



# POPE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

# Conservation News

## **Pope SWCD Board**

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*District Conservationist*

Melissa Behrens

*Soil Conservation Technician*

## **DU Contract Biologist**

Matt Rose

## **Pope County Ag Inspector**

Barry Bouwman

(320) 634-7793 Office

(320) 424-0194 Cell

## **Pope SWCD/NRCS Office**

1680 Franklin Street N

Glenwood, MN 56334

(320) 634-5327

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

## Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program

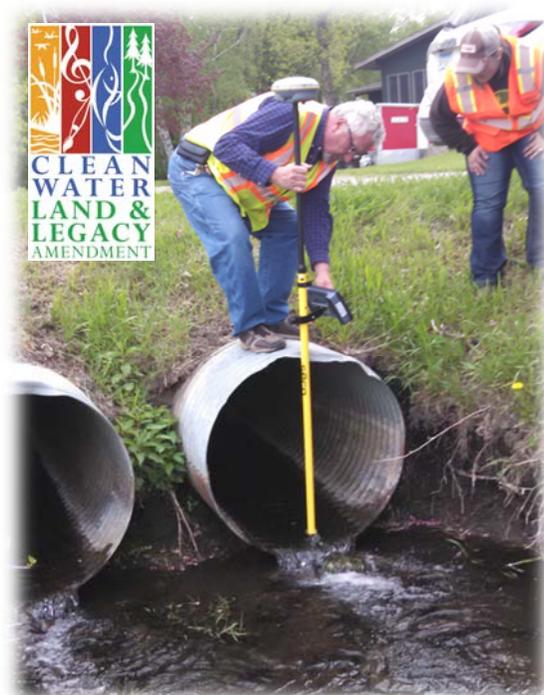
We are waiting on a new CREP sign up. CREP (Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program) is a combination program between federal (Conservation Reserve Program) and state (Reinvest in Minnesota Program) funds. We have had two major CREP sign ups in the last 20 years. This will make the third CREP in the state of Minnesota if all of the federal and state funding package comes together. This is a perpetual easement program and will be targeted to specific areas within the county. We will share more details as we have them available. If you are interested in the Minnesota CREP (III) please talk to the SWCD staff to be placed on a list and we will contact you when we know more about enrollment details.

## City of Glenwood Stormwater Study

Pope SWCD has been working with the City of Glenwood and contracted with Houston Engineering to complete a hydraulic and hydrology study of the stormwater conveyance system through the city. This project was funded by a Clean Water Land and Legacy Amendment grant. The analysis will help identify where projects should be implemented to help with water quality concerns affecting Lake Minnewaska.

The Pope SWCD staff will then work with individual property owners to implement projects within the city to help with these water quality concerns. The information will also be helpful to the City in determining what projects to implement for flooding improvements.

The entire city stormwater conveyance system was surveyed this past year. A full report should be available by the end of 2016 and then projects will be sought within the City in order to apply for state funding to implement in 2018 and beyond. Watch for more details in 2018 or give us a call today if you would like to learn more (320) 634-5327, ask for Holly.



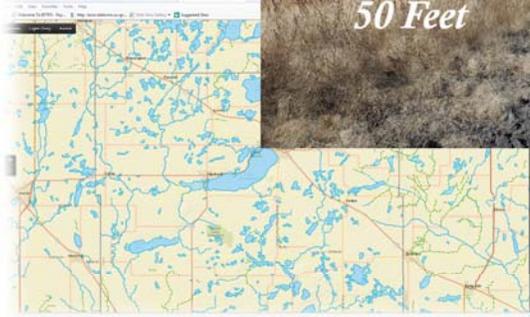
# Buffer Process

Pope SWCD wants to encourage landowners to think about making their appointments now so that we can assist you in determining what applies for your land. We are one year away from the first deadline. After the deadline passes, buffers that are not implemented can be regulated.

