

# Conservation News

Spring 2021

## Freeborn County Soil & Water Conservation District

### 2020/2021 Conservationists of the Year

Bruce and Stuart Ness are 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> generation farmers and are operating on the original farmstead approximately 150 years later. Stuart has not always been part of the farming team but joined his father 12 years ago. Prior to Stuart joining the team, Bruce had started to implement no-till. Traditionally the land was moldboard plowed, but the Ness's started to slowly make the transition to no-till for their soybean acres and vertical till for their corn acres.

Bruce and Stuart farm approximately 1,300 acres with a corn and soybean rotation. Also, cover crops are planted amongst cash crops, with a typical seed mixture being either three or four species. An example of one of the seed mixes the Ness's utilize is oats, tillage radishes, and rape seed. Each year the cover crop is applied using an airplane, which after much experimentation the Ness's found to be the best application method for them. Utilizing the biosolids from the nearby wastewater treatment plant provides organic nutrients to be applied, which after having transitioned out of dairy and raising livestock provided a mutual benefit for both the City of Albert Lea and the Ness's.

Transitioning out of livestock also provided Bruce with more time for other activities such as being a licensed captain for the *Pelican Breeze* and singing with the Albert Lea Cantori alongside Stuart and his wife, who is the director of the group. Aside from helping farm Stuart also works for Mrs. Gerry's and when not at work his two children keep him and his wife busy.



**Bruce & Stuart Ness standing in one of their no-tilled/cover cropped fields.**

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Bruce and Stuart would not have gotten where they are today without some help, they have had the opportunity to utilize several programs to implement conservation practices on their land, most notably applying cover crops. EQIP, State Cost-Share and MAWQCP have all been used for the implementation of cover crops. CRP was also used to implement a grassed waterway. Alongside the assistance from programs they also had the help of other producers in the area to guide them. The Ness's believe this is one aspect that is important for producers that are interested in starting cover crops, they also believe that producers need to have patience as the changes are not going to happen overnight.

When asked about the benefits of cover crops Bruce and Stuart stated many reasons for their implementation. The original reason for starting cover crops was because it seemed to fit into their operations since they were already utilizing no till for their soybeans. They were also looking for a way to keep the soil in place, prevent erosion, and have cover on the ground. Eventually the Ness's want to utilize cover crops as part of their weed suppression to help reduce the amount of chemicals that are being placed on the fields. They also stated the use of cover crops helps with soil percolation, which is one reason they utilize tillage radishes. For every decision made regarding their operation there is a reason it is made and many of these decisions are made based on improving the environment and the continuance of conservation.



#### **SWCD Supervisors:**

Chris Dahl	Chairman
Don Kropp	Vice Chairman
Dave Ausen	Treasurer
Paul Heers Jr	Secretary
Colin Wittmer	Supervisor

#### **SWCD Staff:**

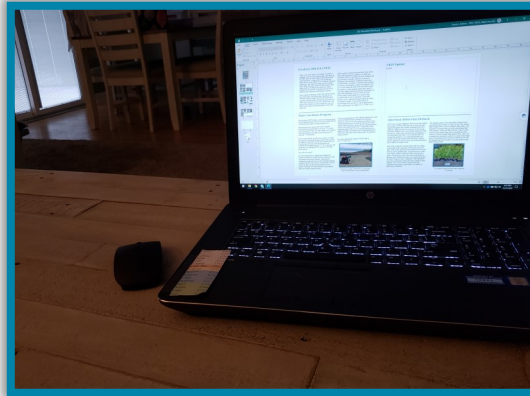
Brenda Lageson	SWCD Manager
Lindsey Zeitler	Resource Con.
Chad Billat	Private Lands Biologist
Brittany Dawson	District Tech.

[www.freebornswcd.org](http://www.freebornswcd.org)

# How COVID-19 Impacted Our Office

What a year it has been, our ‘normal’ work lives changed, we moved from interacting with others in the office daily to teleworking and having limited communication. Living rooms were turned into home offices, home offices were cramped with more technology, and communication moved to phone calls, Skype messages, and virtual meetings. After being used to a bustling office and face to face interactions the quiet of our homes proved to be a different and sometimes challenging dynamics.

