

Middle Republican Natural  
Resources District  
220 Center Avenue  
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www.mnrnd.org



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## Calendar of Events

visit: [www.mnrnd.org/calendar](http://www.mnrnd.org/calendar)

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Dec 14	Annual Awards Luncheon
Dec 14	Board Meeting
Dec 24	Office Closed
Dec 31	Office Closed
Jan 11	Board Meeting
Feb 8	Board Meeting
Feb 23	Mid Plains Regional Envirothon
March 4	SW Nebraska Water Conference
March 8	Board Meeting

\*Check online calendar or newspaper notices for meeting times, place and changes.

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## Attend our January 11th Board Meeting and meet our new board members.

Board of Directors: Joseph Anderjaska, Hayes Center; Kevin Fornoff, Hayes Center; Josh Friesen, Wallace; Buck Haag, Bartley; Ben Loomis, Maywood; Rick McConville, Indianola; Dan Nelsen, Moorefield; Brad Randel, Indianola; Marty Schurr, Maywood; Rick Spencer, Culbertson; and James Uerling, Indianola.

MRNRD Office: General Manager, Daniel Smith; Assistant Manager, Robert Merrigan; Office Supervisor, Stacie Owens; Secretary / Receptionist, Mary Tidyman; Information & Education Coordinator, Roger Lawson; Technical Supervisor, Rich Karre; Technicians, Tom Hansen and Spencer Campbell.

NRCS Field Office Clerks: Frontier County, Doris Burke; Hayes County, Kathy Barger; Hitchcock County, Carol Lashley; Lincoln County, Neolle Turner; Red Willow County, Betty Fritsch

### USDA – NRCS Program Signup Deadlines

NRCS reminds producers that all federal farm programs are on a continuous sign-up basis. However, at least once a year, NRCS announces a sign-up deadline for applications to be considered for funding. Even though most deadlines have not been announced, we encourage all private landowners to visit their NRCS office now to begin the application process. CSP – deadline Jan 7th, 2011. AWEP and EQIP - To be announced.

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Edited by Roger Lawson, Information and Education Coordinator, [rlawson@mnrnd.org](mailto:rlawson@mnrnd.org)

# SPRINKLES & SPLASHE S

FALL 2010

THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE MIDDLE REPUBLICAN NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT

VOL. 20 NO. 3

## From Dan's Desk

After what seemed like an eternal campaign season the election is completed. With great thanks for their hard work over the past four years we say farewell to Marty Schurr, Dan Nelsen, Benjie Loomis and Josh Friesen. Their hard work and service will be missed.

Congratulations to incumbents Kevin Fornoff and Brad Randel and to new board members Blaine Stinson, John Palic, Bill Hoyt and Steve Cappel. We look forward to your service with the district. The future challenges

with ground water management and other district programs will need the involvement of all points of view. Congratulations also to Senator Christensen. We look forward to continuing the relationship established with the Senator over the last four years.

Work continues with the rebuilding of flood control structure 32a on the Hayes Hitchcock county line. his structure was damaged in a flood event in 2008 and reconstruction started this summer. The failure of the structure was determined to be a design deficiency and funding for the repair is 100% paid for with federal funds. Hopefully we will have an open winter and can get a major portion of the repair completed. In all probability we will have a winter shutdown and complete the work next spring. The other structure under repair this year was site 80a north of Maywood. Repairs are completed and we are confident of the viability of that structure.

The fall and winter months are typically when tree planting decisions are made. We encourage any producer wanting trees planted next year to contact your

## District Election Results

Meet The New board members

The results are in. The following incumbents are returning to the Board: Kevin Fornoff of Hayes Center and Brad Randel of Indianola. Candidates Steven Cappel of Culbertson, Bill Hoyt of McCook, John Palic of McCook and Blaine Stinson of Palisade start their four year term in January.

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New Board Member Steve Cappel of Culbertson.



New Board Member John Palic of McCook

## Inside This Issue

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- ◆ Alex Wach Wins Engler Award
- ◆ Calendar of Events

### Election Results - November 2, 2010

#### Unofficial Results

Precincts	5/5	3/3	4/4	0/28	16/16	Totals
	Frontier	Hayes	Hitchcock	Lincoln	Red Willow	
Cappel	165	137	641	45	2280	3268
Fornoff	463	303	464	263	1185	2678
Friesen	507	269	338	319	1007	2440
Hoyt	178	132	637	61	2213	3221
Loomis	588	314	346	291	861	2400
Moore	234	86	348	89	1120	1877
Mustion	92	89	455	36	1186	1858
Nelsen	543	218	286	228	801	2076
Palic	166	139	692	34	2336	3367
Randel	219	108	492	68	1758	2645
Schurr	626	250	291	305	975	2447
Stinson	139	216	609	92	1504	2560
Totals	3920	2261	5599	1831	17226	

## ...Continued from Dan's Desk

local NRCS office or the NRD and start the process. Many species have limited availability and orders need to be placed as soon as possible. Cost share assistance is also limited and the sooner you start your planning the more likely that assistance will be available.

