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### High Tunnel Workshop



### Goodbye George!

Natural resources technical specialist George Hitz is leaving his position with FSWCD and moving to Montana. George has been working for the district for over 5 years and has done a great deal to help interior Alaskan farmers and homeowners. Specializing in soils and agriculture, George helped many with their nutrient management, planting recommendations, weed control, erosion problems, and much more.

George influenced the development of FSWCD's technical programs including assistance to the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), soil testing and recommendations, and equipment lending program.

Best of luck to George, Trudy, and baby Gus and thanks for all your hard work over the years George!



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Phone: 907-479-1213  
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Website: [www.fairbankssoilwater.org](http://www.fairbankssoilwater.org)



## Tree Sale 2012

The tree sale will be held  
on May 26, 2012.



### 2012 FSWCD Tree Sale Order Form

Common Name	Price	Qty.	Subtotal
Bearberry	4.00		
Dwarf Mugo Pine	4.00		
Coral Berry	4.00		
Tundra Rose	4.00		
White Spruce (local)	5.00		
Siberian Pine (local)	11.00		
Birch (local)	10.00		
Amur Chokecherry	4.00		
Late Lilac	4.00		
Dolgo Crabapple	4.00		
Ranetka Apple	4.00		
Tamarack	4.00		
Saskatoon Serviceberry	4.00		
Rose Tree of China	4.00		
Sea Buckthorn	4.00		
Hedge Cotoneaster	4.00		
Alpine Currant	4.00		
<b>Order Total:</b>			

-10% Cooperator Discount Total\*: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

All sales are final. Make checks out to: FSWCD. Cash payments can only be accepted at the FSWCD office. We are unable to take credit/debit card payments. Order form and checks can be mailed to the FSWCD Office. Pre-orders must be received by **Friday, May 11<sup>th</sup>**.

“What is the good of having a nice house without a decent planet and spouse to put it on?”

Henry David Thoreau & Penny Rosier

## Changes in NRCS to assist Delta Junction

At the start of calendar year 2012, Alaska NRCS began the process of transitioning our field office away from the traditional services area structure toward a team concept. Under this new organization, technical assistance will be coordinated across the state from hub offices located in Fairbanks and Kenai. The purpose of the transition is to streamline the delivery of technical and financial assistance, share and apply a diversity of specific skill sets across the state and reduce costs. Every state across the nation will soon be undergoing similar transitions. As part of this transition Catherine Hadley has been reassigned as Resource Conservationist in support of the Fairbanks hub. She will no longer be providing the day to day field office assistance as the District Conservationist in Delta Junction. This assistance will come out of the Fairbanks NRCS office. As of March 20th Fairbanks conservationist in the Delta Junction office each Tuesday and Wednesday.

Contact for Fairbanks Office:

Joanne Kuykendall, District Conservationist

907-479-3159 ext.1010

Jon Oestreich, Soil Conservationist

907-479-3159 ext. 1022

April Moore Administrative Assistant

907-479-3159 ext. 1001



## Add Elodea to your compost system?

The District is working to remove the invasive waterweed, Elodea, from the Chena Slough in 2012 and the next few summers. One problem that we are still searching for solutions is how to dispose of the plant material that is taken from the slough. A potential option is to offer Elodea to farmers and gardeners as an additive to their compost. As plant material, Elodea could be an excellent nitrogen source for your compost. The District is gauging interest in this option, so contact Darcy if you need more material for compost (479-1213 ext. 104, [FSWCD.tech@gmail.com](mailto:FSWCD.tech@gmail.com)). Please let us know if you would be willing to pick up Elodea from the North Pole area and an estimate of how many pounds you may be able to use.



## STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!

Prevent the transport of nuisance species.  
Clean all recreational equipment.  
[www.ProtectYourWaters.net](http://www.ProtectYourWaters.net)

### Help Stop the Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species!

Follow these simple steps when recreating on the water this summer:

## CLEAN • DRAIN • DRY

**CLEAN** - Rinse and remove all visible mud, plants, fish/animals from boats, trailers, float plane rudders and floats, and gear

**DRAIN** - Drain water from coolers, floats, bilge pumps, buckets, and wring out gear before leaving the boat launch or fishing area

