

# You are Invited!!

*Join us for one of two statewide*

## Informational Meetings on the NEW **Conservation Stewardship Program**

- ❖ Learn more about CSP and how the program will operate.
- ❖ See if CSP can work for you & how the sign-up will work this year.

**Tuesday, August 25**

**7:00pm - 9:00pm**

**Holiday Inn, German Rivers Room  
New Ulm, MN**

**Thursday, August 27**

**7:00pm - 9:00pm**

**American Legion #164  
Stewartville, MN**

(See directions on back page)

### **What is CSP?**

The Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) is now offering the new **Conservation Stewardship Program** to *help farmers and ranchers maintain, establish and increase soil and water conservation on land they are actively farming*. CSP is a voluntary federal farm program passed in the 2008 Farm Bill. Attend one of the meetings listed above to learn how you can use the CSP to increase land stewardship on your farm, how the program operates, and what you need to do to qualify and enroll.

### **The first sign up for farmers and ranchers is August 10 through September 30.**

NRCS is expected to enroll annually nearly 13 million acres nationwide in this conservation program, which is aimed at working farmland. That's good news for farmers and good news for the land. In addition to the two statewide meetings listed above, the NRCS is holding county workshops on CSP. Call your local NRCS office or go to [www.mn.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.mn.nrcs.usda.gov) for more info.

See the enclosed Land Stewardship Project fact sheet for more details about CSP. The fact sheet is also available at [www.landstewardshipproject.org](http://www.landstewardshipproject.org).

### **Tentative Meeting Agenda**

- **Welcome**
- **CSP - Brief history & 2008 Farm Bill**
- **CSP - 2009 Sign-up**
- **Panel Q & A**
- **Adjournment**

*Sponsored by: Natural Resources Conservation Service, Land Stewardship Project,  
MN Farmers Union, MN Sustainable Farming Association, MN National Farmers Organization,  
Clean Up the River Environment and the Izzak Walton League.*

An RSVP is not required to participate but if you plan to attend let us know, it helps us to prepare for the meeting. If you're attending please call or email Adam Warthesen at 612.722.6377 or [adamw@landstewardshipproject.org](mailto:adamw@landstewardshipproject.org).

## **DIRECTIONS**

### **Holiday Inn, German Rivers Room, 2101 S. Broadway, New Ulm, MN 56073**

Tuesday, August 25, 2009. (507-359-2941)

#### **From the North (Hutchinson)**

**MN 15 South.** Left at Cty RD 21/US-14. Continue to follow US-14. Right to stay on US-14. Right at 20th St. S. Left at S. Bridge St. Right at Cottonwood St. Right at S. Broadway St./MN-15/MN-68. Destination will be on the right.

#### **From the South (Fairmont)**

**MN 15 North.** Merge onto the MN-15/MN-60 via the ramp to Madelia. Exit onto MN-15 toward New Ulm. Destination will be on the right.

#### **From the East (Mankato)**

**US-169 North.** Left to merge onto US-14 West. Left at 20th St. S. Left at S. Bridge St. Right at Cottonwood St. Right at S. Broadway St./MN-15/MN-68. Destination will be on the right.

#### **From the West (Sleepy Eye)**

**MN-68/US-14 East.** Left at 20th St. S. Right at S. Bridge St. Right at Cottonwood St. Right at S. Broadway St./MN-15/MN68. Destination will be on the right.

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### **American Legion #164, 1100 2nd Ave NW, Stewartville, MN 55976**

Thursday, August 27, 2009. (507-533-9281)

#### **From the North (Rochester)**

**US-63 South.** Right at 10th St. NW. Right at 2nd Ave NW.

#### **From the South (Spring Valley)**

**MN-16/US-63 West.** Slight right toward US-63. Slight right at US-63. Left at 10th St. NW. Right at 2nd Ave NW.

#### **From the East (St. Charles)**

**I-90 West.** Exit 209A&B for US-63/MN-30 toward Stewartville/Rochester. Left at S. Broadway/MN-30/US-63. Continue to follow MN-30/US-63. Right at 10th St. NW. Right at 2nd Ave NW.

#### **From the West (Blooming Prairie)**

**I-90 East.** Exit 209A to merge onto Hwy-63 NE/MN-30/US-63 toward Stewartville. Continue to follow MN-30/US-63. Right at 10th St. NW. Right at 2nd Ave. NW.