

## River Country RC&D Grazing Initiative CHIPPEWA VALLEY GRAZING NETWORK FALL 2011 EVENTS SCHEDULE

We are happy to announce the following River Country RC&D/Chippewa Valley Graziers events:

- **Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup> 12:00-3:00-- Joint Fall Transition and Preparation for Outwintering Pasture Walk on the Cliff and Shelly Keepers Dairy, and Mahalko Dairy, (both farms located halfway between Gilman and Cornell WI on HWY 64)**
- We start at the Cliff and Shelly Keepers Family Dairy Farm at 12:00 and see some of the truly innovative ways the Keepers utilize many time, labor and fuel saving methods to outwinter their dairy cows and youngstock. The cows are happy outside most of the winter eating bales of pre-placed hay fed out in bale feeders and protected by electric polywire fence. The Keepers have been happy grazing their 45 cow Dutch Belt and Holstein cross herd and outwintering for more than 20 years.
- We travel  $\frac{1}{4}$  Mile west to the Mahalko Dairy at 1:30 and see the grazing farm of Ken and Mary Mahalko, who farm with son Kevin. Ken and Kevin have been utilizing Managed Grazing since the mid 1990s and will show many outwintering practices with their 80 Holstein youngstock/steers and 40 dairy cows. The farm was purchased in 1969 and needed much soil improvement to become the productive grazing farm it is today. The land and herd are now being managed organically and utilizing the herd to build soils and healthy biodiverse pastures for. We walk snow and cold or sun!
- **Directions to the Keepers Farm:** From **Cornell** take St Hwy 64 East 8.5 miles, or from **Gilman** travel 7.5 miles west on 64 to 35140 State Highway 64, Gilman WI 54433. Farm is on the north side of road. (715) 447-5435. **Mahalko Dairy** is located  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile West of the **Keepers Farm** on the south side of Hwy 64 at 34717 State Hwy 64, Gilman (715) 447-5438.
- **Tuesday, November 15<sup>th</sup> 11:00-2:30 Fall/Winter Network Planning Session and Discussion Group Meeting-Thorp Public Library-Grazier Volunteers Needed!**
- We will talk about scheduling Network events for the Winter of 2011 and the status of network projects and funding for the **River Country/Chippewa Valley Graziers Technical Assistance and Education Programs**. Please bring your own lunch and we will have time for discussion.
- **Directions:** In **Thorp** from the intersection of HWY 73 and County X, follow County X east .2 miles to S. Clark Street. Turn right and follow S. Clark .1 miles and take a left on E. Prospect. Follow E .Prospect .1 miles and turn right on S. Conway and travel .1 miles to the Library at 401 Conway Street.
- **Kevin Mahalko (715-225-9879) and Haly Schultz (715-225-9882) are Grazing Specialists for River Country RC&D and the Chippewa Valley Grazing Network—We appreciate the opportunity to work with you and the many successful graziers in the area! Thanks for your support!**
- Funding for the Chippewa Valley Grazing Network comes from the WI Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative (GLCI), donors, and fundraising events. Thank you to the WI Dept. of Ag Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP), and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) for helping us provide valuable managed grazing services. The Chippewa Valley Grazing Network is run by the direction of its members. Please visit our website @ [www.RiverCountryRCD.org](http://www.RiverCountryRCD.org) For more information on events in the St. Croix Valley area or for Grazing Assistance contact Brian J. Brezinski at (715) 579-2342, and for Coulee area events or Grazing Assistance please contact Mary C. Anderson at 715 579-2206.