

AGRICULTURAL DRAINAGE WORKSHOP

Hosted by:



WHEN: Wednesday, February 18th
8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
(lunch will be provided)

WHERE: Blue Earth County Library Auditorium
100 East Main Street
Mankato, MN 56001

REGISTRATION: 8:30 - 9:00 A.M.

SESSION ONE: REQUIREMENTS FOR REPAIR & IMPROVEMENTS
9:00 - 9:30 A.M.

Speaker: Mr. Craig Austinson, Blue Earth County Ditch Manager

Craig Austinson has been the Ditch Manager for Blue Earth County for over 10 years. Craig oversees over 80 ditches throughout the County. During the 10 years he has been with Blue Earth County, they have had numerous County Ditch Improvements, Repairs and Redeterminations. Craig also works with the NRCS Drainage Work Group on Conservation Drainage Development.

SESSION TWO: UPDATES ON NEW LEGISLATION REGARDING 103E & COUNTY DITCH LAW
9:30 - 10:15 A.M.

Speaker: Mr. Kurt Deter, Rinke Noonan

Kurt Deter has been practicing with Rinke Noonan since 1978 and concentrates in the areas of water and environmental law. Kurt represents counties, watershed districts and landowners across the State of Minnesota. He is a frequent speaker on environmental and water law issues throughout Minnesota. His opinions on water and drainage issues are sought throughout the State of Minnesota.

BREAK: 10:15 - 10:30 A.M.

SESSION THREE: CONSERVATION DRAINAGE PRACTICES IN MINNESOTA
10:30 - 11:00 A.M.

Speaker: Mr. Mark Dittrich, Department of Agriculture

Mark Dittrich has been on the forefront of conservation drainage throughout Minnesota. Mark has helped to complete numerous conservation/experimental projects throughout the state including the recently completed University of Minnesota's Southwest Research and Outreach Projects and the Surge Basin Projects in Mower County.

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Preliminary Agricultural Drainage Workshop Agenda (continued)

SESSION FOUR: CONSERVATION DRAINAGE PLANNING PRACTICES, COSTS, & COST SHARING 11:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

Speaker: Dr. Don Pitts, Illinois NRCS

Don Pitts, PhD is the State Water Quality Specialist for NRCS Illinois. He has authored or co-authored more than 40 refereed scientific journal articles on agricultural water management and has had more than 100 publications in the scientific and technical literature. Don has more than 20 years experience in agricultural water management.

BREAK: 12:00-12:15 P.M. (LUNCH SERVED)

SESSION FIVE: AGRICULTURAL RUNOFF TREATMENT RESEARCH PROJECTS 12:15-1:00 P.M. (LUNCH)

Speaker: Dr. Jeff Strock, University of Minnesota &
Mr. Chuck Brandel, I&S Group, Inc.

Jeff Strock, Soil Scientist, conducts research in the areas of soil and water management and conservation. His research program, focused on nitrogen, provides valuable information to agricultural and non-agricultural stakeholders and policy makers about the associated risks, benefits, and costs of various management practices on agricultural production, profitability, and environmental quality.

Chuck Brandel has over 12 years of experience in agricultural drainage. He has designed numerous improvement, repair, research, and conservation projects for counties, cities, universities, and for state and private organizations. Chuck's recent drainage project for the University of Minnesota Southwest Research and Outreach Center was featured in the national "Corn and Soybean Digest" magazine for its innovative techniques to treat agricultural run-off.

OPEN FORUM/QUESTIONS: 1:00-1:30 P.M.

Cost to attend this workshop is \$25 per person, which includes lunch.

To register, please send back the enclosed registration form and payment to:

I&S Group, Inc., 1409 North Riverfront Drive, Mankato, MN 56001.

If you have any questions, please contact Angie or Melissa at I&S Group, Inc., (507)387-6651.

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