**DRY** - Completely dry equipment and gear between visits to different waterbodies

*If drying is not possible, use hot (140°F) or salt water to clean equipment.*

**\*Never release plants, water, fish, or animals into a body of water\***

*Aquarium plants and animals may be able to survive in our Alaskan waters! Dispose of aquariums responsibly.*



The 2012 Weed Smackdown will be held this year July 14 at Tanana Lakes Recreation Area. Please join us and be part of the fun! This is an excellent stewardship event for your club, youth group, or organization. Teams will compete against one another for pounds of weeds pulled, longest root, best costumes, and other categories. At this event you will learn about invasive plants, win fun prizes, and possibly earn bragging rights as the 'Weed King'! This year our community will be competing against other Alaskan towns (Anchorage, Kenai, Kodiak, and Juneau) for the most participants at the event. Help Fairbanks bring home the trophy in 2012.

# Summer Programs & Services

## Weed Cost Share:

The Fairbanks District offers technical and financial assistance for cooperators to help manage invasive plants and agricultural weeds. Participants in the program can be reimbursed 50% of their costs (up to \$250) for the recommended control method, though preference is given to agricultural producers and invasive plants on the Fairbanks Cooperative Weed Management Area's 'new invaders' list.

## Woodlot Walk:



An FSWCD employee can visit your property to look at forestry issues such as tree health, wildfire safety, or ornamental tree selection.



## Equipment Lending:

FSWCD has a tractor-pulled aerator and a variety of different-sized herbicide sprayers that are available to borrow

## Site Visits, Technical Assistance, and Conservation Planning:

Technical assistance and site visits are available to look at resource concerns such as erosion, invasive plants, water management, crop health, and more. FSWCD can work with landowners to develop a conservation plan for their property to address resource concerns and plan for the future. FSWCD can also help you get a soil map of your property

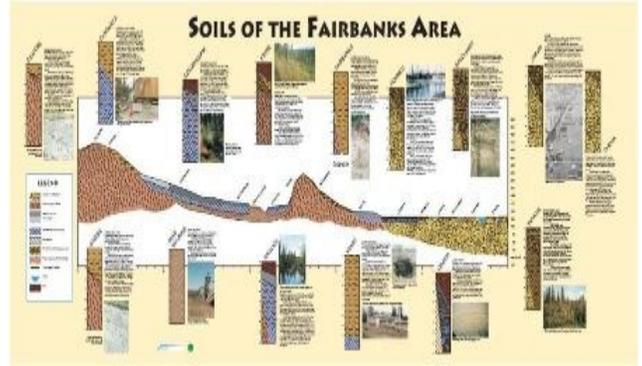
## Don't Lose \$\$\$ on Your Lawn:

FSWCD is developing a pilot program to assist landowners in soil testing their lawns with affordable test kits and providing easy-to-read charts for fertilizer application.

**If you are interested in any of these technical programs, you can contact**

**Jessica at 479-1213 x107 or [jlguritz@gmail.com](mailto:jlguritz@gmail.com)**

**Invasive weeds programs– contact Darcy at 479-1213 x104 or [fsxcd.tech@gmail.com](mailto:fsxcd.tech@gmail.com)**



## Soil Testing & Recommendations:

Soil samples can be analyzed for \$25 each and an FSWCD employee will write a recommendation for fertilization and liming based on the analysis

Meet The Staff that's here for all your Needs

Joni Scharfenberg  
Coordinator  
479-1213 ext.103



Penny Rosier  
Office Manager  
479-1213 ext.101



Tami Seekins  
Education Specialist  
479-1213 ext.105



Melissa Sikes  
Education Specialist  
479-1213 ext.105



Brent Mitchel  
Forestry Technician  
907-750-8632







## Upcoming Events for 2012:

Society of American Foresters  
Conference (SAF): April 26-28

Alaska Agriculture Day: May 1

Walk for Charity: May 11

Tree Sale: May 26

Meeting /Conference Room Available call  
Penny at 479-1213 exr. 101 for more infor-  
mation

Conservation means development as much as it does protection. I recognize the right and duty of this generation to develop and use the natural resources of our land; but I do not recognize the right to waste them, or to rob, by wasteful use, the generations that come after us.

~Theodore Roosevelt



**FAIRBANKS SOIL & WATER**  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

stamp

590 University Avenue Ste. 2  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709

## Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteer needed during our Annual Tree Sale  
call Jessica or Penny at 907-479-1213 ext. 101