

RCRCA News

Redwood-Cottonwood Rivers Control Area

Lunch on The Project

By Stephanie McLain, Watershed Technician

Fall, what a beautiful time of the year! To me, the air even smells different; there is a crispness in the air that you don't smell at any other time. I could spend all day outside in the warm sun with the cool breeze on my face. This fall, much like last fall, I decided to deliver box lunches to harvesting farmers. It's a great opportunity for me to meet people that live and work in the Cottonwood River Watershed and to get outside and enjoy the weather before the snow flies.

Lunches this year were in conjunction with a grant that I am working with. Redwood and Cottonwood Counties applied for and received grant money for a Nutrient Management Implementation Project and the lunches are a way for me to get the word out about this project. Who better to talk to than the operators that make all the management decisions? And what better timing—I can give them information about the grant when they are in the field and they can think about how our project could fit into

their plans next year—possibly on the very field they are harvesting!

The Nutrient Management Grant targets the Sleepy Eye Creek and the Coteau streams, which are priority management areas in the Cottonwood River Restoration Project, so this is the area I have been delivering lunches to.



I started delivering lunches on October 9th, and as of Tuesday, October 16th, I have delivered 26 lunches and talked to over 32 people. Along with a lunch, I also hand out a flyer about the Nutrient Management Grant. (Turn to page 3

and you can view the flyer information.) We've already had two people call interested in the project and many farmers have expressed interest about it when I talk with them in the field.

I will continue to deliver lunches, because the more people I contact through this process, the more people that won't forget RCRCA!

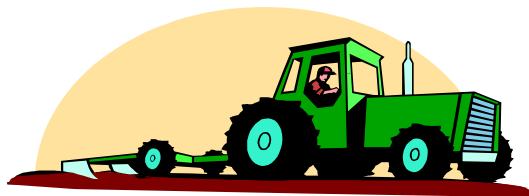
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New Look for Web Site!



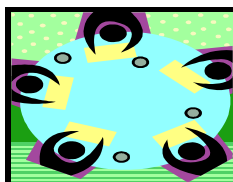
We are currently in the process of giving the web site a new look. The information will remain the same, however the layout and overall “look” will be different. The updating has begun and should be completed within the next month. Thanks for your patience!

If you have any ideas about what you’d like to see on the web site, call Roseanne Kaseforth, Watershed Educator at 507-637-2142, 4.

Remember, you can view *RCRCA News* through the web site at: www.rcrca.com and click on “RCRCA News.”

RCRCA Board Minutes

The RCRCA Board of Directors held their monthly meeting on Monday, October 15th at the Redwood County Courthouse.



The following is the unofficial version of the minutes:

- The Cottonwood Loan Program for septic systems had an appeal concerning an application denial. The RCRCA Board reviewed the appeal, making a motion to accept the loan application for the Cottonwood River Watershed in Redwood County. The application is now referred to Redwood County for final credit approval.
- Personnel Committee and Executive Director reviewed applicants for Watershed Technician position. There were three applicants interviewed and rated with findings presented to the full RCRCA Board of Directors. Doering will offer the position to the top rated applicant, as approved by the Board.
- Board approved Jon Opdahl’s annual review given by Executive Director and was granted a step increase.
- RCRCA 2002 appropriation requests were reviewed with member counties.
- A bill from Dorsey and Whitney will be forwarded to the Cottonwood River counties sponsoring the Cottonwood Loan Program for septic systems. The bill is for legal services rendered for the General Obligation Promissory Note drafted for the participating counties.
- RCRCA Board approved payment of two Cottonwood 319 cost share applications. The Board also approved four new applications for the Cottonwood 319 cost share. This leaves \$50,018 in funds remaining to be used for cost share in the Cottonwood Watershed. (See page 3 in this newsletter for breakdown.)

Septic Loan Program

The following are the Cottonwood River Restoration Project septic system low interest loan program dollars by county.

County	Dollar Appropriations	Approximate Dollars Encumbered to date	Approximate Dollars left
Brown	\$77,700	\$77,700	\$0
Cottonwood	\$70,300	\$51,635	\$18,665
Lyon	\$62,900	(pending board approval)	
Murray	\$29,600	\$26,790	\$2,810
Redwood	\$129,500	\$36,228	\$93,271

Nutrient Management Implementation Project

**Redwood & Cottonwood County Producers
that farm land in the
Cottonwood River Watershed**

Nutrient Management Incentives:

\$18.00/Acre

Commercial Fertilizer Plan

\$20.00/Acre

Manure Management Plan



Looking for:

- land in the specific watersheds of: Sleepy Eye Creek, Plum Creek, Pell Creek, Dutch Charlie Creek, Highwater Creek or Dry Creek
- fields up to 80 acres
- planting corn in 2002
- call before you apply fall fertilizers and manures

For more information, please call any of the following:

Redwood Soil and Water Conservation District: 507-637-2427 #3

Cottonwood Soil and Water Conservation District: 507-831-1153 #3

Natural Resources Conservation Service: 507-637-2427 #3

Redwood-Cottonwood Rivers Control Area: 507-637-2142 #4

Cost Share Available:



MN Special Project Funds

(approximate dollars available as of Oct. 1, 2001)

Cottonwood River Watershed: \$56,950.00

Redwood River Watershed: \$28,240.00

Cottonwood 319 Grant

(approximate dollars available
as of Oct. 1, 2001)

Streambank Restorations \$20,000

Sediment Control Basins \$20,018

Alternative Tile Intakes \$10,000

Total: \$50,018



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We're on the web!
www.rcrca.com



Happy Halloween!



Calendar of Events

November

- 6 Election Day
- 06 SWCD & RCRCA Educator's Meeting, 9 am
Redwood Co. Public Health
- 12 Veteran's Day— Office Closed
- 19 RCRCA Board of Directors Meeting, 1:30 pm
Redwood Co. Courthouse
- 22 & 23 Thanksgiving Holiday—Office Closed

December

- 11 RCRCA Board of Directors Meeting, 1:30 pm
Redwood Co. Courthouse (tentative)
- 24 & 25 Christmas Holiday— Office Closed
- 31 New Year's Eve—Office Closes at 12 pm

January 2002

- 1 New Year's Day— Office Closed
- 21 Martin Luther King Day—Office Closed

RCRCA Board of Directors

- Clark Lingbeek, Chairman
- Donald Wellner, Vice Chairman
- Ray Traen, Secretary
- Darold Neperman, Treasurer
- Glen Sorenson, Public Relations & Information
- Steve Johnson, Member at Large

County Commissioners

- Curt Blumeyer, Lincoln Co.
- Steve Johnson, Murray Co.
- Phil Nelsen, Lyon Co.
- Darold Neperman, Redwood Co.
- Jane Remiger, Yellow Medicine Co.
- Gary Sorenson, Cottonwood Co.
- Robert Weets, Pipestone Co.
- Donald Wellner, Brown Co.

SWCD Board Members

- Tom Daub, Redwood
- Burton Kuehn, Yellow Medicine
- Clark Lingbeek, Cottonwood
- Paul Posthuma, Murray
- Glen Sorensen, Lincoln
- LeRoy Stensgaard, Pipestone
- Ray Traen, Lyon
- Ernie Vogel, Brown

RCRCA Staff

- James Doering, Executive Director
- Roseanne Kaseforth, Watershed Educator
- Stephanie McLain, Watershed Technician
- Jon Opdahl, Engineering Technician
- Sharon Voeks, Office Manger