## 1<sup>ST</sup> MAKE AN APPOINTMENT



## 2<sup>ND</sup> POPE SWCD STAFF REVIEWS YOUR FIELD MAPS



## 3<sup>RD</sup> FIELD VERIFICATION



## 4<sup>TH</sup> SEED SITES IDENTIFIED



**Seeding Deadlines:**  
Public Waters 11/2017  
Public Ditches 11/2018

## MINNESOTA'S BUFFER LAW-NEW UPDATES

The official buffer map was released by the MN DNR in July 2016. Soil and Water Conservation Districts have been reviewing the map and sending in corrections. The updated version with corrections made to the map will be released around November of 2016.

Pope SWCD has been hard at work reviewing the map and meeting with landowners to discuss buffer requirements as it pertains to them. It is our goal to go through the map again and do a desktop analysis of ALL parcels requiring a buffer. From there, we can narrow down the list of parcels that are needing field verification. Waves of letters will be sent out to those that may be falling short of either buffer requirement. Buffers must be seeded in 50 feet average with a 30 foot minimum of permanent perennial vegetation on all public waters and 16.5 feet on all public ditches. It is important to note that many of the public ditches in Pope County are also designated public waters. Those watercourses with both public ditch and public water classifications will require a 50 foot average with a 30 foot minimum buffer. All public waters (including the ditches with a public waters designation) will be committed to having a buffer seeded by November 1, 2017. All public ditches will need to be seeded by November 1, 2018.

Pope SWCD can assist with parcel review and buffer requirements as well as technical support for measuring, staking and seeding a perennial vegetative buffer. If you have any questions about what your parcels may be requiring for the buffer law, please make an appointment with Jessica Oldakowski.

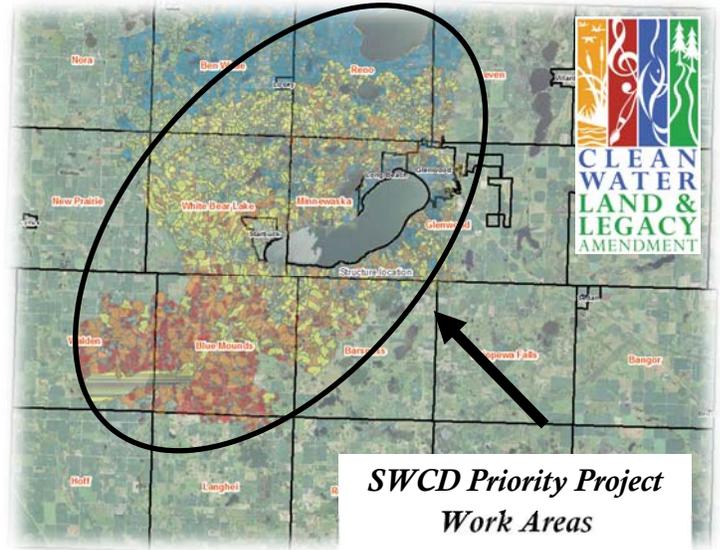
**NOTE: Pope SWCD is reviewing all parcels that this law applies to and any parcels falling short of the requirements will be receiving notification sometime this winter.**

# EROSION CONTROL PROJECTS COMPLETED THIS FALL

Pope SWCD along with the NRCS and the West Central Technical Service Area engineering staff have been working on erosion and sediment control projects this past spring and this fall. The SWCD continues to prioritize work based on the Pope County Local Water Management Plan and has been working in the two subwatersheds to Lake Minnewaska in the past 4-5 years.

The Pope SWCD in 2016 secured Clean Water Land and Legacy Funding to continue this work in the Lake Emily subwatersheds as well. Several projects have been implemented already with more scheduled over the next 2-3 years. The map to the right shows the focus area of the current funding and project implementation.

If you have land located in this area of the county and have erosion or gully concerns please stop in to visit with Holly.



*Lined Waterway project before*



*Lined Waterway project after construction*



*Water and Sediment Control Basin Project During Construction*

## **Irrigators Clinic**

**Thursday, December 15, 2016**

**8:30 a.m. registration til 2 p.m.**

**At the Paynesville America Legion**

Mark your calendars to attend this event. Tentative topics include: irrigating in dry years, Forever Green Initiative, economics of irrigation, nitrogen management program and soil health.

