



Franklin County Conservation District Newsletter



VOL. 29 NO 4

WINTER 2015

SEEKING NOMINEES

FRANKLIN COUNTY SWCD BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

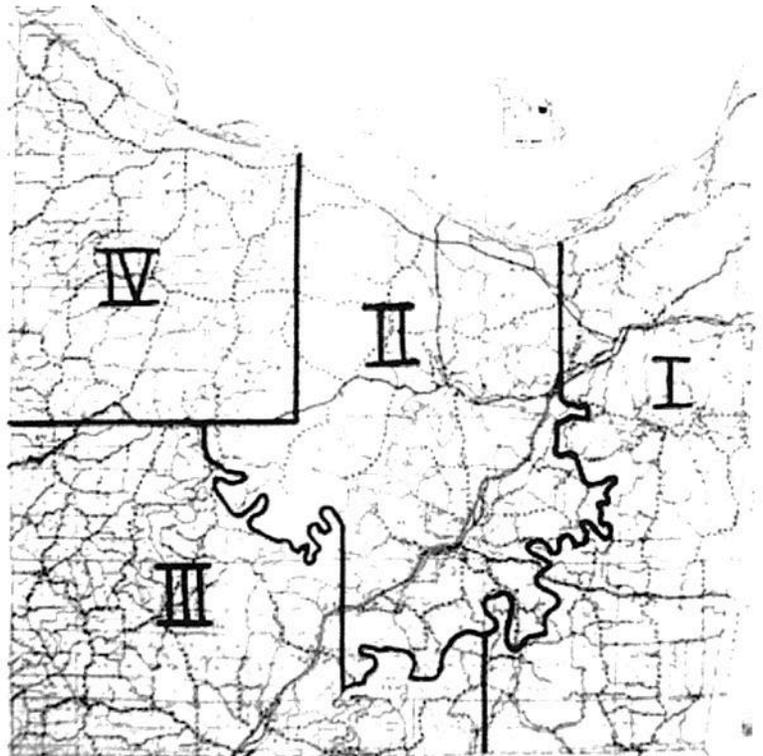
Let it be known that the Franklin County Soil and Water Conservation District will hold an election for one supervisor in each of two different territories in the county on March 17, 2016.

If you or someone you know owns a farm in Territory I or Territory III, and meets the qualifications listed below may be considered as a candidate in the election. You may submit names for consideration to the Franklin County SWCD office.

Supervisors of the district administer district policies and programs, district personnel, and cost-share funding made available by the one-tenth-of-one-percent parks, soils and water sales tax.

To be a candidate for the Soil & Water Conservation District election, a person shall be:

1. A land representative, and
2. A resident, tax-paying citizen within the SWCD for a minimum of two years preceding the election date, and
3. A cooperator of the district, defined as, "a person who is actively engaged in farming and practices conservation activities related to agriculture", and
4. Reside in or own a farm in the same territory where the nominating committee has responsibility.

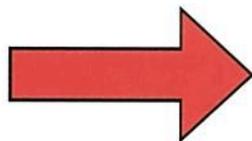


**SECTION
OMITTED**

State Cost Share available for Feeding Facilities



Getting from here



to here.

WHAT TYPE OF FACILITY IS COST SHARE AVAILABLE FOR?

Winter Feeding Facility is a permanent building that enables producers to manage their existing beef herds to prevent or minimize soil and water degradation by storing wintertime manure and hay waste for correct application to pasture, hay and crop lands.

Beef Feeding Facility is a permanent building that enables producers to move their beef feeding from an existing dry lot to a building that uses “bedded pack” manure management along with manure storage. Manure is applied to pasture, hay and crop land per a nutrient plan.

WHAT COST SHARE IS AVAILABLE?

State Cost Share: *\$50,000 maximum cost share per landowner *Continuous signup, subject to fund availability *Contract with Soil & Water Conservation District

Federal Cost Share: *Higher maximum cost share per landowner *Sign up at the next EQIP signup period *Contract with USDA-NRCS

WHAT SIZE BUILDING IS AVAILABLE?

Building size is dependent on number of brood cows, average weight, and calves and bull(s), if any.

An example of a typical sized winter feeding facility: 40 cows, no calves or bull. Average weight is 1100# per cow. Per sizing guidelines, a winter feeding facility measuring 30' wide by 60' long is recommended.

An example of a typical sized beef feeding facility: 100 feeders. Average weight is 800# per feeder. Per sizing guidelines, a beef feeding facility measuring 40' wide by 144' long is recommended. The building has two 40' by 60' feeding floors, with a 24' by 40' manure storage area in the middle.

