

# Minnesota Soil Health Specialists



Our specialists are staff that have helped farmers implement soil health practices, have knowledge and expertise of soil health facets, and are willing to discuss their experience and knowledge with others. Farmers, landowners, and other staff look to specialists to answer their questions and learn more about incorporating soil health practices.

**Anna Cates**

University of Minnesota

Statewide

Research and outreach around soil biology and structure, showing how integrating soil health practices changes the function of the soil.

Specialties:

- |  |   |  |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corn/SB         | <input type="checkbox"/> Canning Crops          | <input type="checkbox"/> Small Grains        | <input type="checkbox"/> Sugar Beets                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Potatoes          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Specialty Crops | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cover Crops | <input type="checkbox"/> Livestock           | <input type="checkbox"/> Grazing                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Organic           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Strip Till      | <input type="checkbox"/> No-Till                | <input type="checkbox"/> Silvopasture        | <input type="checkbox"/> Reducing Herbicides /Pesticides | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carbon |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Forestry        | <input type="checkbox"/> Perennials             | <input type="checkbox"/> Reducing Fertilizer | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Soil Health          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Soils  |

catesa@umn.edu

612-625-3135

**Julie Grossman**

University of Minnesota

Statewide

Researching and connecting the influence of ag management on microbial functioning focusing on legume-rhizobia symbiosis. The effect of organic ag on soil biogeochemical cycles and processes with an emphasis on C and N cycling as well as the impact of soil microbial communities on ag productivity. Exploring ways in which we can better manage plant-soil-microbe relationships in organic systems in order to enhance soil fertility with the ultimate goal of developing sustainable food production systems.

Specialties:

- |  |   |  |  |   |
|--|---|--|--|---|
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Strip Till      | <input type="checkbox"/> No-Till                | <input type="checkbox"/> Silvopasture        | <input type="checkbox"/> Reducing Herbicides /Pesticides | <input type="checkbox"/> Carbon             |
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jgross@umn.edu

612-855-8632

# Minnesota Soil Health Specialists

**Angela Gupta** University of Minnesota Extension

Statewide

U of M Professor of Forestry specializing in invasive species including earthworms and jumping worms

Specialties:

<input type="checkbox"/> Corn/SB	<input type="checkbox"/> Canning Crops	<input type="checkbox"/> Small Grains	<input type="checkbox"/> Sugar Beets	<input type="checkbox"/> Potatoes
<input type="checkbox"/> Specialty Crops	<input type="checkbox"/> Cover Crops	<input type="checkbox"/> Livestock	<input type="checkbox"/> Grazing	<input type="checkbox"/> Organic
<input type="checkbox"/> Strip Till	<input type="checkbox"/> No-Till	<input type="checkbox"/> Silvopasture	<input type="checkbox"/> Reducing Herbicides /Pesticides	<input type="checkbox"/> Carbon
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forestry	<input type="checkbox"/> Perennials	<input type="checkbox"/> Reducing Fertilizer	<input type="checkbox"/> Soil Health	<input type="checkbox"/> Soils
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	Invasive species including earthworms and jumping worms			

agupta@umn.edu

507-280-2869

**Jennifer Hahn** Redwood SWCD

Middle MN Watershed

Working with producers to plan, design, and implement conservation practices focusing on improving soils under ag production

Specialties:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Corn/SB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Canning Crops	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Small Grains	<input type="checkbox"/> Sugar Beets	<input type="checkbox"/> Potatoes
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specialty Crops	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cover Crops	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Livestock	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grazing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Organic
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Strip Till	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No-Till	<input type="checkbox"/> Silvopasture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reducing Herbicides /Pesticides	<input type="checkbox"/> Carbon
<input type="checkbox"/> Forestry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Perennials	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reducing Fertilizer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Soil Health	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Soils
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	Soil and soil health testing			

Jennifer.hahn@mn.nacdnet.net

651-485-7848

**Holly Hatlewick** Renville SWCD

Renville Co

Practical application of many conservation practices, public speaking, and soil health demonstrations

