Are you a female landowner in Stearns or Wright counties looking to learn more about land conservation and connect with local resources and other women landowners? You are warmly invited to attend one of the following Women Caring for the Land workshops.

- May 20, 2015, Frogtown Park Pavillion, 54 2nd ST N, Cold Spring, MN
- May 21, 2015 - Melrose City Center, 225 1st ST NE, Melrose, MN
- May 22, 2015 - Buffalo (?), Buffalo MN

Did you know nearly half the farmland in the Midwest is currently owned or co-owned by women? This means women have an important say in how thousands of acres of farmland are managed. More and more, we are learning the importance of maintaining healthy soils for both productivity and environmental health on our farmland. Women Caring for the Land workshops offer a peer-to-peer, informal discussion format to allow women landowners to talk about their individual farms and their management and conservation goals.

The free workshops will begin with registration and coffee at 8:30 a.m followed by an informational morning session. We will then enjoy lunch (provided) together before heading out by bus on an afternoon tour of nearby farms where we will see conservation practices first hand, including a demonstration on soil testing. (We will walk a short distance into a field, so please wear or bring appropriate clothing and footwear if you want to participate in the walk.) The bus will bring us back to our meeting site for dessert and wrap-up, and we’ll be finished by 3 p.m.

In attending this meeting, you will learn ways to assess and improve the health of your soils through cover crops, no-till and strip-till, and other conservation practices. You will also have an opportunity to meet local conservation professionals who can provide resources and assistance in reaching conservation goals.

Because of limited space, pre-registration is required.

Please register by contacting Megan Herbst by phone, (320) 251-7800 or by email, megan.herbst@mn.nacdnet.net.

And if you have a female friend or family member who you think would benefit from this gathering, please have her call and register too!

Women Caring for the Land, is facilitated by the Women, Food and Agriculture Network and Renewing the Countryside and hosted by Stearns County SWCD, Buffalo NRCS District, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, U of MN Extension, and the Sustainable Farming Association.

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