

YEAR IN REVIEW

Celebrate!



South Central RC&D has a lot to celebrate and be thankful for this year.

- We survived another year helping and providing services in Jones, Mellette, Todd and Tripp Counties.
- We accepted seven new proposals, closed fourteen projects and have twenty-two remaining active projects.
- South Central RC&D won two state RC&D awards this year. Leroy Hodge was selected “Outstanding Council Member” and South Central was selected “Outstanding Council”.
- In March the empty Todd County board position was filled by Noma Sazama from Mission, Noma has lots of energy and ideas to bring to the table. She is a real asset to the board of directors and also to her community.
- We have active board members who volunteer their time to their community. Rose West and Jeannine Woodward volunteer at the Mellette County Library in White River as well as other activities in the community. This year Rose volunteered 705 hours at the library and Jeannine volunteered 176 hours. Terri Grablander sits on may boards and committees in Mission and in Sioux Falls. As a scout leader she encouraged Boy Scout Troup 111 to get involved and turn an empty lot into a beautiful park. Several other board members are active on Conservation District boards, church boards and community organizations.
- In February 1994 South Central RC&D was authorized by United States Department of Agriculture as an RC&D council. The ground work began in 1992 and South Central still has four of the original founders still on the board today. Those members are, Leroy Hodge, Paul Thomas, C.K. Kinsley, DVM and Paul Thomas.
- \$315,445.50 was disturbed to producers in Todd and Tripp Counties through the Lewis & Clark project. These funds aided producers with solar pumps, pipelines, livestock wells, trees & fabric, fences and ag waste systems.

Purpose

The purpose of the South Central Resource Conservation & Development council (South Central RC&D) is to address the needs and opportunities of the South Central RC&D area.

Vision

The vision is for the area to be viable through the wise use of natural and human resources.

Mission

The mission of the South Central Resource & Development Council is to provide technical assistance and personal representation of our four counties.



MURDO AREA MARKET

The Murdo Area Market had another successful year. We had seven returning vendors. The market received a grant from the South Department of Ag. to assist in promotion. This year we offered Murdo Market

gift certificates as a way to draw people to the market. What a success! We also ordered cards from the “Pick It! Try It! Like It!” program and shared them with the Summer Health program. Participants were given Murdo Market certifi-

cates to spend at the Farmers Market. A couple of new items at the market was the open vendor night and one evening Ryan Willert from NRCS gave a Rainfall Simulator demonstration to promote Soil Health.

35TH ANNUAL RANCHERS WORKSHOP

The 35th Annual Ranchers Workshop was held on January 14th at the Sinte Gleska University Multi-purpose Building, Mission, SD. This year's attendance was around 130 participants. An addition to the workshop Jeff Hemenway, State Soil Quality Specialist with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) – Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), conducted two rainfall simulator demonstrations. The simulator demonstrated how land management impacts the runoff water and soil infiltration on range and croplands. Other speakers included:



Joshua Dukart, a Certified Educator of Holistic Management from North Dakota, presented on two different topics.

“Sustainable Agriculture and How to Make it Work” and “Grazing with a Purpose”.

“When City and Country Collide” was the topic of Amanda Radke’s presentation. Radke is the Editor of Beef Daily and is a 5th generation rancher from the Mitchell, SD area. Her articles provides timely industry news and commentary from the unique perspective of a young professional committed to a life

in production agriculture. Case Blom, a South Dakota native, spoke on “Mineral Nutrition for Livestock-Does it Matter?”

The Ranchers Workshop is coordinated by Mellette/Todd County Conservation Districts, NRSC -Mellette/Todd County, Farm Service Agency (FSA), South Central Resources Conservation and Development Council (South Central RC&D) and the Rosebud Extension Office.

The ranchers workshop is free to the public.

MURDO CITY PARK TRAIL

Construction of the park trail took place in July and August and grass seeding and erosion control was finished in September. Next year landscaping will begin. The Jones County Turner Youth will be heading up

that project. They are working with a landscaping designer from Big Sioux Nursery in Watertown and the Jones County Conservation District. Outdoor fitness equipment, benches, butterfly,

native grass and rain gardens will be added along the path. A \$7,500 grant, the Jones County Turner Youth received from Wellmark as part of their 75th anniversary celebration will be used for this project.



PARMELEE FIRE HALL

The ribbon cutting and open house for the Parmelee Fire Hall was held on May 27th. A six year dream has now become reality. It will be home to the Parmelee Volunteer Fire Department. Several agencies and groups such as the Todd County Commissioners, State of South

Dakota, Todd County Emergency Management, Rosebud Sioux Tribal President and entities, Bureau of Indian Affairs, South Central RC&D, South Dakota Department of Agriculture, and the Central South Dakota Enhancement District were in-

involved in bringing forth this project. The new fire hall is a 42’ X 57’ foot pre-engineered building with three bays and a portion of the facility will be made available for community functions. The 20 person volunteer fire department serves a population of 1,188.



