



590 University Avenue, Ste. 2
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709

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Looking for us?

www.fairbankssoilwater.org



Thanks to all our customers for a
another successful Tree sale!!!

The Fairbanks Soil & Water Conservation District serves over 250 cooperators (private land owners) and the general public in an area that covers over 5.4 million acres, by promoting wise development and conservation of natural resources. FSWCD provides technical and educational support to a variety of partners and the public, to help them accomplish their conservation goals:

1. A viable agricultural community
2. Conservation of soil resources
3. Maintenance of water quality
4. Management of forest habitats
5. Prevention & eradication of noxious & invasive species
6. Energy conservation
7. Relevant education and information for all clientele

For more information, give us a call.

907-479-1213

Joni Scharfenberg – District Coordinator, Ext.103

George Hitz – Natural Resources Tech. Specialist, Ext. 102

Jessica Guritz -Natural Resources Tech. Assistant Ext. 107

Tami Seekins – Education Specialist, Ext. 105

Darcy Etcheverry -Invasive Weed Specialist, Ext.104

Penny Rosier – Office Manager, Ext. 101

"Anyone who has never made a mistake has never tried anything new." Albert Einstein

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2011 FSWCD PHOTO CONTEST



A picture can be worth even more than a thousand words. Good photographs can lend a helping hand to the goals and projects of the FSWCD. To recognize individuals who use this tool effectively and creatively, FSWCD is hosting an annual Photo Contest.

Before taking your photos or submitting them for the contest, please review the following photo categories and the instructions, contest rules, and forms at www.fairbankssoilwater.org

Photo Categories

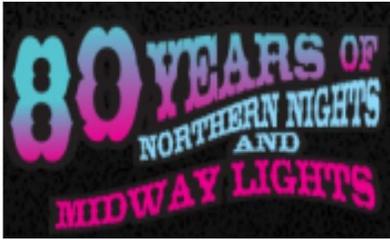
1. Soil
2. Water
3. Agriculture
4. Energy Conservation
5. Forestry
6. Invasive Plants
7. Education



The Photo Contest is open to amateur photographers who are residents Within the FSWCD boundaries. Participants can enter as many as five photos total each year.

Deadline: October 22, 2011 at 5pm

Awards: One winner will be selected for each category. Each first place winner will receive a \$50 cash prize. Honorable mention award winners will also be selected for each category, but will not receive a monetary award. \$100 cash grand prize will be given to the best photo in the contest.



Help us Celebrate Agriculture at the Fair (August 5-13)

Bucks for Bales

The 2011 FSWCD Bucks for Bales Contest will be held this August with winning hay bales being displayed at the Tanana Valley State Fair. The hay bales will be judged on moisture content, visual appearance, impurities, and (finalists only) nutrient analysis.

If you would like to enter a hay bale in this contest, drop off your bale at FSWCD by **July 28th** between 9am and 3pm. Please call ahead to 479-1213 so that we can be ready to unload your bale.

Note: Bales should weigh between 45 and 65 pounds and each producer can only enter one bale per year.



- 1st- \$100.00
- 2nd- \$ 75.00
- 3rd- \$ 50.00

2010 Bucks for Bales Winners:

- 1st Place: Ann Bradshaw
- 2nd Place: Steve Minnema
- 3rd Place: Coty Mayo

Prize Cabbage Contest

Giant Cabbage Weigh in—All ages
Saturday August 8th 4pm—7pm
at the

Kiwanis Agricultural Hall

- Grand Prize: \$1/lb.
- 2nd: \$5/exhibit
- 3rd: \$ 3/exhibit



FARM & GARDEN DISPLAY CONTEST

Show off your produce and creativity with a fun display!

- Adult and Junior divisions
- Props (farm implements, etc.) may be used as part of the exhibit
- The judging criteria will be based on creativity, quality and variety of Alaskan Grown Products.

- 1st place: 30.00, 2nd place: \$20.00,
- 3rd place: \$10.00



FSWCD is offering Discounted Season Passes For

Tanana Valley State Fair

4 passes per Family

Children (6-17) & Seniors (60 & over) \$10.00

Adults (18-59) \$25.00

Supply is Limited

Purchase your tickets at FSWCD Office

590 University Ave. Ste.2

Fairbanks, Alaska 99709

NOW ----August 12th

Hours: 9 am to 3pm

For verified cooperators only.

(Cooperators are private landowners who sign up and agree to manage their natural resources utilizing wise conservation practices.)

First 100 Cooperators that visit our booth at the TVSF will receive a pair of FSWCD work gloves.

Natural Resource Technical Assistance is available this summer for FSWCD Cooperators

Do you have natural resource concerns at your property?

Set up an appointment with one of our technicians to come visit your property!

They can provide information and recommendations about such issues as:

- Erosion
- Water Quality
- Forestry
- Invasive plants
- Fertilizer, Composting & Soil Quality
- Or any other natural resource concerns.

