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and water.*

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Prescribed Grazing Technical Service Provider Training

VIROQUA, WI July 26, 2017 – Training for those interested in becoming a Technical Service Provider (TSP) in Prescribed Grazing, and others interested in a comprehensive course in pasture management, will be held on August 8th, 9th, and 10th from 9:30am -3:30pm each day in Vernon County. Technical Service Providers are hired by farmers, business, or organizations to provide services on behalf of the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS).

Topics of this training include economics, environmental benefits, herd health, nutrition, developing stocking rates, paddock sizing, forage balance, and the characteristics of major forage species.

Also covered will be fence layout, design, and construction, watering system layout and construction, heavy use areas, and walkways. NRCS Conservation Practice Standards for each will be discussed. Participants will learn how to write a Prescribed Grazing Plan to meet NRCS standards.

Participants will have the opportunity to view the operations of two Vernon County graziers with over 30 years of experience who will be available for discussion.

On the last day of the training, participants will engage in hands on training at a farm that is transitioning into Prescribed Grazing and will write a grazing plan.

Cost is free and meals are provided by a grant from the Wallace Center through the Pasture Project.

August 8th and 9th will be held at the American Legion, 120 N. Rusk Ave, Viroqua, WI. August 10th will be held at local farms in Vernon County. To register for the course contact John Delaney, Valley Stewardship Network, at 608-637-3615 or john@valleystewardshipnetwork.org.

Participants are limited to the first twenty to register, with preference given to those who intend to pursue TSP status. Registration Deadline: Aug 1st.

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Valley Stewardship Network is celebrating 17 years of land and water stewardship in the Kickapoo Valley and adjacent watersheds. Best known for its water quality monitoring programs, VSN also offers outreach and education programs to help farmers, landowners, residents and visitors understand and support our local ecology for the health of our communities. More at www.valleystewardshipnetwork.org