Even with the challenges of the Stay at Home Order, Stay Safe Order, and all the other challenges of COVID, staff pushed forward to ensure assistance was received for funding questions or follow ups on projects. Site visits, inspections, and project observation/surveying turned into our own little sweet escapes from the mundane work-from-home-life.



**SWCD staff works on the newsletter while teleworking.**

Staff worked to increase the amount of time in the office following those guidelines set forth, but customers still were not allowed in the building and thus business as usual still has not returned. Meetings with customers continued to take place over the phone, via email, or outside where social distancing could be maintained. Just as we were seeing the light at the end of the tunnel the number of cases jumped significantly and we were once again working from home. Regardless of each of the challenges we have faced this year the SWCD staff is still available for conservation assistance and to answer questions. Each staff member can be contacted through calling the office or sending an email. To ensure that all your conservation needs are met, set up an appointment with a staff member by calling 507-373-5607 ext. 3.

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## Conservation Concerns?

The Freeborn County SWCD offers a state cost-share program for the implementation of cover crops as well as for the construction and repair of structural practices.

Structural practices are percent-based contracts. Percent based contracts help cover up to 75% of the cost of the project. This cost share option can be paired with other financial assistance to get the project to reach the 75% threshold.

Cover crop contracts are a flat rate contract, a certain price per acre is paid depending on how many species are applied to the fields. Cover crop contracts are for 3 years on up to 60 acres. Flat rate payments are available for the implementation of 1, 2, or 3+ species with an incentive to implement 50% or more of a winter hardy species.

## How does it work?

For structural practices a design and estimate are created for the project and the project estimate is used to determine the contract amount. A contract can then be signed and put into place. After project completion an itemized invoice and seed tags from the contractor for the work needs to be provided to SWCD staff to be able to make the final payment for the project. Payments are reimbursements and payments are not made without invoices.

Cover crop payments are still reimbursements, but work a little bit different than payments for structural practices. Since cover crop contracts are for three years a yearly partial payments are made for the first two years and a final payment is made after the implementation of the cover crop in the third year. Verification that the cover crop was installed, seed invoices, application bills, and other proof of implementation is needed for each year of the contract prior to payments being made.

For more information contact SWCD staff at 507-373-5607 ext. 3



**Preparing to crimp the mulch laid on a constructed Grassed Waterway to ensure establishment.**



## Productive Year for CREP

Traveling throughout the county recently completed wetland restorations and seedings may be noticed. Even with many individuals stuck at home and the challenges of the pandemic the Freeborn SWCD was able to keep the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) projects on schedule. Interest in the program along with dry conditions also assisted in the completion of the projects throughout the county.

Connecting with landowners with recently completed projects provided a series of benefits for retiring their land. Almost everyone asked, mentioned increased wildlife on their property as a benefit, but others mentioned improved drainage for adjacent upstream cropland with over loaded tile. Occasionally tile or drainage crosses projects sites allowing for the installation of outlets into the restored wetlands. As a benefit not only is drainage improved but it also allows water to be filtered through the wetlands before entering the original drainage system. Native seedings take time to become established and can take up to a couple of years, however in the end landowners are very pleased with the outcome and are sometimes surprised that natives



**CREP restored wetland completed July 2020.**

outcompete undesirable species. Weighing the alternatives between installing new tile on low production sites or other alternatives led landowners to the CREP program since it allowed for increased financial benefit.

### What is CREP?

CREP is a state and federally funded permanent conservation easement program, in which landowners retire land from farming and future development. An application ranking process ranks land against other properties throughout the state and tends to be quite competitive. Upon acceptance various

payments are received which include federal and state easement payments and cost share for completed restorations. Another benefit is that private landownership is retained and with the next sign up anticipated to be in the Spring of 2021 it may be the time to investigate CREP. If you are interested in the program contact Chad, Private Lands Biologist at the Freeborn SWCD for program details or questions.

## Drier Year Causes Challenges for Trees

2020 even brought challenges for the trees throughout the County. SWCD staff received several calls and emails throughout the summer inquiring about tree dieback. Taking the time to contact a local forester, who then reached out to a tree health expert provided the answer. It was determined there was no disease that was causing the problem. It is suspected that there are several abiotic factors causing the dieback. This means that there are no insect or fungal causes.

