

June
2012



**Douglas County
Soil & Water
Conservation District**

1401 NW 10th Lane, Rt. 1, Box 50, Ava, Missouri 65608 (417) 683-4816 Ext. 3

Douglas County SWCD Cost-Share Program

The Douglas County SWCD Cost-Share Program will begin the new Fiscal Year July 1st. Due to limited funding, there will be a first-come, first-served sign up starting on the first business day after the new fiscal year. If you are interested in participating in the Cost-Share program, please contact Verna Willhaus-District Manager, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. (no answering machine messages please) and she will add your name to the list. You will need to be specific on what practice you are interested in.

Once a landowner visit is made by a Technician and if the landowner meets the qualifications by the Technician, it must then be approved by the Department of Natural Resources Staff. Once all of this is done, the applications will be entered in the order of the sign-up list until funding is depleted. If additional funding becomes available, the District will continue down the list of qualified landowners.

Any landowner who is requesting cost-share for the Grazing Systems Resource Concern, **must have attended** a Grazing School **prior** to the application request.

All paperwork for cost-share must be done in the District office by the landowner. A landowner is any person, firm, or corporation that holds title to any lands located within the soil and water conservation district. The board of supervisors may only provide cost-share assistance to the legal owner of the property on which the practice is to be installed for a majority of the practices. Because a Form 1099 will be issued for a practice, the actual individual who will receive the incentive payment must sign the cost-share forms or complete a Landowner Signature Authorization form. This form serves to inform the landowner/operator that a Form 1099 will be forthcoming the practice.

If you have any questions, please call the office at 417-683-4816 Extension 3.

Soil & Water Conservation Cost-Share Practices

This is a brief description of the practices available.

DSP – 3 ~ Planned Grazing Systems

Purpose: To increase land management on pastureland by using rotational grazing. Environmental benefits include erosion control and/or prevention and water quality protection.

Criteria: Landowner must attend an approved grazing school prior to signing up for cost-share/ receiving approval to begin; a minimum of four paddocks will be used to rotate livestock. Acres served for each category are based on work implemented on or necessary to benefit those acres. Existing systems will be eligible for per acre maximums only to increase number of paddocks or to add additional acres to the system. No time limit for enhancement of system.

DSP 3.1 ~ Water Development (Well-Landowner must have 60 acres to receive cost-share funding)

Least cost alternative water source

Maximum: \$95/acre

DSP 3.2 ~ Water Distribution

Distribution of water to paddocks

Maximum: \$85/acre

DSP 3.3 ~ Fence

Interior cross fence

Maximum: \$60/acre

DSP 3.4 ~ Lime

One-time pH correction. Determined by soil test requirements

Maximum: \$50/acre

DSP 3.5 ~ Seed

One-time interseeding of legumes. Must meet minimum fertility according to soil test requirements

Maximum: \$40/acre

N472 – Use Exclusion

Purpose: To protect, maintain, or improve plant, soil and water resources in areas that are in need of protection.

Criteria: Area must be fenced off to exclude livestock; completed practice must meet NRCS Standards; all state and federal regulations must be followed, and area must be maintained for 10 years.

Incentive: A \$5 an acre one time incentive is given for area excluded; cost-share rate for fencing and other components provided at 75 percent of state average cost.

DFR-5 ~ Woodland or Riparian Protection Through Livestock Exclusion

Purpose: To protect soil and plants from livestock grazing by fencing livestock out of area.

Criteria: Fencing must exclude livestock from woodland that lies within an existing interior or property line

fence, or provide protection for a riparian area along a stream bank, all state and federal regulations must be followed, and livestock must be excluded for 10 years.

DSL-1 ~ Permanent Vegetative Cover Establishment

Purpose: To prepare seedbed and seed permanent ground cover.

Criteria: Land must show signs of erosion, all state and federal regulations must be followed, and vegetative cover must be maintained for five years.

DSL-2 ~ Permanent Vegetative Cover Improvement

Purpose: To improve the ground cover that is already established by seeding legumes into existing grass.

Criteria: Land must show signs of erosion, all state and federal regulations must be followed, and legumes must be maintained for five years.

WQ10 – Stream Protection

Purpose: To improve water quality of streams by providing an alternative water source for livestock.

Criteria: Streams must be protected from livestock by permanent fencing; maximum width for financial incentive is 150 feet; completed practice must meet NRCS Standards, all state and federal regulations must be maintained for 10 years.

Incentive: An incentive payment of \$500 per acre of excluded pasture, one time payment is paid on the area fenced out for livestock. Cost-Share is provided at 75 percent of the state average

N574 – Spring Development

Purpose: To protect and enhance water quality in areas where livestock has free access to a spring and provide a dependable supply of suitable water.

Criteria: Spring or seep collection area should be fenced, if needed, to prevent future damage to either vegetation or spring area; completed practice must meet NRCS Standards; all state and federal regulations must be followed, and development must be maintained for 10 years.

Incentive: Cost-Share is provided at 75 percent of state average cost.

N595 – Pest Management

Purpose: To minimize chemical entry of contaminants to ground and surface water by properly following a pest management plan.

Criteria: Landowner must follow a pest management plan and keep records showing that plant inventory has been done accordingly. Treatment of fence rows is not eligible. Incentive payments will be authorized for one complete growing season of the plan, which must include at a minimum the months of April through October. The completed practice must meet NRCS Standards; all state and federal regulations must be followed.