Again this year we can expect budget reductions in State funded programs that are available to the districts. Nebraska is in good fiscal shape but the legislature must address the projected short falls for this biennium and begin the budget process for the next biennium. Many tough decisions will have to be made by the legislature and we will monitor these discussions and be involved when appropriate. ♦

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## Order Your Conservation Trees Now!

Think Spring and prepare your order for trees and wildlife shrubs from the NRD. We're accepting orders NOW! As before, we are offering a wide selection of trees and shrubs for wildlife habitat improvement, soil erosion control, wind breaks, or landscaping your homestead. If you are not sure what you would like or what you might need, feel free to give us a call and we will help you with recommendations.

Fourteen species of evergreen trees, 12 species of deciduous trees and 13 species of shrubs are available this year. All material comes from the US Forest Service Charles E. Bessey Tree Nursery in Halsey and the Colorado State University Nursery.

Order forms are available at the District Office in Curtis, and the Natural Resource Conservation Service Offices in McCook, Curtis, Hayes Center, and Trenton. Orders can be taken by phone but must be paid for in advance.

As in past years, material is sold in multiples of 25 for each species and potted special requests in multiples of 30 for each species. This year's potted species include CO Blue Spruce, Austrian Pine and Ponderosa Pine. Bare root trees are 80 cents each or \$20.00/bundle of 25 plus local taxes. Regular potted trees are \$2.00 ea or \$60.00 per bundle of 30 plus local taxes. Sales tax charged is at the rate for the county the materials are picked up.

Deadline for orders is March 1, 2010. Trees will arrive in early April. Customers will be notified by phone when their order arrives. Order forms can also be obtained by printing them off from the District website: [www.mrnrd.org](http://www.mrnrd.org) lick on 'programs' or 'services' in the top row of links. Also available online is a link to the recently updated Conservation Trees for Nebraska guide to assist you with choosing your tree species.

Continued from page 1.

## District Election Results

Outgoing board members include Josh Friesen, Benjie Loomis, Dan Nelsen and Marty Schurr. Each served four years. Friesen served as Chairman, and Dan Nelsen was Treasurer during their terms. We thank these board members for their hard work and commitment to the District.

Steve Cappel, a fourth generation farmer, farms with his wife Kelly in Culbertson. They raised three children. The youngest, Kirsten, is attending McCook Community College. Emily is attending the University of Nebraska--Kearney and the oldest, Matt, is in the Marine Corp. Steve and Kelly own and operate a farm in the river valley that was started by his father.

John Palic farms with his wife Melinda in McCook. They operate a dry land and semi irrigated farm that produces a variety of grain crops. Palic grew up in Hayes County and has lived in the general area his whole life. In 1976, he moved to McCook with his parents and sisters. Eight years later, he married Melinda and moved to Culbertson. In 2003, John and his family resettled just West of McCook. John and Melinda have two children, Conner 16 who is attending McCook High School and Ashley 19 who is attending McCook Community College. John is a graduate of the University of Nebraska—Kearney.

Bill Hoyt and Barb raised two sons, both in their mid 20s. The

eldest is on active duty as a Sgt in US Marine Corp. The youngest has a degree in business administration/marketing. Hoyt attended college with an emphasis in animal science, criminal justice and health occupations/emergency medical.

Bill Hoyt grew up on a multi generational farm/ranch operation in SW NE. In 1979, he married Barb and became self employed as a farmer/rancher. In 1985, he began working full time at the McCook Police Department as a Criminal Investigator/Police Detective & EMT in the City of McCook for 24 years. He continued his ranching activities on a part time basis. In 2009 he returned to a ranch/farm operation full time south of the Republican River in Red Willow and Hitchcock counties where he raises Angus Beef and Boer Goats.

"My primary focus currently is my wife Barb Who is also "retired" from 20 years of working with large animals at 4 winds Animal Clinic. She is currently working at Hillcrest Nursing Home," shared Hoyt.

Hoyt has contributed generously to his community through his service on a variety of boards and civic organizations. He is currently an officer with the South West Nebraska Prescribed Burn Association.

