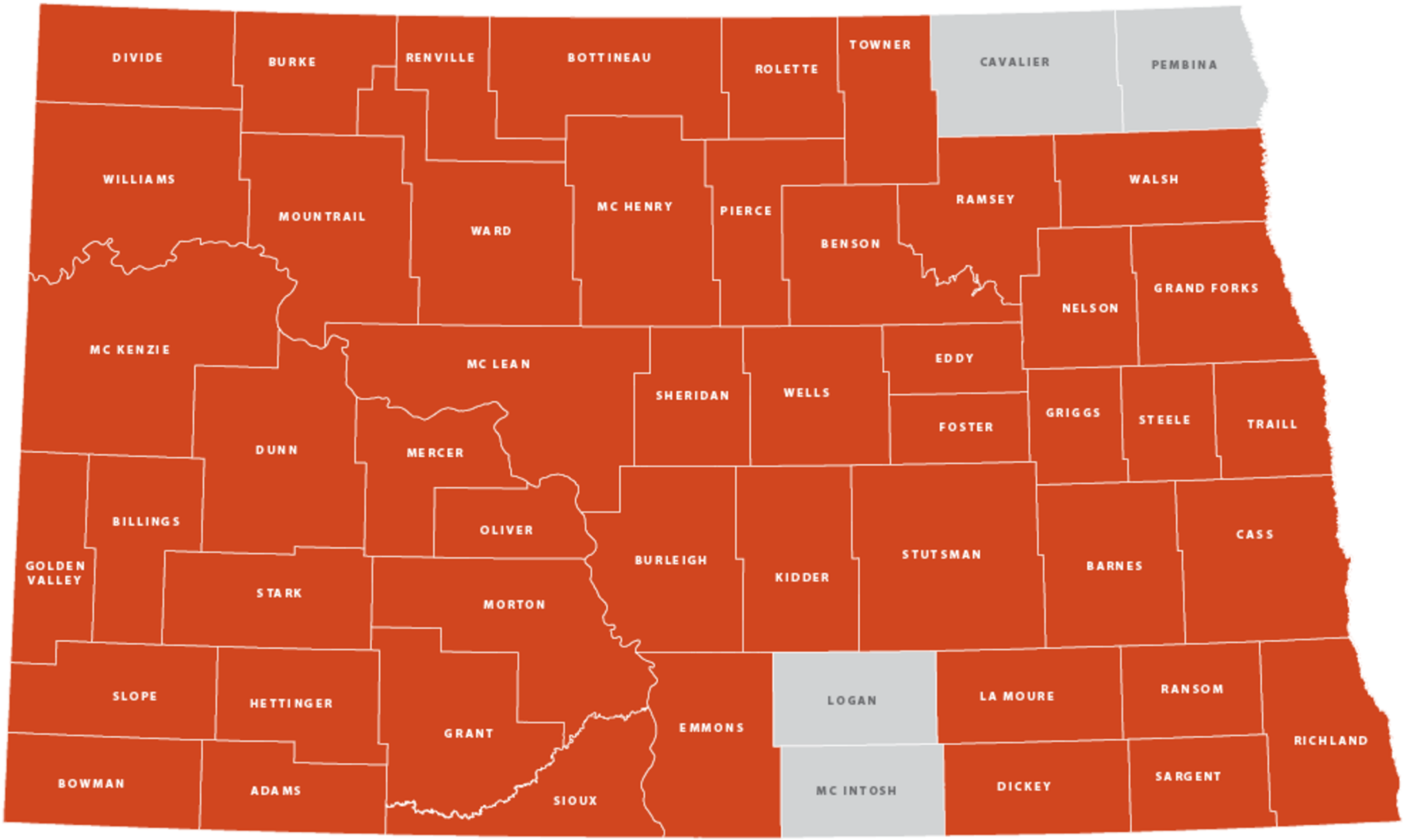
The following projects are not eligible for funding from the Drought Disaster Livestock Water Supply Project Assistance Program.

- Labor and materials purchased prior to August 18, 2026.
- Rehabilitation of an existing well.
- A water supply project on federal or state land.
- A dry hole drilled in an attempt to construct a water well or to locate a water source.
- The construction of stock dams or dugouts.
- The development of springs.
- Projects that require repair or replacement to an existing water source.
- Hours billed for work completed by the applicant, the applicant's family, or their employees.

NORTH Dakota | Water Resources
Be Legendary.

