

NRCS NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Natural Resources Conservation Service
375 Jackson Street • Suite 600 St. Paul, MN 55101-1854 • (651) 602-7900
Web: <http://www.mn.nrcs.usda.gov>

WATER QUALITY CONFERENCE SEEKS TO INCREASE, ENHANCE MANAGEMENT OF AGRICULTURAL WATER FROM DRAINAGE

BLOOMINGTON, MN., Oct. 4, 2011—The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA-NRCS) will host a national conference to encourage producers and others to enhance and increase the use of conservation practices designed to improve environmental benefits by managing agricultural drainage water. The conference, entitled “Managing Water, Harvesting Results,” will highlight the innovative use of these conservation practices nationwide.

Nationally renowned water quality experts will headline the conference, aimed at producers and others who help producers manage agricultural water from drainage on their farms and ranches. Conference participants will assess the use of water management techniques on agricultural land on farms and ranches and offer options to improve environmental quality while protecting economic viability of the farming and ranching operations. Conference participants also will consider diverse methods to better manage agricultural water from drainage. A field trip that will highlight these practices on farm operations in southern Minnesota is scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 11. USDA-NRCS is hosting this conference in partnership with Sand County Foundation. More information, including registration and a tentative meeting agenda, is available at www.sandcounty.net/events.

WHAT: National conference and tour designed to enhance and increase the use of agricultural water management.

WHEN: Tuesday, Oct. 11, 2011, 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Central Time
Field trip from 2:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 12, 2011; 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Central Time

WHO: Dave White, Chief, USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, Wash. D.C.
Dr. Peter Vitousek, Professor of Biology, Stanford University, CA
Dr. Jane Frankenberger, Professor of Agricultural and Biological Engineering,
Purdue University, IN
Dr. Brent Haglund, President, Sand County Foundation, WI

WHERE: Park Plaza Hotel Bloomington, 4460 West 78th Street Circle, Bloomington, MN

CONTACT: Julie MacSwain, Public Affairs Specialist, USDA-NRCS, St. Paul, MN
651-602-7859

EDITOR’S NOTE: Interviews with Chief White and the water quality experts on the agenda can be arranged upon request.

Helping People Help the Land

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

More information, including registration and conference agenda, is available at:
www.sandcounty.net/events/