Blaine Stinson could not be reached. ♦

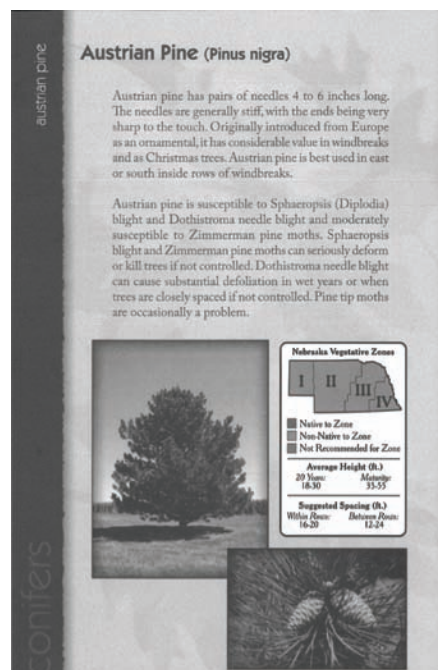
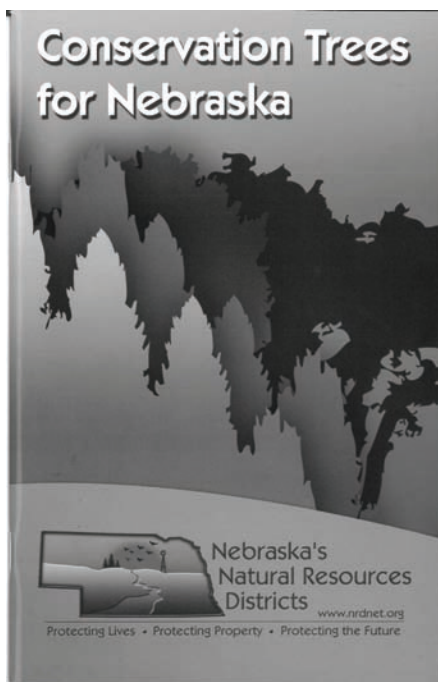
## NARD Conservation Tree Booklet Updated

To further assist you with your conservation tree purchase this year, the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts (NARD) and Nebraska's Natural Resources Districts (NRDs) have updated and published the popular and widely distributed Conservation Trees for Nebraska booklet this summer. Like the old booklet, each tree species is represented with excellent color photos (tree aspect and foliage close ups). Descriptions of the tree's notable features, disease vulnerabilities, and vegetative growing zone information are also included. The new 58 page booklet also contains information on weed barrier and control, drip systems, and reference maps to all 23 NRDs and Nebraska Forest Service Districts.

It's been five years and a few things have changed since then. For instance, NRD's no longer offer the invasive Russian Olive, therefore, it is no longer featured in the booklet. Many new species are included in the new edition such as Black Hills Spruce, Southwestern White Pine, Harbin Pear, Northern Catalpa, Pecan, American Hazelnut and many more. Forty seven species are featured in the new booklet, 10 more than previously published. The new booklet also features a quick reference table to all species described within.

Planted properly in appropriate locations, conservation trees protect newborn calves, protect soils, save water, save energy, and provide habitat for wildlife.

Booklets are available at your NRD Office and your nearest NRCS Field Office and is also available online if you prefer the technology approach <http://www.nrdtrees.org/>. Cost is free. ♦



## Alex Wach Awarded Engler Scholarship

During the May district board meeting, Alex Wach of Wauneta was awarded one of two District College Scholarships for the 2011 school year. Since then, we learned that Alex had been accepted into a new UNL entrepreneurship program for UNL students. More than that, he was also offered the Engler Agribusiness Entrepreneurship Scholarship. This scholarship was offered to only eight students.

As an introduction to the EAEP, recipients will be asked to participate in a one-credit course this fall entitled "Engler Introductory Seminar on Opportunities in Entrepreneurship." This course will introduce students to successful entrepreneurs, entrepreneurial opportunities in the different majors offered within the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources as well as introduce students to other extra-curricular activities that they may wish to explore to further their entrepreneurial skills and network.

University of Nebraska alumnus and cattleman Paul F. Engler of Amarillo, Texas gave \$20 million to support programs in agri-business at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

The gift from the Paul F. and Virginia J. Engler Foundation will establish a permanently endowed fund to support the Paul F. Engler Agribusiness Entrepreneurship Program at the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

In addition, the gift will provide ag entrepreneurship at the university and include program support for student courses, a lectureship series, entrepreneurship training camps, internship placement assistance, student travel and more. It will also help create a venture capital fund to support student start up businesses.

Engler, 80, said he feels strongly about finding and mentoring kids who have the entrepreneur's "fire in the belly."

Engler continues, "I think about myself and my age, and I still have fire in my belly," Engler said. "We need to identify these boys and girls who have that fire in the belly when they are young and then when they come to the university, expose them to a curriculum that teaches risk -- how to evaluate it and how to manage it -- because if you do not take risk as an entrepreneur, you are not going to make it." ♦



College Scholarship winner Alex Wach of Wauneta.