Local sponsors will be onsite with informational booths and technologies. Registration fee will be reduced due to local sponsorships. Morning and afternoon refreshments, snacks, and a lunch buffet will be provided. Register today by sending \$10.00 including your names to Pope SWCD attn: Holly Kovarik at 1680 Franklin Street North, Glenwood,

## **No-Till Drill Available to Rent**



*The Pope SWCD offers a complete package of services and products to aid in implementing native grass plantings enrolled in conservation programs and for seeding buffers. Call today to set up a time to meet with staff to discuss your project and provide an estimate. Ask for Kelly!*

## PAUL AND BARB KOUBSKY NAMED OUTSTANDING CONSERVATIONISTS

Pope SWCD has selected Paul and Barb Koubsky as this year's Outstanding Conservationists. The Koubskys operate a diversified farm operation raising soybeans and corn with cover crops including rye and wheat. The operation includes 130 cow/calf pairs on a rotational grazing system including grazing the cover crops on 60-90 acres. Over the years they have planted shelterbelts and buffer strips, implemented a waste management system, grid sampled the operation for nutrient management, constructed 17 water and sediment control structures, treated invasive species including wild parsnip, and implemented cattle exclusion practices.

The Koubsky's promote conservation and agriculture through FFA, 4-H, the Pope County Fair Board, and the Pope County Shooting Sports programs.

"We're proud of the Paul and Barb Koubsky family for what they've done in conserving the natural resources in our area," said Tom Talle supervisor of the Pope SWCD. The Koubsky's are good stewards trying new practices in their diversified operation to improve the land for future generations.

They were recognized at a Pope County Commissioner meeting on November 1st and will also be recognized at a Dec. 6th luncheon at the Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation District's annual convention. The awards program recognizes farm families, individuals, conservation organizations, and other groups for their accomplishments in implementing conservation practices and improving Minnesota's natural resources.



*D. Gary Reents (Pope SWCD Board member), Keith Nygaard (Pope SWCD Board member), Barb and Paul Koubsky, Holly Kovarik (Pope SWCD staff) and Gordy Wagner (Pope County Commissioner)*



*Pictured above: cover crops including rye, cow calf cattle operation, and water and sediment control structures on the Koubsky farm*



Jim Barchenger was recently certified through the Minnesota Ag Water Quality Certification program after meeting the requirements. Congratulations! He joins 12 other producers in the County that have or are in the process of becoming certified.

Jim also serves on the North Fork of the Crow River Watershed District Board.

For more information on how to become certified in the Minnesota Ag Water Quality Certification Program visit [www.mda.state.mn.us/awqcp](http://www.mda.state.mn.us/awqcp) or contact our office to sign up (320) 634-5327.



*Pictured above: Grant Pearson (Stearns SWCD), Tara Ostendorf (NRCRWD), Jim Barchenger, and Craig Bower (MDA)*

# 2017 SALES PROGRAM ORDER FORM

## POPE SOIL & WATER



CONSERVATION DISTRICT

1680 Franklin St North, Glenwood, MN 56334

PHONE: (320) 834-5327

FAX: (320) 834-4278

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Order early for the best selection of trees.

You will be notified in April of pick-up dates for trees, tree products, and for grass seed orders.

Orders received before **December 10th** for 2016 planting will receive **10% off the tree order.**

**Special orders available upon request, call now to secure your order! No project to big or small!**

*Prices are subject to change.*

ITEM	PRICE	#ORDERED	AMOUNT
<b>SHRUBS (All Bare Root) priced per bundle of 25 Trees</b>			
Buffaloberry	\$37.50		
Chokeberry, black	\$37.50		
Hazlenut	\$37.50		
Hi Bush Cranberry	\$37.50		
Juneberry	\$37.50		
Nanking Cherry	\$37.50		
Cotoneaster	\$37.50		
Redosier Dogwood	\$37.50		
Sand Cherry	\$37.50		
Villosa Lilac	\$37.50		
Common Lilac	\$37.50		
<b>LARGE TREES (All Bare Root) priced per bundle of 25 Trees</b>			
Siouxland Cottonwood	\$37.50		
Hackberry	\$37.50		
Bur Oak	\$37.50		
Silver Maple	\$37.50		
Sugar Maple	\$37.50		
American Linden Basswood	\$37.50		
<b>SMALL TREES (All Bare Root) priced per bundle of 25 Trees</b>			
American Plum	\$37.50		
Common Chokecherry	\$37.50		
Red Splendor Crab	\$37.50		
<b>EVERGREENS priced per bundle of 25 Trees</b>			
Black Hills Spruce	\$40.00		
Colorado Blue Spruce	\$40.00		
Ponderosa Pine	\$40.00		
American Arborvitae (White Cedar)	\$40.00		
Red Pine (Norway Pine)	\$40.00		

