Gasconade County SWCD

January 2014

Volume 24, Issue 2

50 Years of Service to Gasconade County

On November 2, 1964, the Gasconade County Soil & Water Conservation District was officially formed. The initial headquarters was located in Hermann and then moved to Owensville in 1977. The first elected board members were: Chairman Lloyd Rohlfing, Vice-Chairman Carl Roetheli, and Treasurer Dorsey Doyel. Ex Officio members were R.W. Kallenbach, Extension Balanced Farming Agent and Drue Anderson, County Extension Director. Over the years, we have had 52 Board Supervisors, 4 District Clerk/Managers and 13 District Technicians.

On March 27, 2014, we will be celebrating "50 years of Conservation" at our Annual Meeting at the Owensville Middle School. We will begin with dinner at 6 p.m. followed by a special recognition of past supervisors and staff. Our special guest speaker, Doug Peterson, NRCS Soil Health Conservationist, will be discussing the Soil Health Initiative along with a demonstration of the rain simulator and soil slag test.

We will present the poster awards for our 2014 Poster Contest "Dig Deeper-The Mysteries in the Soil" as well as our landowner, volunteer, and partnership awards. We hope to have the MASWCD State FFA Speech Contest Winner, Heather Hingst, present her award winning speech at our meeting as well.

Please make your reservations for the Annual Meeting by March 13, 2014 by calling 573-437-3478 ext 3.

Current Gasconade County Soil & Water Board. L-R Debra Nowack, Matt Estes, Dennis Berger, Matt Herring, and Mike Haeffner

Board of Supervisors:
Dennis Berger - Chairman
Michael Haeffner - Vice-Chairman
Debra Nowack - Treasurer
Matthew Estes - Member
Matthew Herring - Secretary

District Staff:
Diana Mayfield - District Specialist II
Kory Hubbard - District Technician I

NRCS Staff:
Melinda Barch - District Conservationist
Megan Ordway - Soil Conservationist
Braden Schmitz - Soil Conservationist
Amy Neier - Soil Conservation Technician

MDC STAFF:
Jamie Barton, Private Lands Conservationist
Scott Williams, Fisheries Biologist
Aaron Holsapple - Forester

Visit us on the web at www.swcd.mo.gov/gasconade

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer
Helping People Help the Land

POND AND TIMBER MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

When: February 18, 2014, 6 - 9 p.m.
Where: Swiss Evangelical Reformed Church
2082 Swiss Church Road, Swiss, MO

Who:

Aaron Holsapple, Resource Forester with Missouri Department of Conservation for Gasconade, Maries, and Osage Counties will discuss various timber management options available for Central Missouri landowners. Topics will include:

- Determine appropriate stands for timber production
- Choose appropriate method to thin according to tree size
- Tools and herbicide selection
- Developing timber management plans

Scott Williams, Fisheries Biologist with Missouri Department of Conservation, will discuss:

- Pond Stocking (i.e., Species and rates)
- Fish Management
- Fish parasites
- Aquatic Plants

Melinda Barch and Diana Mayfield will address cost-share opportunities as well.

Refreshments will be served.
Please let us know if you are planning on attending by
Calling 573-437-3478 ext 3

Mark Your Calendars And Watch for More Information!

The Gasconade, Maries, Montgomery, Osage and Warren County SWCDs and NRCS are planning on hosting the:

2nd Annual Soil Health Workshop March 11, 2014

We are still in the planning stages, so please be sure to watch our local newspapers, County News Live, or our website at www.swcd.mo.gov/gasconade/events for more information. You may also call our office at 573-437-3478 x 3 and have your name put on a call list for when the information is made available.

NRCS PROGRAM SIGNUPS

Conservation Stewardship Program, CSP, signup ends February 7, 2014. CSP emphasizes past, present and future conservation performance on your farm.

Environmental Quality Incentive Program, EQIP, signup ends February 21, 2014. EQIP allows producers to address several different resource concerns on their property.

Contact our office in Owensville at 573-437-3478 x 3 and talk with Melinda or Braden to learn more on how these programs can protect your Natural Resources.

Forage and Beef Conference

Monday, February 24, 2014

Cuba, Missouri
Knights of Columbus
I-44 East – Hwy. UU Exit

12:30 Registration

1:00 Herd Health – Dr. Craig Payne, DVM, University of Missouri Extension

1:45 When Should I Sell My Calves to Make the Most Money? - Wesley Tucker, Ag Business Specialist, University of Missouri

2:30 Break

3:00 Profits with Sheep and Goats – Mark Kennedy, MFGC Grazing Consultant, Houston, MO

3:45 Financial Assistance – Melinda Barch, NRCS District Conservationist, Linn, MO

4:15 Break

4:30 Producer Panel – "Reducing Hay Use"
Leon Kreisler – Dent County
Denny Pogue – Phelps County

5:30 Kick the Hay Habit – Jim Gerrish, American Grazing Lands Services, Patterson, ID

6:30 Dinner

RSVP by February 7, 2014, to the Crawford County Soil and Water Conservation District at 1-800-364-8732, ext 3 or 573/364-6202 ext 3.

****There is a $10.00 per person charge for the conference – payable at the door.****

Sponsored by: Soil and Water Conservation Districts, University of Missouri Extension, Natural Resources Conservation Service in Crawford, Phelps, Maries, Dent and Gasconade Counties, Maries County Bank and Branches, Crawford County Farm Bureau, Dent County Farm Bureau, Gasconade County Farm Bureau, Crawford County Cattlemen's Association, Bank of Salem, Peoples Bank in Cuba, Steelville, Sullivan and Bourbon, Bank of Sullivan in Cuba, Sullivan, Union, Labadie, Pleasant Hope & Sunrise Beach, First Community National Bank in Cuba, Steelville, Sullivan, Rolla, Vienna and Eureka, Mid-America Bank, Town and Country Bank in Rolla, St James, Salem and Bourbon and Legends Bank.