MISSION ENVIROMENTAL FAIR

The Environmental Fair in Mission was held on May 8th in the South Elementary Gym. Due to the rainy weather some of the outlaying 5th grade students were unable to attend the morning session so the 4th grade elementary student's participated. Presenters for the day long event included: Lealand Schoon, Mellette/Todd County NRCS, talked to the students about where their food came from on the farm.

Ken Graupman from the Science and Discovery Center, had the students testing water samples . Andrew Oxford and Nathan Jones from NRCS talked to the students about soil health and let them crawl though the worm tunnel. Kodi Abbott, representing Cattle Women showed the students where many of the item they use every day come from cattle. Adrienne Johnson, National Park Service - Niobrara Scenic River,

had a hands on demonstration on what would happened if people do not take care of the water supply they have. Gregory Warden, from South Dakota Game Fish & Parks, brought a Critter Box to show and let students feel different animal pelts. Kiley Whited presented on Native plants and the day ended with Andre Oxford and Nathan demonstrating the Rainfall Simulator.

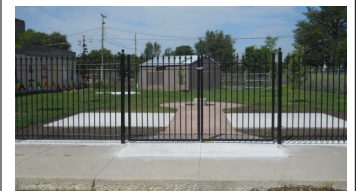


MAIN STREET PARK IN MISSION

This year marked the seconded year of the Main Street Park Project in Mission. Planning for phase two began in March. It was decided at a meeting with Mission Chamber and city officials to pour a short walk path that will end with a flag pole in the center of it and cement pads to put picnic tables on. Plans

for the future include adding a stage area for outdoor concerts and community events. The city of Mission has been maintaining the park. The park gates will be kept locked until the work and the plantings get established. Master Gardeners from the area have expressed an interest in

putting in some plants as well. This community project included youth involvement from Scout Troop 111 and the Hidden Timber 4-H Club. Boy Scouts Travis Grablander and Thane Allen used this project to acquire their Eagle Scout Badges.



PROJECT GROW: 66/125

To help celebrate the 125th anniversary of Statehood, Altman Stuedeny from Plankinton traveled across the state and collected soil samples from all 66 counties in South Dakota. Once the soils from across the state had all been mixed together it was divided into 66 buckets and Bur Oak trees were repotted

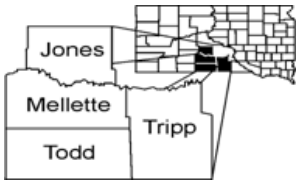
into each bucket. The mixing of the soil from across the state symbolized bringing all of South Dakota together. Sudney enlisted the help of local conservation districts to recommend sites for the soil collection and eventual planting of the tree. He asked that the site selection be of significance in or near the county seat,

and where future care of the tree would be ensured. The site for Mellette County is the court yard behind the Mellette County Historical Society Building. In Todd County the new Main Street Park was selected, In Jones County the tree was planted at the city park.



South Central RC&D

107 W 2nd St.
PO Box 461
Murdo, SD 57559
Phone: 605-669-2222
Email:
southcentralrcd@goldenwest.net



SERVICES AVAILABLE

- ◆ *This past year South Central has proved bookkeeping services to the Mellette/Todd County Conservation Districts.*
- ◆ *South Central has acted as a pass through agency for small civic organizations that did not have a 501c3 status.*
- ◆ *Currently South Central is the fiscal agent for five small groups.*
- ◆ *South Central is working with the Murdo Area Chamber to assist them in getting their 501c3.*
- ◆ *Assisted the Murdo Rodeo group to get \$1,000 for their arena lighting project.*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jones County

Dr. C.K. Kinsley, D.V. M.
Paul Thomas
Darrell Daum, Treas.

Mellette County

Jeannine Woodward, President
Rose West
George England

Todd County

Kathy Chauncey
Terri Grablander, Vice President
Noma Szama

Tripp County

Leroy Hodge
Cal Swanson
Robert Daughters



Board members who have been with South Central RC&D from the very beginning: Paul Thomas, Leroy Hodge and C.K.Kinsely, DVM. Not pictured-Darrell Daum

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 10

Grassland Coalition
Roadshow in Mission, SD
with Gabe Brown

January 11-12-13

Western RC&D Confer-
ence in Rapid City, South
Dakota

January 21

36th Annual Ranchers
Workshop in White River,
SD

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