(701) 328-4959
dwr.nd.gov
dwrlivestock@nd.gov

Drought Disaster Livestock Water Supply Program



ELIGIBLE COUNTIES

Map effective August 20, 2026.

In response to ongoing conditions, please check for the most current map on the Department of Water Resources website at www.dwr.nd.gov.

BOARD MEETINGS

Board meetings are held monthly at the Turtle Lake SCD office unless otherwise posted, and are open to the public. Meeting agendas are posted on the District's Facebook page **@SouthMcLeanCoSCD**, and on the front door ot the SCD office a week prior to meetings.

Because meeting dates and times are subject to change, please contact us if you plan to attend.

Tentative 2026 Board Meeting Schedule:

- October 6th
- November 10th
- December 8th

Board of Supervisors

Trey Klain, Board Chairman
Ryan Peterson, Vice Chairman
Jeff Walcker, Board Supervisor
Doris Wall, Board Supervisor
Ethan Fylling, Board Supervisor

District Staff

Charlie Kelly, District Manager
Kevin Vossler, Equipment Operator
Hailee Presser, Outreach Coordinator

NRCS Staff

Dave Hendrickson, District Conservationist



All programs and services of the South McLean County Soil Conservation District are offered on a non-discriminatory basis, without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age or handicap. In accordance with Federal civil rights laws and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its agencies, offices and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, martial status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for a prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaints filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

South McLean County Soil Conservation District

2027 TREE ORDER FORM

$60/bundle of 25 (same species). All are conservation size 1–2'.

Orders for single trees (anything but full bundles) will not be accepted until surplus tree sale at a rate of $2.75/tree. Larger trees are NOT available this year and aren't expected to be again for 2–3 years. Description of tree species can be found at ND Tree Selector at www.ag.ndsu.edu/tree-selector OR use the camera on your smart phone to scan the QR code below.

Total # of Bundles	Type	Total # of Bundles	Type
	Apricot, Manchurian		Hackberry, Oahe
	Arborvitae, American		Indigo, False
	Aspen, Quaking		Juneberry
	Boxelder		Juniper, Rocky Mountain (PLUGS)
	Buckeye, Ohio		Lilac, Common
	Buffaloberry, Silver		Lilac, Villosa Legacy
	Caragana		Maple, Silver
	Cedar, Eastern Red (PLUGS)		Maple, Amur
	Cherry, Black		Oak, Bur
	Cherry, Nanking		Pear, Ussurian (McDermand)
	Chokeberry, Black		Pine, Ponderosa (PLUGS)
	Chokecherry, Common		Pine, Scotch (PLUGS)
	Chokecherry, Shubert		Plum, American
	Cotoneaster, Peking		Poplar, Hybrid
	Cottonwood, Native (Eastern)		Rose, Hanson Hedge
	Cottonwood, Siouxland		Sumac, Skunkbush
	Cottonwood, White Poplar (Silver Cottonwood)		Sandcherry, Western
	Crabapple, Red Splendor		Seaberry
	Crabapple, Siberian		Spruce, Black Hills (PLUGS)
	Dogwood, Redosier		Spruce, Colorado Blue (PLUGS)
	Elderberry, American		Vibrurnum, Nannyberry
	Currant, Golden		Walnut, Black
	Wolfberry (Silverberry)		Willow, Golden

Retail Products			
	Plantra Tree Tube System 5' = $8.50		1lb Shaker Can = $12.00
	Plantra Tree Tube System 6' = $9.50		3lb Shaker Bag = $26.95
	Staples = $0.15		1qt Spray Bottle = $20.00
	Flags = $0.15		1lb Box Concentrate = $25.00
	Fabric by the foot = $1.00/ft.—$10.00 min.		RTI Tree Fertilizer Packets $0.90
	Fabric Roll (500 ft) = $150.00		DieHard Root Dip 2oz Bag = $5.00: Ecto___ Endo___

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State Zip: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Phone: _____

☐ Please check box if these trees/shrubs are being planted for the purpose of windbreaks, shelterbelts, or soil erosion prevention.

Please place orders as soon as possible and prior to December 15, 2026. Some species may be ***limited*** this year.

NOTE: Once your order is received you will be billed January 4, 2027. If full payment is not received by February 5, 2027, your order will be canceled.

P.O. Box 537 | 24 2nd Avenue E, Turtle Lake, ND 58575 701-661-0244 | info@southmcleanscd.org