

District Goals and Achievements

The Morrow Soil and Water Conservation District has five objectives that address conservation of natural resources in the county.

Objective 1: Reduce excessive soil erosion and non-source pollution to tolerable levels on the drylands of Morrow County.

—The district priority is to help direct the Conservation Reserve Program and Conservation Compliance. This winter the district held 11 workshops to introduce farmers to conservation compliance and their responsibilities.

—This spring a county wide weed tour visits CRP fields along with chemical plot testing.

—The district continues support of the Dry Fork Watershed project and City of Lone flooding problem.

—The district supports conservation winners in the county and supports farming practices such as no-till, annual cropping and chemical fallow.

Objective 2: Develop a soil and water conservation program geared at



Streambank improvements on Rhea Creek.

Representative Raymond French informed directors about water issues at last year's annual meeting.

—The district joined other farm agencies by holding their annual meeting on Town and Country

—The district encourages riparian zone improvements with involvement of Future Farmers of America students who have planted shrubs and bushes to prevent erosion and improve fish runs.

Objective 4: Promote soil and water conservation through education.

—The district's ultimate goal is to show the community that the conservation of natural resources is vital to its social and economic well being.

—Each year district personnel present programs to 6th grader at the Outdoor School, work with FFA programs, and promote Teacher of the Year. Information is sent to local churches during Soil Stewardship Week.

—Each year at the county fair the district sponsors a photo contest

and gives an award to the winning conservation photo.

—Also at the county fair, an information booth is set up with the

purpose of explaining the district's programs. The district manager also gives tours and presentations to many civic groups.



Future Farmers of America students involved with conservation programs like these plantings on creek.



Tours such as this one informs farmers and community members about weed control.

addressing the resource issues in Morrow County.

—The district keeps the community abreast of activities through news releases in local and regional news media. They also publish newsletters and display informational posters.

—The district works closely with the Morrow County Court Budget Committee to insure adequate funding levels to carry out conservation programs. The directors keep abreast of current legislative affairs pertaining to conservation. State Senator Gene Timms and

Day. Special speaker was Kevin Campbell from Kimberly who is a member of the state conservation committee and a leader in the John Day Basin Project.

Objective 3: Improve and develop water resources in Morrow County to assure adequate water quality for all beneficial uses.

—Several directors participated in the John Day Basin Strategic Water Planning program along with Umatilla Water Basin.

—Members attended meetings in stream flow and critical ground water programs.

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