One of the suspected concerns that could be leading to the death of the American Arborvitae is the soil type. Most of the areas that were affected by the issue were in slowly drained soils. The previous two years were wetter, which would have led to flooded root zones. Flooded root zones can result in the death of the fine roots. Without the fine root system the ability for trees to take in water is hindered. This hindrance put stress on the trees during the drier stretch in early summer 2020. The forester suspected that the American Arborvitae is particularly susceptible to those drier conditions. The dieback seems to be impacting younger trees, specifically those under 15 years of age. Younger trees or newly planted arborvitae were impacted is because

they are still establishing their root systems, which can take between 3 and 5 years, which in turn makes them more susceptible to the stresses of drier weather than mature trees. One way to mitigate the dieback would be to water Arborvitae once a week during drier periods when they are still developing their root systems to ensure proper water uptake and growth, however this does not guarantee survival.



**Two-gallon American Arborvitae organized for the SWCD tree pickup.**

# Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program

Although it was an unexpected year, we were able to work with producers to get them certified for the Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program (MAWQCP). Freeborn County has 32 certified producers with 8 of those producers becoming certified in 2020, of course our hope was to be able to certify more producers, but we are still navigating how to administer the program in today's new normal. Benefits of MAWQCP include:

- ◆ Applications Available Year Round
- ◆ Non-Regulatory and Voluntary Program
- ◆ 10 years of Regulatory Certainty
- ◆ Whole Farm Assessment for Water Quality Risk
- ◆ Priority Financial and Technical Assistance

We asked some area producers why they became interested in the program or why they wanted to become certified and here are some of the responses:

- ◇ MAWQCP fits well into the existing operations
- ◇ The 10 years of regulatory certainty
- ◇ It was a challenge for us to see if we could meet the standards
- ◇ It is nice to be recognized by the State
- ◇ Financial assistance helped implement current practices



MAWQCP sign posted on a producer's farm.

## No-Till Drill Rental



### Examples of what can be planted with the drill:

Soybeans • cover crops • native seed mixes • CRP and CREP plantings • alfalfa • buffers

### Drill Features:

3 seed boxes • 12' width/15' wheel to wheel • 7.5" row spacings • Hydraulic hookups

### Rental Fee:

\$100 delivery fee • \$10 per acre seeded • Rental fees differ if used out of Freeborn County

## Ordering Trees in 2021

**\*\*NEW for 2021:** Payments due in full when order is placed.

### Ways to place an order:

- Via phone
- Through mail
- Through e-mail
- By appointment

### Ways to make a payment:

- Via phone with a credit card
- Mail the payment to the office
- Drop off the payment at the FSA drop box
- Pay at time of appointment

To place an order via phone  
or to set up an appointment call the  
office at 507-373-5607 ext. 3  
or email SWCD staff below.

Email Lindsey: [lindsey.zeitler@mn.nacdnet.net](mailto:lindsey.zeitler@mn.nacdnet.net)

or Brittany: [brittany.dawson@mn.nacdnet.net](mailto:brittany.dawson@mn.nacdnet.net)



Due to COVID-19 there is limited staff  
present in the office.

Send order form and  
payment to the office at:

Freeborn SWCD  
1400 West Main Street  
Albert Lea, MN 56007





# Conservation & Technology

If this year has taught us anything it is just how important technology is to staying connected and completing our work. Without the ability to meet in person virtual meetings and conferences have become the norm, but this would not be possible without the vast array of technology we have within arms-reach. The most obvious is our cell phones that are like small computers in our pockets. A few clicks and we can find exactly what we are looking for.

Not only have our devices changed but technology in our cars and machinery has also increased significantly. GPS technology can guide combines and assist with variable rate application of nutrients. Technology is also a vital part of the work that the SWCD completes.

From the use of computers and computer programs to help map conservation practices or to determine the amount of soil loss on a certain field other forms of technology are

also used by staff. A handheld GPS unit is utilized to help map points to document tillage throughout various watersheds. A GPS receiver and tablet are utilized for surveying projects at various points throughout its completion to ensure it is in-line with the project design and meeting standards. Project designs can be directly placed on the tablet to ensure surveying is being completed correctly. A new form of technology that the SWCD has acquired in the past year is a drone. Drones are starting to become a big part of the conservation world. Drones allow the operator to view projects from a birds-eye-view and take in an entire project instead of the typical ground level view. Both videos and images can be taken when using a drone,

which is connected to a phone or tablet that works as a viewing screen and provides the ability to take video and images. SWCD staff are looking forward to utilizing this new technology.