WHO TO CONTACT AND WHAT'S NEXT?

Call the office at 636-583-2303 extension 3 to learn what cost sharing programs may be available. Get a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan(CNMP). It's the first step for either program. Educate yourself on building dimensions, layout, cost, etc.

Not all practices last forever

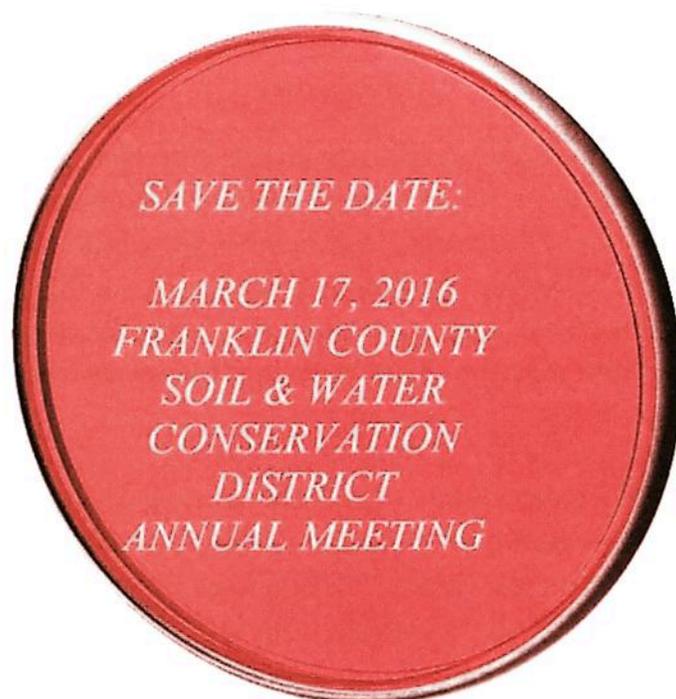
By Stephen Sparks

Franklin County Soil and Water Conservation District has been around for many years, and has install 1000s of practices to help protect our soil and water quality, such as Terraces, Waterways, Grade Stabilization Structures, and etc. With most of these practices being around for many years like a car they will eventually wear out. For example:

Last year we assisted a landowner who had a grassed waterway that was 50 years old. The waterway had excellent stand of sod and when looking down the waterway it looked like it would last for many more years. But looking up the waterway you can see hills where the grass sod captured soil deposits from the terraces and block the terrace channel where water began to over top the terraces. We were able to assist the landowner by rebuilding the waterway. We surveyed and designed a new waterway in which the landowner received cost-share.

This year another landowner contacted us that has 30+ year old terraces with tile outlets that will not drain. During the initial site visit, you can see that the one terrace was ponding water and other you could see evidence where it was overtopping the terrace. With the assumption that the tile outlet is collapsed, we will be able to cost-share by replacing the tile within the terraces.

So if you have a waterway or terrace that is 30+ years and is not functionally properly, and wondering if it might be eligible for cost-share assistance. Please contact us to schedule a site visit.



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Bernard Laune, Vice Chairman
Carl Danz, Treasurer
Matthew Herring, Secretary
John Helling, Member

1004 Vondera Ave. • Union, MO 63084
636-583-2303 • 855-535-5203

The Franklin County Conservation District was organized in 1944 with a primary objective to solve soil and water conservation problems. The District, upon request, aids in planning and applying appropriate land use and conservation treatment measures.

OFFICE STAFF PERSONNEL

Lori Nowak, District Clerk, FCSWCD
Stephen Sparks, District Technician, FCSWCD

Renee Cook, District Conservationist, NRCS
Rhonda Davault, Lead Resource Conservationist, NRCS
Kervin Bryant, Soil Conservationist, NRCS
Teresa Morris, Soil Conservationist, NRCS
Jerry Busch, Area Soil Technician, NRCS

Lia Heppermann, Private Land Conservationist, MDC
Ryan Diener, Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist

NRCS Sets November 20 Deadline for Missouri Farmers and Ranchers to Apply for Assistance

COLUMBIA, MO – The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) announced November 20 as the first cut-off date to apply for fiscal year 2016 funds through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP).

“EQIP provides tremendous support to Missouri farmers, ranchers, and landowners interested in addressing natural resource problems on their land,” State Conservationist J.R. Flores said. “Voluntary conservation efforts through EQIP improve the quality of natural resources while also making a significant difference in the lives of Missouri’s farming and ranching families.”

EQIP allows farmers, ranchers, forestland managers and landowners to conserve natural resources by making available financial assistance for a variety of conservation activities, such as cover crops, rotational grazing systems, field buffers and animal waste management systems.