Incentive: An incentive of \$10 per acre per year. The lifetime maximum an operator can receive from this practice is \$5,000.

White-tailed Deer Cooperatives

It is three months from the start of deer bow season and 5 months until rifle season but there are several things you can do now to improve your chances of harvesting a great deer this fall. Activities like planting food plots, spraying invasive weeds, and cutting cedars from glades are some physical activities to get you in shape for dragging a deer out of the woods while improving your habitat. In addition, especially if summer is your time to relax, there is one activity that requires little physical effort, involves great conversations, and has the potential to improve your hunting. This activity is setting up a “Cooperative” in your neighborhood.

Cooperatives can be formed between neighbors and hunters to improve the wildlife habitat and populations in an area by giving people the opportunity to share resources such as sprayers and planters, provide manpower to pull off a prescribed fire, or developing a deer harvest strategy that improves herd health. Deer cooperatives in particular are simply a group of people interested in improving their deer hunting by working toward that common goal. With increased acreage similarly managed, huge habitat and population improvements can be made. Just allowing bucks to reach 1 or 2 years old can have large impacts on antler growth. In addition, the presence of older aged bucks can intensify rutting activity, increase sign development in the form of rubs and scrapes, and improve overall herd health.

Improved antler growth is often the first thing to be observed. Research has shown that bucks can continue to grow larger and larger antlers until 5.5+ years old. In particular, research has shown antler growth as follows:

- 1.5 yr. old bucks grow 25-30% of their Boone & Crocket potential
- 2.5 yr. old bucks grow 60% of their Boone & Crocket potential
- 3.5 yr. old bucks grow 75-80% of their Boone & Crocket potential
- 4.5 yr. old bucks grow 90-95% of their Boone & Crocket potential

This doesn't mean that all bucks will have large antlers but that nearly all bucks will grow larger antlers if they are allowed to grow into the older age classes. By forming a deer cooperative a group of people can work together to produce the quality of bucks they'd like to harvest. As a group, a cooperative can pass some bucks while harvesting others.

Setting up a deer cooperative is often much easier than first thought. There are many success stories across the state that demonstrates landowners often aren't aware of the similar goals of neighboring landowners. As your local Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) Private Land Conservationist, I would be happy to provide more information on the benefits of a cooperative and help set one up. There are also several short guides available on the University of Missouri's (MU) website that can provide further information on topics such as aging deer, deer ecology, and collecting deer herd data, to name a few (<http://extension.missouri.edu/main/DisplayCategory.aspx?C=82>). These guides were jointly written by MU and MDC deer management professionals.

Brad Mormann-Private Land Conservationist

Missouri Department of Conservation

Office: (417) 683-4816 Ext. 111



Drill Manager Position

The Douglas County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) is seeking a no-till drill manager. Duties will include pick-up, delivery, setup, scheduling and maintenance of the drills. Individuals need to have their own vehicle capable of pulling drills, preferably a ¾ ton, 4 wheel-drive pickup, liability insurance and a valid driver's license is required. Applications may be picked up at the Douglas County SWCD office. Applications will be accepted thru July 9th. The Douglas County SWCD is an equal opportunity employer.

Upcoming Grazing Schools



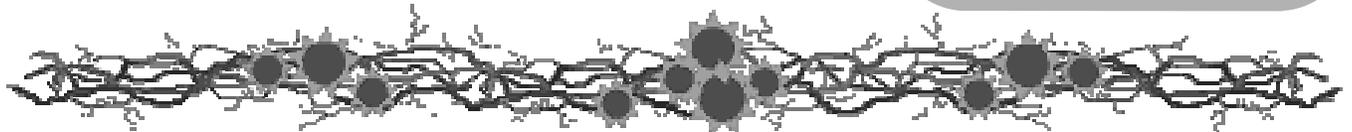
The grazing school is for producers interested in improving their grassland resources for their grazing animals. The school covers such topics as fencing technology, water systems, animal nutrition, forage management, economics, and much more. A tour of an existing system and practical out door exercises accompany the instructional materials.

The grazing school is an approved grazing school that qualifies participants to participate in the Soil and Water Conservation Districts Grazing System practice. If you are interested in attending a grazing school, please contact the following contacts or visit the web site at <http://agebb.missouri.edu/mfgc/schools.htm>.

Houston	July 25-27	Sandy Wooton (417) 967-2028 Ext 4 Ted Probert (417) 741-6134
Wasola	July 30-August 1	Stacy Hambelton (417) 256-2391 Jamie Kurtz 417-256-7117 Ext. 3
Willow Springs	September 19-21	Kayla Franks (417) 256-7117 Ext 3 Jamie Kurtz 417-256-7117 Ext. 3

In Memory of Claudia Moreno

The NRCS and Douglas County SWCD Staff were saddened with the news that co-worker and friend, Claudia Moreno lost her battle against cancer on June 18, 2012. Claudia will be greatly missed by everyone.



Douglas County Board of Supervisors & Staff

Chairman— Eldon Russell Vice Chairman—Hollis Smith Treasurer—Jerry Garrison

Secretary—Angie Fletcher Member—Lynn Gray

District Staff

Bill Bruffett—District Technician II Verna Willhaus—Program Specialist II

NRCS Staff

April Wilson-District Conservationist David Harrison-Resource Conservationist Robert DeMoss-Forester

MDC Staff

Brad Mormann-Private Land Conservationist

The U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD).

