

Sargent County Water Board Drain Tour 7/24/26

The following people gathered near the Sargent County Courthouse on the morning of July 24th, 2026 to commence the drain inspection tour: Luke Siemieniewski, Todd Stein, Bruce Speich, Roger Zetocha, Michael Wyum, all with the SCWRD, Tim Faber with the Sargent County Road Department, Robert Erbele, ND District 28 Senator, and Yaping Chi, Engineer with ND DWR and RRJWRD. The group left Forman @ 8:20 AM.

Due to prior commitments of Yaping Chi, the group deviated from its intended route and schedule and went directly to Brummond-Lubke Dam. There are many trees growing along the base of this dam which need to be sprayed. Upon subsequent inspection of Nelson Dam and Frenier Dam, it was found that they also had trees in need of removal. The group next traveled to Silver Lake Dam where a project to shore up the face of the dam is scheduled for this fall/winter. At this point, around 10:45, Yaping Chi departed the group.

The group then drove along Drain 9 and inspected two sites where culvert replacement is being considered. One site is under County Road 5 in Taylor Township and the other site is under 127th Avenue, approximately two miles south of County Road 5, also in Taylor Township. We then headed toward Brampton Township to observe sprayed trees along Drain 11 which appeared to be effective. We drove west and north, noting other sites along Drain 11 as we traveled to our lunch site in Gwinner.

Drain 7 was our next target site. We drove along the Ransom/Sargent County line to where Drain 7 commences. We noted more trees in part of the drain which are needing to be controlled and inspected a box culvert on the outskirts of Milnor which we had directed to be cleaned last year. It remains clear of debris, but needs some excavation on the upstream side to allow full access to the culvert.

A portion of Drain 8 on the west edge of Rutland was noted to be filled with cattails – spraying them was added to our list.

Our last stop was in Forman to see part of Drain 4. Trees along this section of the drain will be mowed by the County Road Department at their convenience.

The tour ended at the Sargent County Courthouse at 3:20 PM with thanks being offered to Robert Erbele and Tim Faber for joining us on the tour.

Sincerely,

Michael Wyum, acting secretary

