

Building Your Soil Health Team



Soil Health Principles

Raising the Soil Health Bar

- 1 Armor - Keep The Soil Covered
- 2 Minimize Soil Disturbance
- 3 Crop Diversity
- 4 Continual Live Plant
- 5 Livestock Integration
- 6 Take Your Reward...Please



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Burleigh County
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- Common Vision – (the glue to unite, the passion. In our situation it was recognizing that we had accepted a degraded resource. We then decided to move forward with Soil Health and actually build soils)
- Diversity – (experience, youth, varied educational backgrounds, farmers, ranchers, conservationists, academia, bankers, churches, etc)
- Respect – (comfortable enough to say what each member thinks when disagreement occurs, and still move toward the goal.
- Challenging – (a goal worth working toward; it is all about the shared journey, not the destination. Soil Health – Food Health – People Health)

- Willing to Self Educate – (you have to be willing to do your own cooking. Set aside time in the SCD board meetings for education)
- Holistic Thinking –(working to solve the problems, not the symptoms)
- Willing to Embrace Change – (open minded, we had to admit that our production model was not working. Consequently, we received opposition from individuals, groups, entities, etc, that we did not envision; and we received support from individuals, groups, and entities that we did not envision)
- Outreach – (tours, workshops, speaking engagements, opportunities to share information)

- Dynamic – (always changing, never static)
- Leadership Qualities – (Leaders vs Managers)
- Soil Health becomes the methodology of everything you do- (you do not set aside time to work on Soil Health. As problems occur, the team looks for solutions within Soil Health. They do not revert back to the old production model. They support each other)
- The formal core team creates a web of informal members and a sense of community – (the outreach spreads, friendships are made, tours and workshops become social events)

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