

HURON CONSERVATION DISTRICT

1460 S. Van Dyke Bad Axe 989-269-9540 ext.3

JANUARY 2018

www.huron.cd.org

OPEN HOUSE

Come join us on Thursday, January 25, 2018 and hear about the activities of the Huron Conservation District. We have one board of director term expiring this year. Alex Prill has filed a petition and his name will be on the ballot. At noon, we will honor the winners of the Land Judging/Agri-science Field Day and our state poster contest winners. Lunch will be served during the Open House hours from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. Door prizes will be awarded.

BAD AXE CREEK NUTRIENT REDUCTION PROJECT HAS BEEN EXPANDED INTO THE ENTIRE PINNEBOG RIVER WATERSHED

The Huron Conservation District currently has grant funding through Michigan Department of Environmental Quality to provide cost share funding to assist producers with Best Management Practices (BMPs). The funding is now available throughout the entire Pinnebog River Watershed. Funding is available for a wide range of BMPs, including cover crop, strip-tillage, shallow vertical tillage, pre-sidedress nitrate testing, no-till planting, leaving corn stalk residue over winter, and hobby and medium sized farm manure management structures. To be eligible the cropland must be located within the Pinnebog River Watershed. For more information about practices, funding and to sign up contact Greg at 269-9540 ext 3 or stop by the office.

NITRATE TEST LAB

We will offer the service of our nitrate test lab for the 2018 crop year. Pre-sidedress nitrate testing is an excellent and inexpensive way of determining the available nitrogen (N) in your soil just before side-dressing. You should sample fields where corn or sugar beets are planted. During 2017 we processed 1,417 samples covering almost 33,237 acres. 83% of the samples had over 50 pounds of credit. Average credit per acre was 93 pounds and if you multiply that number x \$.37/lb of N it equals a savings of \$34.41 per acre. How much can you save? Deliver your sample to our office by 3 p.m., we will have the results for you by 1 p.m. the following day. The cost of a sample is \$7.25.

CUSTOM MOWING

Huron CD offers custom mowing to area landowners. We have a 15ft bat wing mower for the upcoming season. The cost will be \$25-\$50 (depending on conditions) per acre with a \$40 mobilization fee. We still have our 6ft mower for smaller projects or difficult areas to get into. The cost for the 6ft mower is \$40 mobilization fee and \$50 per tractor hour. Call us to get on the list for our staff to do your mowing project.

PESTICIDE JUG RECYCLING DAYS

June 28, 2018/Sept 27, 2018

Huron CD offers area producers the opportunity to recycle their pesticide jugs. Jugs must be triple rinsed with caps and labels removed. Plastic bags to store your pesticide jugs until the collection are available at the Huron CD office. During our two collections in 2017 we recycled 20,000 pounds of material. A Big Thanks to Huron County farmers for keeping this material out of our landfills.

HUNTING ACCESS PROGRAM (HAP) is a voluntary land leasing program. The DNR



leases land from private landowners (Up to \$25 per acre) to provide additional hunting areas. Private

landowners determine if all hunters or youth and apprentice hunters only may hunt on their property. Landowners also determine if hunters may harvest deer only, turkey only, small game only, all legal species, or a combination of any of these options. Currently 14 hunting areas are under contract with Huron County landowners. Many hunters utilized these areas during hunting season in 2017. A state-wide listing of enrolled HAP lands can be found at mi.gov/hap. If you are interested in enrolling land into HAP you have an opportunity in 2018. Call us for more details.

DRILLS FOR RENT

***Two 15ft John Deere drills with digital weigh system \$12 per acre (minimum \$150) delivered to your farm**

***Two 30ft John Deere air seeders with tractor \$17 per acre plus fuel (minimum \$200)**

***Three Truax drills for planting CRP \$6 per acre plus \$65 setup (minimum \$150)**

Custom Planting

\$19.50 per acre plus fuel (soybeans, wheat, etc)

\$30 per acre for planting CRP acres

Call to get your name on the list for the 2018 cropping season.

CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM ASSISTANCE

Do you have a Conservation Reserve Program contract expiring and need help with the re-establishment of your cover? We have equipment to mow, disc, field cultivate, roll and plant your site. We can give you an estimate on the cost to “get the job done”. We can provide your special seed mixture. Stop by with your CRP plan and map and get on our list for this coming cropping season.

MICHIGAN AGRICULTURAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSURANCE PROGRAM

This comprehensive, voluntary, proactive program is designed to reduce farmers’ legal and environmental risks through a three-phase process: 1) education; 2) farm-specific risk assessment and practice implementation; and 3) on-farm verification that ensures the farmer has implemented environmentally sound practices. The program’s four systems — Farmstead, Cropping, Livestock and the newly developed Forest, Wetlands and Habitat System — each examine different aspects of the farm. After becoming MAEAP verified, a farm can display a MAEAP sign signifying that MAEAP partners recognize the farm is environmentally assured. Contact Ryan for more information.

CHECK OUT OUR 2018 TREE ORDER

Enclosed you will find our 2018 spring tree order blank. We have added several new varieties to our spring tree order blank. Quantities are limited, the earlier you order the better chance of getting what you want. Our order deadline is April 13th. Tentative pickup dates are April 19th and 20th at the Huron Community Fairgrounds.