

Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District



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PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Stewardship Week
April 24 – May 1, 2011

LAC QUI PARLE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT ENCOURAGES COMMUNITY STEWARDSHIP

As a part of Lac qui Parle County for 61 years, the Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District wants to remind you that each of us has a responsibility to be a good steward of natural resources during the annual Stewardship Week celebration. The National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) is celebrating the 56th year of Stewardship week during April 24 – May 1, 2011. The 2011 Stewardship Week is themed “Forests for People – More Than You Can Imagine.” Trees provide us with shade, wood products, fuel, as well as help clean the air we breathe.

The Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District was formed to assist people in Lac qui Parle County with the mission to *take available technical, financial and educational resources, whatever their source and focus or coordinate them so that they meet the needs of the local land users to help them protect Lac qui Parle's natural resources.* Although forests are sparse in Lac qui Parle County, the LqP SWCD promotes trees and the services they provide, in a variety of ways, including: Tree Plantings for windbreaks and shelterbelts; living snow fences; trees for kindergarten students and upper elementary students; and trees for community events and organizations. As one Chinese proverb states, “The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The next best time is now.”

“Understanding the importance of forests in our daily lives is the key connection of the 2011 NACD Stewardship theme,” says NACD President Gene Schmidt. “Forests play a critical role in providing clean water, healthy wildlife habitat, as well as jobs for our citizens and products that we use every day.”

Lac qui Parle SWCD is a member of the National Association of Conservation Districts (www.nacdn.org) which oversees the Stewardship Week program. Stewardship Week is one of the largest national annual programs to

promote conservation. NACD represents the nation's 3,000 conservation districts, which were established to encourage resource conservation across the country.

For information about Stewardship Week and conservation, contact the Lac qui Parle SWCD, where Terry Wittnebel acts as the Education Coordinator. The number is: 320-598-7321 x3 or visit our website at <http://lacquiparleswcd.org>. Additional information about forestry education is available on the NACD website at <http://www.nacdnet.org/education/resources/>.

The National Association of Conservation Districts is the non-profit organization that represents the nation's 3,000 conservation districts, their state associations and the 17,000 men and women who serve on their governing boards. For almost 70 years, local conservation districts have worked with cooperating landowners and managers of private working lands to help them plan and apply effective conservation practices. NACD's website is at www.nacdnet.org