



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Contact: Sarina Otaibi, Director of Communications & Engagement

Direct: (320) 269-2984

Email: Sarina@cureriver.org

Land Stewardship Project and CURE to host Soil Carbon Challenge Event

Morris, MN, February 17, 2015 --- The Land Stewardship Project and CURE are coming together to co-sponsor a Soil Carbon Challenge presentation and discussion on Saturday, February 21, at the West Central Research and Outreach Center in Morris. Two veterans on building soil carbon, Peter Donovan and Jodi DeJong-Huges, will be presenting on their work, joining attendees for a conversation over lunch, and sharing ways for you to get involved in the Soil Carbon Challenge, an international (and localized) competition to recognize land managers who are growing water-holding, fertility-enhancing soil organic matter.

Whether you grow corn on hundreds of acres or a patch of zinnias by the back step, you have the power to grow your communities resiliency in the face of climate change and to take action to build healthier soil, plants, animals, and a healthier global atmosphere. The presenters will explain how you can get involved in the movement to sequester carbon by building soil organic matter covering both practical advice and ways to connect to others doing the same on their land. The Soil Carbon Challenge is one way, but there are also local networks of land managers that are supporting one another as they try new practices.

“In the 30,000 miles of travel in my school bus home, plus many thousands more by train, bus, plane, and car in the U.S., Mexico, and Canada, I have glimpsed bits and pieces of a miracle: a growing interest and commitment, by many people, to growing soil and regenerating land,” said Peter Donovan of his work with the Soil Carbon Challenge project. He is a board member of the Soil Carbon Coalition, a nonprofit organization wanting to advance the practice, and spread awareness of the opportunity, of turning atmospheric carbon into soil organic matter and whose primary project is the Soil Carbon Challenge.

Another soil carbon veteran presenting at this event will be Jodi DeJong-Huges, who has been a Regional Extension Educator with the University of Minnesota Extension since 1996. Her presentation will be on Agriculture and the Carbon-Cycle, giving us a better understanding of how local agriculture fits into carbon sequestration and what practices you may see on the landscape that are helping sequester carbon.

This event on Saturday, February 21 is from 9 AM to 1:30 PM. It is free and open to the public. Please RSVP to Robin Moore at rmoore@landstewardshipproject.org or call 320-269-2105. For more information, please visit www.cureriver.org.