Specialties:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Corn/SB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Canning Crops	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Small Grains	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sugar Beets	<input type="checkbox"/> Potatoes
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Holly.hatlewick@mn.nacdnet.net 320-523-1550 x 3

# Minnesota Soil Health Specialists

**Lance Klessig** Winona SWCD

SE Minnesota

Work with farmers to plan and implement soil health practices as well as soil health demonstrations, public speaking, outreach and education. Also focusing on grazing and integration of livestock

Specialties:

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|---|---|---|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Corn/SB | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Canning Crops | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Small Grains        | <input type="checkbox"/> Sugar Beets                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Potatoes           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Specialty Crops    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cover Crops   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Livestock           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grazing                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Organic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Strip Till         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No-Till       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Silvopasture        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reducing Herbicides /Pesticides | <input type="checkbox"/> Carbon             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Forestry           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Perennials    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reducing Fertilizer | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Soil Health                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Soils   |

Lance.klessig@winonaswcd.com 507-523-2171 608-780-2134

**Steven Pahs** Rice SWCD

Rice Co

Planning and implementing soil health practices with farmers, assisting in field scale research of cover crops, developed custom seeding service for cover crops in the area, and planting covers in young corn

Specialties:

- |  |   |  |  |   |
|--|---|--|--|---|
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Specialty Crops | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cover Crops | <input type="checkbox"/> Livestock           | <input type="checkbox"/> Grazing                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Organic          |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Forestry        | <input type="checkbox"/> Perennials             | <input type="checkbox"/> Reducing Fertilizer | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Soil Health          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Soils |

Steven.pahs@riceswcd.org 507-332-5408

**Liz Stahl** University of Minnesota Extension

SW & Statewide

Education and research of soil health in mostly corn/soybean rotations with weed management, termination, herbicide interactions. Creating user friendly pieces including the "Cover Crop Recipes", and resources for prevent plant and leading multi-year on-farm trials comparing Haney Test to standard soil testing

Specialties:

- |   |   |  |  |                                   |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Forestry           | <input type="checkbox"/> Perennials             | <input type="checkbox"/> Reducing Fertilizer | <input type="checkbox"/> Soil Health                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Soils    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other   | Soil health testing                             |  |  |                                   |

stah9912@umn.edu

507-372-3900 x 3912

# Minnesota Soil Health Specialists

**The Minnesota Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)** has a variety of specialists that are local, regional, and statewide, find them:

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/mn/contact/>

**Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD)** has local specialists covering every county, find them:

[https://www.maswcd.org/SWCDs\\_On\\_The\\_Web/swcds\\_on\\_the\\_web.htm](https://www.maswcd.org/SWCDs_On_The_Web/swcds_on_the_web.htm)

**Minnesota Ag Water Quality Certification Program (MAWQCP)** has specialists around the state to work with you to become certified, find them:

<https://www.mda.state.mn.us/environment-sustainability/minnesota-agricultural-water-quality-certification-program-1>

**Sustainable Farming Association** has specialists available statewide, find them:

<https://www.sfa-mn.org/staff/>

**Land Stewardship Project** has specialists available, find them here:

<https://landstewardshipproject.org/about/staff>

**Pheasants Forever** has specialists including a Precision Ag and Conservation Specialist, find them:

<http://www.pheasantsforever.org/habitat/findbiologist.aspx>

BJ Werk (Precision Ag and Conservation Specialist) [bwerk@pheasantsforever.org](mailto:bwerk@pheasantsforever.org)

**University of Minnesota Extension** has specialists statewide, find them at:

<https://apps.extension.umn.edu/staffdirectory/>

Find Farmer Mentors on our website at <https://mnsoilhealth.org/mentor/>

Minnesota Soil Health Coalition

Jennifer Hahn - Coalition Coordinator

[coordinator@mnsoilhealth.org](mailto:coordinator@mnsoilhealth.org)

[www.mnsoilhealth.org](http://www.mnsoilhealth.org)