Contact us today to schedule a site visit and consultation.

Equipment Lending Available

- Soil Aerator
- Weed Sprayers





A conservation easement (sometimes also referred to as a conservation restriction) is a voluntary, legal agreement between a landowner and a land trust or government agency that permanently limits uses of the land in order to protect its conservation values. It allows you to continue to own and use your land and to sell it or pass it on to heirs.

When you donate a conservation easement to a land trust, you give up some of the rights associated with the land. For example, you might give up the right to build additional structures, while retaining the right to grow crops. Future owners also will be bound

by the easement's terms. The land trust is responsible for making sure the easement's terms are followed on a long-term basis.

Conservation easements offer great flexibility. An easement on property containing rare wildlife habitat might prohibit any development, for example, while on one farm it might allow continued farming and the building of additional agricultural structures. An easement may apply to just a portion of the property, and need not require public access.

A landowner sometimes sells a conservation easement, but usually easements are donated.



If the donation benefits the public by permanently protecting important conservation resources and meets other federal tax code requirements it can qualify as a tax-deductible charitable donation. The amount of the donation is the difference between the land's value with the easement and its value without the easement. Placing an easement on your property may or may not result in property tax savings.

Contact NRCS at 479-3159



STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!™

Prevent the transport of nuisance species. Clean all recreational equipment. www.ProtectYourWaters.net

- When you leave a body of water:**
- Remove any visible mud, plants, fish or animals before transporting equipment.
 - Eliminate water from equipment before transporting.
 - Clean and dry anything that comes into contact with water (boats, trailers, equipment, clothing, dogs, etc.).
 - Never release plants, fish or animals into a body of water unless they came out of that body of water.

Report this invasive aquatic plant!

Waterweed, *Elodea spp.*



(C) Paul Skawinski, 2009



If seen - take a sample, photograph, and note the location.

Contact:

Fairbanks CWMA
(907) 479-1213

Alaska's first aquatic invasive weed has been identified in the Fairbanks area. It has the potential to severely clog waterways - affecting our fisheries and recreational opportunities. Help prevent the spread of invasive species by cleaning debris off your boat and gear after leaving the water. Waterweed can be seen growing along portions of the Chena Slough and at the Chena Lake Recreation Area boat launch. If you see it in any lakes or streams, please let us know!

NRCS News: Deadline for the next batching period for EQUIP & WHIP applications is September 15th 2011 @ 4:30 pm, submit in person at 590 University Ave. Ste. B or call 479-3159 ext. 1001 for more information.

Fall Poster Contest: "Forests for People"

The contest is open to kids K-12

Cash prizes will be awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in each grade category.

Download the entry form and rules at:

www.fairbankssoilwater.org



Make the Most of the Rain: Construct a Green Infrastructure Project

Green infrastructure is an approach to wet weather management that is cost-effective, sustainable, and environmentally friendly. Green Infrastructure management approaches and technologies infiltrate, evapotranspire, capture and reuse stormwater to maintain or restore natural hydrologies. For ideas and more information visit:

http://www.fairbankssoilwater.org/resources_Water.html



Funding provided by:





Backyard Tree Care

Trees can make a wonderful, and relatively low-maintenance addition to backyard landscaping.

However, they must be cared for properly to remain healthy and beautiful. If they are damaged or become unhealthy, they can become a hazard or an eyesore. Several important considerations are:

1. What you do to your lawn also affects your trees!

Herbicides applied to a lawn can damage or even kill trees. Careless mowing can damage tree trunks, creating an entry wound for fungi and disease.

2. Beware of moose!

If you have ornamental species such as apple or ash trees, protect your trees from moose browsing by putting up a fence or using other deterrents.

Prevent damage by selecting landscaping species that moose are

generally not attracted to.

3. Large trees can be a danger to your house!

If you have large trees close to your house, they have the potential to fall on your house during a storm event. Large, old trees are prone to stem rots, which can further weaken them and make them more of a danger! Consult with a specialist who can assess your trees' health and determine whether rot is present and then consider removing trees that are presenting a hazard.

4. Water your trees!

Watering your trees, especially during drought periods, will vastly improve their health. Consider applying fertilizer (make sure it is fertilizer meant for trees, not other plant species) to improve your trees' health and growth rate.

5. Be FireWise!

Maintain a clear area around your home that can be defended against

fire.

Go to <http://www.muni.org/Departments/Fire/Wildfire/Documents/Firewise-WEB%20part%201.pdf>

for more information about making your home fire safe.

Trees provide numerous benefits to our community by improving air and water quality, beautifying neighborhoods, and providing wildlife habitat! Consider adding trees to your home landscape and you will be able to enjoy watching them *grow* for years to come!



<http://www.etsinc.com/>



<http://www.fs.fed.us/r10/spf/thp/hazard/>

If you have questions about caring for your trees or would like to have someone come assess your trees' health, contact Jessica at 479-1213 x107.



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CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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