**District Resource Conservationist, Lindsey Zeitler surveying a Grassed Waterway.**

## CRP is Open for Continuous & General

The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) is currently open for continuous and general enrollment. The general sign up is open until February 12, 2021 and the continuous is ongoing. There are a few changes to the program and if interested come talk with someone at the local FSA or conservation office to see if a CRP practice is a good fit for your property.

## NRCS Update

By: Joel Alicea-Hernandez NRCS Soil Con

We hope 2021 finds you healthy. In 2020 NRCS started working on a multi-county team basis. The area 19 team is comprised of Freeborn, Dodge, Mower, and Steele Counties with a Team Lead, two Soil Conservation Technicians, and three Soil Conservationists between the four offices. Although the COVID-19 pandemic has staff teleworking we can still be reached via phone to answer questions regarding applications or funding opportunities. NRCS staff are available to assist you, so please do not hesitate to contact us at 507-373-7960 ext. 3.

## NRCS Program Updates

Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP): Freeborn County had two applications accepted for fiscal year 2020 consisting of Grassed Waterway completion and Brush Management and an Animal Mortality Facility to be completed in the Spring of 2021. EQIP is designed to target resource concerns simply and provide funding for approved

contracts based on eligibility and ranking. An example of a resource concern that may be addressed utilizing EQIP is erosion concerns. Common practices funded through EQIP to mitigate erosion are Cover Crops and Grassed Waterways, however there are many other practices offered through the EQIP Program.

Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP): Freeborn County had nine approved applications for fiscal year 2020. Common practices implemented with the approved contracts include Cover Crops, Nutrient Management, Integrated Pest Management, and Monarch and Pollinator Habitat. Unlike EQIP, CSP is more intensive because of the requirement to meet various thresholds pertaining to the priority resource concern. A minimum of one practice involving the entire operation on the cropland acres and one practice to be established on cropland, farmstead, or pastureland.



## NRCS Staff

Gary Kurer  
Karen Stensrude

Area Lead  
Sinew Clerk

Joel Alicea- Hernandez  
Barbara Marshall

Soil Conservationist  
Farm Bill Technician

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## Evergreens

**Arborvitae, American:** *Thuja occidentalis* - 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 virginiana* – Height of 40 – 50'. Native to IA. Sharp green scale-like needles. Good for wildlife. Tolerant of most light and heavy 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, Meyer:** *Picea Meyeri* - grows to mature heights of 40-100 feet. Being used to replace Colorado Spruce because of it being disease prone. Grows 13-24" per year. Can handle droughty conditions and likes the sun.

**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.

## 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.

**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.

**Elderberry:** *Sambucus canadensis* - Height of 5-12'. Occurs in rich soils scattered throughout bottom lands, uplands, along streams, fence rows, and low places. Provides fruit for wildlife.

**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.

**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 fall color.

**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.

## Deciduous Trees

**Birch, Paper:** *Betula papyrifera* - Height of 50 - 70'. Hardy native and fairly rapid growing with shallow roots. Somewhat borer resistant, but not pollution tolerant. Easy to transplant and casts light shade.

**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.

**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.

**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, Swamp White:** *Quercus bicolor* – Height 50-60'. Medium sized, deciduous tree indigenous to north, central, and eastern Missouri. Found in moist to swampy locations along stream and lake valleys, floodplains, and edge of swamps. Has a surprisingly good drought resistance.

**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.

**Serviceberry:** (Juneberry) small tree 6-15 ft. Expands by suckers. Prefers loam to sandy loam with high organic matter. Limited drought tolerance. Will not sustain in ponded conditions. Full to partial sun.