General EQIP provides opportunities for financial assistance statewide to applicants who have natural resource problems on their land, including concerns associated with crops, soil health, livestock, forest and wildlife. EQIP also offers special initiatives such as the On-Farm Energy Initiative, Seasonal High Tunnel Initiative, Organic Initiative, Ozark Highlands Restoration Partnership and Regional Conservation Partnership Program.

The On-Farm Energy Initiative provides financial assistance, statewide, for farmers and ranchers to identify ways to conserve energy on their farms through on-farm energy audits, and financial assistance to implement recommendations identified in the energy audits.

The Organic Initiative provides financial assistance, statewide, for farmers to install conservation measures on agricultural operations related to organic production.

The Seasonal High Tunnel Initiative provides financial assistance, statewide, for farmers to construct seasonal high tunnels, which extend the growing seasonal for high-value crops in an environmentally safe manner.

The Missouri Ozark Highlands Restoration Partnership provides financial assistance to help landowners improve the health and resiliency of forest ecosystems where Mark Twain National Forest and private lands meet in southern Missouri. Forest landowners in 27 Missouri counties are eligible to apply for funds to develop and implement forest management plans.

Six Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) projects will be available in fiscal year 2016. Local partners were awarded RCPP funds to deliver conservation projects in specific regions across the state. The Missouri projects included in this announcement are: Little Otter Creek Watershed Project, in partnership with the Caldwell County Commission; Our Missouri Waters, in partnership with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources; Regional Grassland Bird and Grazing Land Enhancement Initiative, in partnership with the Missouri Department of Conservation; Restoring Glade and Woodland Communities for Threatened Species in the Ozarks of Southeast Missouri, in partnership with the Missouri Department of Conservation; Northwest Missouri Urban and Rural Farmers United for Conservation, in partnership with the Jackson County Soil and Water Conservation District; and Rice Stewardship, in partnership with Ducks Unlimited, Inc.

NRCS accepts applications for all of its programs on a continuous basis, but farmers must file applications for these programs by November 20 to be eligible for the next round of funding. Farmers can submit applications at local NRCS offices. NRCS also offers free technical assistance to all Missouri residents.

For more information about NRCS programs and assistance, visit <http://www.mo.nrcs.usda.gov> or contact the NRCS office serving your county. NRCS employees in county offices can provide more information about how to apply for benefits offered by NRCS.



