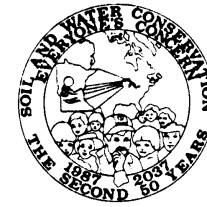


Nicollet Soil & Water Conservation District
501 7th Street, PO Box 457
Nicollet, MN 56074
507-232-2550

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Nicollet SWCD

2023

January

2023 Nicollet SWCD Board



L to R: Eric Annexstad, Tim Braun, John Kral, Bruce Hulke, Don Hermanson

The Nicollet Soil and Water Conservation District

501 7th Street
PO Box 457
Nicollet, MN 56074
Phone: (507) 232-2550

District Board

Eric Annexstad, Chair
Don Hermanson, Vice Chair
John Kral, Secretary
Tim Braun, Treasurer
Bruce Hulke, Member

District Employees

Kevin Ostermann
District Manager

Blake Honetschlager
District Technician

Eric Miller
District Technician

Judy Beetch
Administrative Assistant

Join the NRCS Team!

At the U.S. Department of Agriculture's **Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)**, we need people who are committed to action. People who want to apply their education and experience to make sure that all of us enjoy the benefits of productive soil, clean water, clean air and abundant wildlife that come from a healthy environment. NRCS offers career opportunities in Natural Resources and Conservation. Our Conservation Careers include Soil Conservationists and Soil Conservation Technicians, Engineers, Soil Scientists, Rangeland Management Specialists, Biologists and many more. NRCS also hires in the fields of finance, human resources, public and legislative affairs and other professional fields aimed at supporting NRCS to meet its mission. More information about NRCS Careers can be found at:

www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/careers/.

Current NRCS job advertisements can be found on www.USAJobs.com. Alerts can be set to notify you when new positions have been advertised!

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday
8:00am-4:30pm

Please call ahead to schedule an appointment.

Natural Resource Conservation Service

Phone: (507) 237-5435 ext. 3

Reyna Chavez
District Conservationist
(After January 15, 2023)

Jacob Stich
CST Lead

Now Taking Tree Orders for Spring Planting

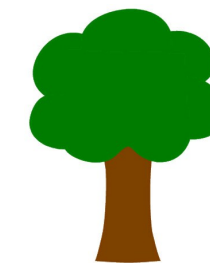


The Nicollet Soil and Water Conservation District Tree Program was developed to provide landowners with an affordable and convenient way to purchase trees and shrubs for conservation practices. Practices may include: windbreaks, shelterbelts, living snow fences and wildlife habitat.

The tree program is on a first come, first serve basis. If you place an order, you will be notified by postcard when the trees can be picked up.

Approximate delivery time is the end of April. Trees can be picked up at the Nicollet SWCD in Nicollet. The tree order form is on the inside back page and can also be found on our website: www.Nicolletswcd.org. Give us a call with any questions or to request that an order form be mailed to you.

New this year: MOUNTAIN ASH



Find the tree order form on page 3

This newsletter is published by the Nicollet Soil and Water Conservation District, 501 7th St., Nicollet, MN 56074 and USDA NRCS, 112 5th St, Gaylord, MN 55334. For more information regarding this newsletter, contact (507) 232-2550. **USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.**

Board Meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at 8:30 a.m. Agenda posted on the website one week prior.



Online version available @ www.nicolletswcd.org
Email info@nicolletswcd.org for updates

Winter Protection for Trees & Shrubs

Trees can experience many stressors during the winter months including lack of water, sunscald and feeding from wildlife. There are a few ways to ensure your plants are protected this winter and emerge healthy in spring.

Trees and shrubs are especially attractive to rabbits, voles, and deer looking for food in the winter. To discourage this feeding and protect your trees, construct physical barriers around trees and shrubs to prevent wildlife from getting to your plant. You can create enclosures around the trunks of trees and around entire shrubs using a 4-foot-tall hardware cloth fencing. This hardware cloth should be placed about 6 inches away from the trunk. Bury the bottom of the fencing a few inches into the soil to reduce the chance of small animals crawling under the fence.

For those of you who have 1- to 5- foot conifers like white pine, prevent deer from topping your trees by capping terminal buds. Loss of terminal buds can result in stunted, bushy growth. Simple caps can be made by folding a 4x6-inch sheet of plain paper and stapling the edges together, catching some needles with the staples.

In combination with fencing, you can install white tree guards around trunks to prevent sunscald and ultimate frost cracks of young, thin-barked trees. The white guard reflects light and prevents intense winter sun from warming plant cells. These guards will also help protect against deer browsing and rubbing on bark. Be sure to remove the white tree guards in the spring to prevent trunk girdling.

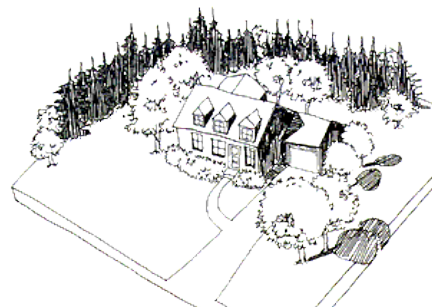
If your yard has many trees or shrubs to protect, then using screens and wraps may be inefficient and expensive. In these cases, repellents may be a better solution. A repellent is not a poison, it makes plants taste or smell bad to animals to discourage feeding. You can spray or paint repellents on trees and shrubs. One application of repellent is typically enough for the entire season.