# Trees Ordered: \_\_\_\_\_

Page Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*See Reverse Side for Tax.*

**\*\*Conservation Grade Trees Must Be Ordered in Minimum Quantities of 25 unless otherwise noted.**

## 2017 SALES PROGRAM ORDER FORM



Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

ITEM	PRICE	#ORDERED	AMOUNT
<b>POTTED EVERGREENS</b> (other varieties of evergreens available upon request)			
Black Hills Spruce	\$15.00 each		
<b>TREE CARE (Plant Skydd Repellent)</b>			
Plantskydd (deer/rabbit) Repellent (treats 200-300 1' seedlings) 1 lb powder	\$25.00		
Plantskydd (deer/rabbit) Repellent (treats 400-600 1' seedlings) 2.2 lb powder	\$37.00		
Plantskydd (deer/rabbit) Repellent (treats 100 1' seedlings) 1 liter premixed	\$20.00		
<b>TREE CARE</b>			
Tree Shelters 4' height (biodegradeable)	\$3.00		
Wood Stakes 4' height	\$0.90		
Weed Control Mats 3x3 w/ 4 staples	\$2.50		
Bulk Roll of Weed Fabric 500'	\$150.00		
Staples/1000 per box (Anchor Pins)	\$70.00		
<b>SERVICES -- All Services have a \$75.00 one time service charge</b>			
Custom Installed Weed Fabric (fabric included in price)	\$0.50 per foot		
Custom Tree Planting (\$100 minimum charge)	\$0.50 per tree		
Custom Mowing	Call for Pricing		
Custom Cultivation	Call for Pricing		
Custom Grass Seeding ATV	Call for Pricing		
Custom Grass Seeding No-till Drill	Call for Pricing		
<b>EQUIPMENT RENTALS (Delivery charges do apply)</b>			
Tree Planter (minimum charge of \$50.00)	\$50.00 per day		
No-Till Drill (minimum charge of \$75.00)	\$8.00 per acre		
Packer (minimum charge of \$75.00)	\$2.50 per acre		
<b>CUSTOM GRASS SEED MIXES (priced per acre)</b>			
<i>Custom mixes available upon request suited to meet program requirements. Call for a quote 320-634-532</i>			
*Planning and Design service with on-site visit. (FREE) *Trees sold are for conservation purposes only. *SWCD cannot guarantee survival rate of trees. *SWCD reserves the right to substitute sizes or cancel species due to availability. *A <b>25% down payment</b> is required on all orders at the time of the order. All orders after March 1st 2017 must be paid in full at the time of the order. All balances due by April 1st, 2017. Orders Cancelled after February 1st, 2017 will be charged a 25% cancellation fee. *10% Off Tree Orders sent in by December 10th, 2016.		<b>Total This Side :</b>	
		<b>Total Front Side :</b>	
		<b>Subtotal :</b>	
		<b>6.875% Sales Tax :</b>	
		<b>Total Order Cost :</b>	
		<b>Paid :</b>	
<b>Balance :</b>			

*Pope SWCD prohibits discrimination in all their programs and activities on the basis of color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, and where applicable (including gender identity and expression), marital status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, political beliefs, genetic information, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program.*

## NOTES FROM THE FEEDLOT OFFICE

The Feedlot Office will again re-register all the active feedlots in the County and mailings to producers will begin soon. We encourage anyone with any questions about the status of their feedlot to contact the office and set up an onsite registration. If you are planning to expand or make changes to the feedlot area it is a good idea to go through the re-registration onsite and get the benefit of planning done also. Feedlots are registered in different zones and it is good to know what the parameters are for maximum animal units, as well as other requirements of the County Ordinance and the MN7020 Feedlot Rule.

