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and water.*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Prescribed Grazing Technical Service Provider Training

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 May 22nd, 23rd, and 24th from 9:30am -3:30pm each day at American Legion Post #138, 120 N. Rusk Ave, Viroqua, WI. 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 operation of a Vernon County grazier 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 will be provided. Support for this training comes from the Pasture Project, Wallace Center at Winrock International, National Resource Conservation Service, and Valley Stewardship Network, with grass-fed beef for meals donated by Wisconsin Meadows.

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: May 15th.

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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