**Bus Tour FAQ (last updated 7-18-22)**

* Registration includes lodging and meals.
* Registration deadline is July 31.
* Departing from Hays, KS at 6:00 A.M. August 16 from the Hilton Garden Inn **(This motel room is NOT included in your registration fee)**

221 W 43rd St, Hays, KS 67601

* Departing from Kearney, NE Ward Labs 8:30 A.M

4007 Cherry Ave, Kearney, NE 68847

* **\*\*\*Special Session\*\*\*** at 2023 Winter conference for Bus Tour Attendees.
* Cancelation by July 31 will result in a full refund. (minus the PayPal Fee)
* Cancelation by August 8 will result in a 50% refund. (minus PayPal fee).
* **Cancelation after August 8 will result in no refund.**
* Lodging at Governor’s Inn, Pierre, SD
* $200 double room occupancy; $300 single room occupancy
* Indicate Roommate Preference if you have one
* Indicate Departure site: Hays, KS or Kearney, NE
* Dan Forgey Soil Health and Diversity Video

**Speaker/Location Information**

**Ray Ward**

(Ward Laboratories)—Kearney, NE; <https://www.wardlab.com/about-us/professional-staff/> , will serve as a tour host, lead soil pit work and assist with agronomic Q and A. Ray spent several years in the Dakotas before beginning Ward Labs in ~1982.

**Jay Fuhrer**

Jay is one of the leading teachers of soil biology and mimicking native rangelands with crop, insect and livestock diversity.

[http://www.notill.org/jay-fuhrer](http://www.notill.org/jay-fuhrer%20) and <https://menokenfarm.com/about/>

**Dwayne Beck**

Pierre, SD; <http://www.notill.org/dwayne-beck> and <http://www.dakotalakes.com/>

**Dan Forgey**

<https://sandcountyfoundation.org/our-work/leopold-conservation-award-program/cronin-farms>

**Menoken Farms**

<https://menokenfarm.com/>

**Dakota Lakes Research Farm**

<http://dakotalakes.com/>

**Jerry Doan, Sterling, ND—Black Leg Ranch**

Located just 25 miles SE of Bismarck N.D., the historic Black Leg Ranch is home to both grass finished cattle and buffalo. Black Leg Ranch has a variety of enterprises: the Copper Jewell Barn, three on site lodges, a hunting enterprise, and the Black Leg Brewery.—

<https://blacklegranch.com/>

**Dan Gillespie Soil Health Fund**

Dan was one of the leading soil health trainers for the NE NRCS. He established a no-till training conference in northeast NE that involved many of the producers for our educational stops. In turn, he was extensively known across the region through his rainfall simulator demonstrations. Sadly, he died earlier this year. Dan was one of the leading soil health trainers for the NE NRCS. He was well known across the region from his rainfall simulator demonstrations, as well as a no-till specialist. Sadly, he passed away earlier this year. Details are at— <https://www.nebcommfound.org/give/dan-gillespie-soil-health-fund/>

**Arrow See**d and Mary Saathoff are also providing funds to support and recognize Dan Gillespie and Jody Saathoff on Aug. 16 at the evening meal as well as the overall trip. Jody served on the NTOP Board, worked for Arrow and assisted Ray Ward with many soil health needs and general friendship. Many participants are indebted to their service and leadership.

**Jody Saathoff**

Arrow Seed, Ward Labs and Mary Saathoff are also providing funds to support and recognize Dan Gillespie and Jody Saathoff on Aug. 16 at the evening meal as well as the overall trip. Jody served on the NTOP Board, worked for Arrow and assisted Ray Ward with many soil health needs and general friendship. Many participants are indebted to their service and leadership.

**Mike Arnoldy, Kennebec, SD**

Mike farms at Kennebec and Hot Springs. Diversified in his rotations with WW, SW, flowers, corn, soybeans and chickpeas.  On normal years he plants covers into his WW stubble but understands that it also gets dry in his area. He has been no-tilling for 25 plus years.

 **Tyler Frederick, Reliance, SD**

 Karlen Ranch is a 4th generation family farm located in Reliance SD. They have been practicing 100% no till for over 25 years. They raise corn, soybeans, field peas, lentils, and wheat( HRW, HRS, Durum). Their goal is to produce sustainable, top quality commodities, while conserving the land for future generations.