If you are planning any changes in your operation in the next few years it is good to plan several years ahead. It can take up to a couple of years at a minimum to attain cost share assistance and to design a project. We are happy to respond to any questions or concerns, and can provide materials in alternative formats if needed. Contact Barry Bouwman for more information at 320-634-7791.

### *A note on manure stockpiling in fields:*

Stockpiles need to be away from road ditches and 300 feet set back from all water features. It is also important to not locate stockpiles near homes where odor and flies can be a problem. Call the office for assistance if there are any concerns about where to select a location for your stockpile.



### WHO WE ARE...

Revolution Plastics collects ag and silage plastic from farms and dairies and recycles the material at its United States-based recycling facilities.

Our mission is to provide high-value, sustainable solutions to our customers through innovative closed-loop recycling systems that preserve our environment for future generations.

### Free, On-Farm Ag and Silage Plastic Recycling Program

#### OUR SERVICE

Depending on your location and plastic use, Revolution Plastics will spot and empty a dumpster on your farm or dairy at no cost to you. The program is limited to the collection of the approved plastics below:

- **SILAGE PLASTICS**  
Used bale wrap, ag/grain bags, most bunker covers and oxygen barrier film
- **AG PLASTICS**  
Used irrigation tape and tubing, greenhouse, hoophouse, fumigation and other cover films



Email: [collections@revolutionplastics.com](mailto:collections@revolutionplastics.com)  
Phone: (844) 490-7873

Exclusions apply. Not all farms and/or dairies that sign up will qualify for a dumpster.

**SIGN UP TODAY AT**  
[www.RevolutionPlastics.com](http://www.RevolutionPlastics.com)

## POPE COUNTY FEEDLOT ORDINANCE REQUIREMENTS:

Requires reciprocal setbacks between homes and feedlots. When conditional use permits (CUP) are granted for non-ag homes in an Ag zone new reciprocal setbacks are established and we need to be aware of surrounding feedlots and their plans for the future.

### **A-2 Zone Requirements:**

Established to foster agriculture practices including crop farming, pasturing, and feedlots of all types. A CUP is required to exceed 300 animal units with a cap of 2,000 animal units (AU) in the A-2 zone. Reciprocal setbacks are 1,320 feet for the first 300 AU and 2 feet per AU after that.

### **A-1 Zone Requirements:**

All feedlots in this zone need a CUP to expand with a maximum of 200 animal unit capacity. The reciprocal setback from residences to feedlots in A-1 is a 500 foot minimum increasing at a rate of 2 feet per animal unit in excess of 50 AU.

### **Attention landowners that have expiring CRP in 2017.**

If you are interested in re-enrolling this land back into the program. Please respond as soon as possible.

- Certain practices will run out of acres in early 2017.
- Staff are trying to complete site verification visits early and first priority will be given to those who let us know early that you wish to re-enroll.
- CREP lands expiring will not be eligible to re-enroll. The state easement (RIM) kicks in after the CRP part expires. These lands must remain in conservation use. We have information that will be sent out in December or January that will tell landowners with CREP lands (where the CRP expires) what they have as options.

# POPE SOIL & WATER



CONSERVATION DISTRICT

1680 Franklin St North  
Glenwood, MN 56334

Pope SWCD and USDA prohibits discrimination in all their programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex (including gender identity and expression), marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, political beliefs, genetic information, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program.

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## *IMPORTANT DATES*

Board Meetings are held the **third Tuesday of each month at 7am.**  
The public is welcome to join us.

November 15	Board Meeting
December 20	Board Meeting
January 17	Board Meeting
February 21	Board Meeting



**SWCD BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

*Randy Pederson, Mike Billehus, Tom Talle, D.Gary Reents, and Keith Nygaard*



**SWCD STAFF**

*Kelly Erickson (Technician), Holly Kovarik (Manager), Nicole Brede (Farmbill Technician), Jessica Oldakowski (Technician)*