*Dan, Bernard, Carl, Matt, John,
Lori & Stephen*



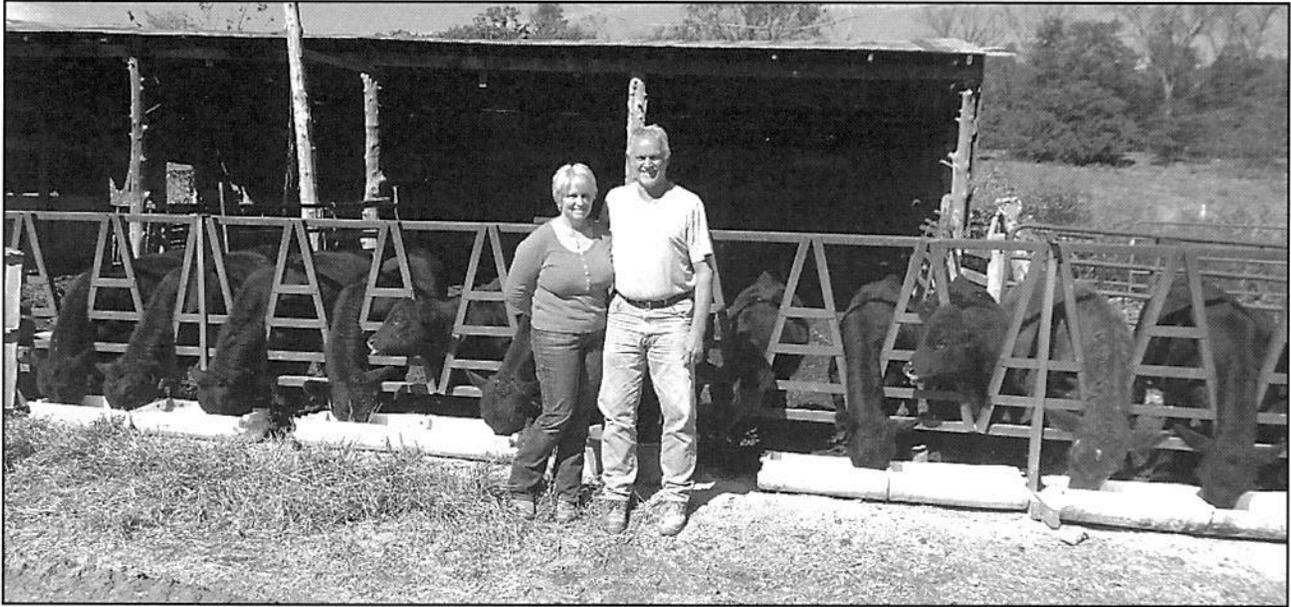
**Happy
Holidays**

COVER CROP FUNDS OBLIGATED

The new State-wide Cover Crop practice introduced in July has provided \$50,000 to Franklin County landowners/operators. The practice provides an incentive to encourage the adoption of cover crops for reducing soil erosion, improving water quality and soil health. The landowners/operators are eligible for an incentive payment of \$30 per acre per year for a 1 or 2 species cover crop mix or \$40 per acre per year for 3 or more species cover crop mix and 75% of the cost for a soil health assessment test with a lifetime maximum of \$20,000 per landowner/operator. For guidelines or information regarding the Cover Crop practice contact the office at 636-583-2303 extension 3.

**SECTION
OMITTED**

Area IV - CRAIG & SHEILA KLOPPE



Our Area IV Outstanding Farmer award goes to Craig and Sheila Kloppe of New Haven. Craig and Sheila own 160 acres and rent roughly 200 acres.

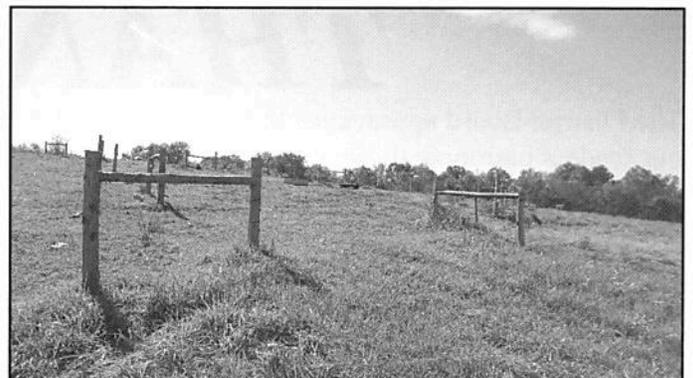
Craig and Sheila raise Angus shorthorn cow/calf pairs in four different herds. They grow corn and soybean to produce their own feed for their livestock.

Craig and Sheila applied for State Cost-Share assistance to help control erosion by installing a pond and then planted the area to a permanent vegetative cover. On an existing grazing system, which only had one water source located at the center of the farm, the cattle were using a badly eroded lane to travel back and forth to get water. To help control this erosion, State cost-share funds were used to install a pipeline and four tanks; this eliminated the used for the lane.

They also utilize USDA NRCS Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) to help them improve a rented farm by installing two grazing systems to improve pasture land and install pipeline, tanks and fence.

Craig and Sheila have two children that are involved with the farm and one grandchild that is over a year old who loves helping grandma and grandpa with the cows and steering the UTV.

Congratulations to Craig and Sheila Kloppe and keep protecting our natural resources!



FRANKLIN COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT
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COMING EVENTS

Thursday, November 26, 2015 USDA Service Center closed Thanksgiving Day Holiday	November 30 - December 2, 2015 Training Conference 8:00 a.m., USDA Service Center
Friday, December 25, 2015 USDA Service Center closed Christmas Day Holiday	Friday, January 1, 2016 USDA Service Center closed New Year's Day Holiday
Tuesday, January 12, 2016 SWCD Regular Board Meeting 8:00 a.m., USDA Service Center	Monday, January 18, 2016 USDA Service Center closed Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday

Call to confirm meeting date and times. All regular meetings are open to the public.



Quarterly Quote

“Whoever could make two ears of corn or two blades of grass to grow upon a spot of ground where only one grew before, would deserve better of mankind, and do more essential service to his country than the whole race of politicians put together.”

—Jonathan Swift, Gulliver's Travels, 1726

THANK YOU

The District Board appreciates the cooperation of the businesses that advertise in our newsletter and hope that our readers patronize these advertisers. The Board especially appreciates the financial assistance of the Franklin County Commission. Thanks also to our partners in conservation: NRCS, FSA, DNR, University Extension, MDC, Quail Forever. Assistance from the Soil and Water Conservation District is available to all county residents regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, gender identity, reprisal, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation or individual's income. State Cost-Share funds are available for agriculture landowners that have active erosion and are approved to complete practices that solve the erosion problem and for practices that protect our water quality.