**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.

**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.

**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.



**Freeborn County SWCD**  
**Spring 2021 Tree Order Form**  
 1400 W Main Street, Albert Lea, MN 56007  
 507-373-5607 Ext. 3  
 email: [lindsey.zeitler@mn.nacdn.net](mailto:lindsey.zeitler@mn.nacdn.net)  
[www.freebornswcd.org](http://www.freebornswcd.org)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_



Evergreen Bareroot	Size	\$ per bundle of 25 trees	# of bundles	Total Cost
Arborvitae, Am.	12-18"	\$41.00		
Cedar, Eastern Red	9-15"	\$41.00		
Pine, White	7-15"	\$41.00		
Spruce, White	7-15"	\$41.00		
Spruce, Black Hills	7-15"	\$41.00		
Spruce, Norway	7-15"	\$41.00		
Evergreen Potted	Size	\$ per pot	# of pots	Total Cost
Arborvitae, Am.	1 Gal. 15-18"	\$10.00		
Arborvitae, Am.	2 Gal. 18-24"	\$14.00		
Pine, Red	1 Gal. 15-18"	\$10.00		
Pine, White	1 Gal. 15-18"	\$10.00		
Pine, White	2 Gal. 18-24"	Contact the office to be placed on a wait list		
Spruce, Black Hills	1 Gal. 15-18"	\$10.00		
Spruce, Black Hills	2 Gal. 24-30"	\$15.00		
Spruce, Meyer	1 Gal. 15-18"	\$10.00		
Spruce, Meyer <i>New</i>	2 Gal. 18-24"	\$14.00		
Spruce, Norway	1 Gal. 15-18"	\$10.00		
Spruce, Norway	2 Gal. 18-24"	\$14.00		
Deciduous Bareroot	Size	\$ per bundle of 25 Trees	# of bundles	Total Cost
Birch, Paper <i>New</i>	18-24"	\$40.00		
Cherry, Black	2-3'	\$42.00		
Chokecherry, Common	2-3'	\$42.00		
Hackberry	2-3'	\$42.00		
Maple, Red	2-3'	\$42.00		
Maple, Sugar	18-24"	\$40.00		
Oak, Bur	18-24"	\$40.00		
Oak, Red	2-3'	\$42.00		
Plum, American	2-3'	\$42.00		
Poplar, Norway	2-3'	\$42.00		
Serviceberry	2-3'	\$42.00		
Walnut, Black	2-3'	\$42.00		
Willow, Hybrid	2-3'	\$42.00		
Deciduous Bareroot Shrubs	Size	\$ per bundle of 25 shrubs	# of bundles	Total Cost
Arrowwood	18-24"	\$40.00		
Cranberry, American	18-24"	\$40.00		
Dogwood, Redosier	18-24"	\$40.00		
Elderberry <i>New</i>	18-24"	\$40.00		
Hazelnut, Am.	18-24"	\$40.00		
Lilac, Common Purple	18-24"	\$40.00		
Nannyberry	18-24"	\$40.00		
Other/Special Orders	Size	\$ per piece	# of pieces	Total Cost
Tree Mats (1 per tree)	3' X 3'	\$1.50		
Fertilizer (1 per tree)	Packet	\$0.40		
Tree Tubes (1 per tree)	5'	\$3.00		

Date \_\_\_\_\_

*Bareroot trees will be sold in bundles only. If you want fewer trees we recommend purchasing potted.*

**Potted deciduous trees are available. Contact the SWCD for what is available and pricing!**

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

**Order by February 19th for best selection.**  
*Order by February 19 for your chance to win 1 of 3 one-gallon potted conifers!*

Order cancellations must be in by **Feb. 19**. Reimbursements for cancellations after this date cannot be guaranteed.

**We now accept credit cards! 3% convenience fee or \$1.00 minimum.**

**New for 2021**  
**Full Payment is due upon ordering.**

*Make checks payable to: Freeborn County SWCD*

🌲 The SWCD sells good quality trees, but offers no guarantee of survival or availability of items ordered.  
 🌲 We will contact you when the orders are ready to be picked up, generally around the 3rd or 4th week of April

Subtotal	
Sales Tax 7.875%	
Balance Due	

**FREEBORN COUNTY 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](http://WWW.FREEBORNSWCD.ORG)

## **Order trees by February 19th for best selection!**

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.  
To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA,  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office  
of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., SW,  
Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992.



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### Questions?

Please visit [biotill.saddlebutte.com](http://biotill.saddlebutte.com)  
or call 541.928.0102

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