As for protecting evergreens from winter injury, the question is whether to wrap or not to wrap them. Evergreens continue to photosynthesize throughout winter and covering them completely can prevent this. Browning on evergreens can be caused by dry winter winds, droughty soils and salt spray from road maintenance. You can avoid the need to wrap evergreens by watering plants up until the soil freezes, so they go into dormancy well-irrigated. Also avoid planting plants within 8 to 10 feet of roads treated with salts and chemicals. If you have trees or shrubs already planted close to the road, a burlap barrier or fence may provide protection.

If you have questions on how to protect your trees for winter, please feel free to contact the Nicollet County Extension office at 507-934-7828. **By Emma Severns, Extension Educator- Ag Production Systems**

Windbreak Assistance & Cost Share

Looking to replace an aging windbreak, or install a new windbreak? Stop in to check out the services Nicollet SWCD can offer. From tree selection, spacing and planting tips, the SWCD will assist with initial planning, to planting of your new trees. Nicollet SWCD is working on a state funded grant program to assist by offering cost share on windbreak installations / replacements. More information on this program will be available in our Summer 2023 newsletter. The goal is to have funding resources available for Spring 2024 windbreak plantings.



Additional web resources:

University of Minnesota - Recommended trees for Minnesota

<https://extension.umn.edu/tree-selection-and-care/recommended-trees-minnesota>

MN DNR - Caring for Trees - <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/treecare/caring-pruning.html>

2023 Tree Order Form					Order Number (office use)
Mail Order NICOLLET SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT					Name:
To: 501 7th St., PO Box 457, Nicollet MN 56074					Address:
PHONE: (507) 232-2550					Email:
QUALITY NURSING STOCK					Phone:
CONIFER POTTED					Important Notice Trees are distributed in April. We will notify you of your pickup day. The cost of trees does not warrant free replacement and the district offers no guarantee of survival.
<i>Species</i>	<i>Size</i>	<i># of Trees</i>	<i>Cost</i>		
1 Quart Red Pine	5-10"		x \$5.00/Tree =		
1 Quart White Pine	5-8"		x \$5.00/Tree =		
1 Quart Colorado Spruce	8-16"		x \$5.00/Tree =		
1 Quart Blackhills Spruce	8-12"		x \$5.00/Tree =		
1 Quart Pine Ponderosa	6-10"		x \$5.00/Tree =		
1 Quart American Arborvitae	6-12"		x \$5.00/Tree =		
2 Gal. American Arborvitae	18-24"		x \$17.00/Tree =		
2 Gal. Blackhills Spruce	24-30"		x \$17.00/Tree =		
2 Gal. Colorado Spruce	18-24"		x \$17.00/Tree =		
BARE ROOT DECIDUOUS 1 Bundle = 10 Trees					Payment due in full on day of order. No refunds on cancelled orders after February 23rd, 2023.
American Linden	18-24"		x \$17.00/Bundle =		
Norway Poplar	18-24"		x \$17.00/Bundle =		
Sugar Maple	18-24"		x \$17.00/Bundle =		
Red Maple	18-24"		x \$17.00/Bundle =		
Swamp White Oak	18-24"		x \$17.00/Bundle =		
Red Oak	18-24"		x \$17.00/Bundle =		
SMALL TREES 1 Bundle = 10 Trees					Availability and size are subject to change. Please check the online order form or call the district office if you have questions. 507-232-2550
Elderberry	18-24"		x \$17.00/Bundle =		
Crab, Red Splendor	18-24"		x \$17.00/Bundle =		
Nanking Cherry	18-24"		x \$17.00/Bundle =		
American Plum	18-24"		x \$17.00/Bundle =		
Mountain Ash *NEW*	18-24"		x \$17.00/Bundle =		
SHRUBS 1 Bundle = 10 Trees					Pick up location will be at the Nicollet SWCD 501 7th Street Nicollet, MN
American Hazelnut	18-24"		x \$17.00/Bundle =		
Common Lilac	18-24"		x \$17.00/Bundle =		
Serviceberry (Juneberry)	18-24"		x \$17.00/Bundle =		
Dogwood Redosier	18-24"		x \$17.00/Bundle =		
Flame Willow	18-24"		x \$17.00/Bundle =		
Cranberrybush	18-24"		x \$17.00/Bundle =		
FABRIC TREE SQUARES & ROLLS # of Mats or Feet <i>Price Includes 6"x1"x6" Staples</i>					
Pre-Cut Tree Squares	3' x 3'		x \$2.00/Square =		
Fabric Roll Mat (w hole roll)	300 Feet		x \$130.00/Roll =		
			SUBTOTAL		
			SALES TAX (7.375%)		
			TOTAL DUE		
<i>Please Round Sales Tax Correctly</i>				Make Checks Payable to Nicollet SWCD	