USDA

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI Extension

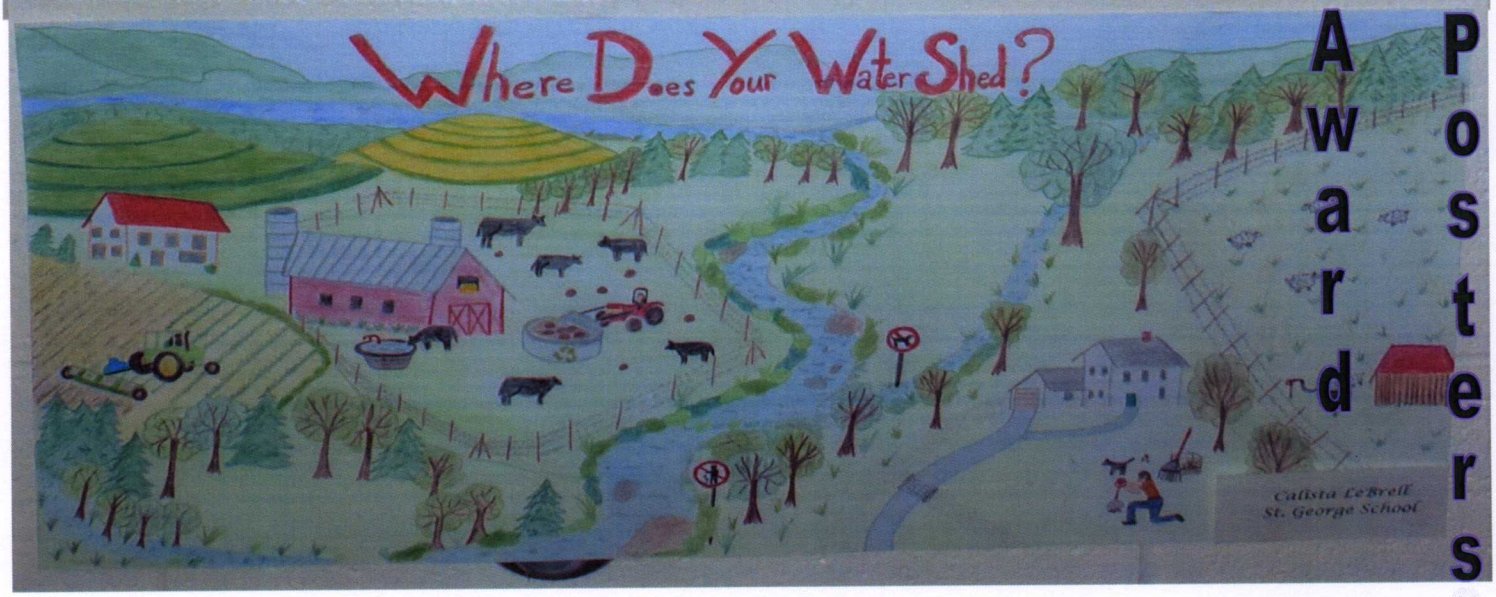
Kyle Lairmore Moves On UP

Kyle Lairmore was promoted in December to the Hunter Education/Shooting Range Coordinator in Jefferson City.

Board Chairman Dennis Berger presented Kyle with a Certificate of Appreciation on December 4th. We wish Kyle the very best and he will be truly missed.

Jamie Barton, MDC Private Lands Conservationist in Montgomery City, will be covering our county until a new PLC is selected.

State Winning Award Posters



FSA Updates

NEW CROP REPORTING DEADLINES:

2014 spring-seeded grains and CRP must be reported by **July 15, 2014**
2015 hay and pasture acres must be reported by **November 15, 2014**
2015 Fall barley, wheat and other fall seeded small grains must be reported by **December 15, 2014**

INSURANCE FOR HAY AND PASTURE:

FSA offers an insurance policy on hay and pasture, called NAP. Coverage is $250 per year. The sales closing date is **March 15, 2014**. **NOTE: In order to be eligible for any future disaster assistance on hay or pasture, insurance is required.**

FSA eALERTS:

FSA is using eAlerts, a paperless way to receive FSA reminders by email or text. Hardcopy newsletters are being discontinued. For updates on new programs or upcoming deadlines, contact the FSA office to sign up for eAlerts today, at 573-437-4131, ext 2.

FARM STORED FACILITY LOAN PROGRAM (FSFL):

Eligible producers can obtain a low-interest loan for 7, 10 or 12 years to build or upgrade storage or handling facilities. This program includes grain bins and hay barns. **January Interest Rate: 2.25%** (Fixed for a 7 year term)

FARM LOAN PROGRAMS:

Eligible farmers and ranchers may qualify for the low interest credit they need for annual operating expenses, for purchase or refinance of livestock and machinery and for purchase of real estate.

Offices continue to accept applications for a loan program even when money has run out. Submitting an application sets a farmer's place in the waiting line for funds, so it is advantageous to apply for a loan even when there is no money available.

Producers are encouraged to contact the farm loan team serving their county to discuss their financing needs and possible options.

January Interest Rates:
Direct Farm Ownership-4.125%
Direct Farm Operating-1.875%
Beginning Farmer Down payment Farm Ownership-1.5%

NEW FARM BILL COMING:

Legislation containing most recent farm programs has expired. Producers are asked to be proactive in staying up to date on new information as it becomes available.

Diana Mayfield was surprised with a "Certificate of Appreciation" from the Farm Service Agency County Executive Director, Kate Gerlemann ,on December 4, 2013, for her assistance during the past year during a time of short staffing and peak workloads.

Diana indicated that it is just part of being a team player.

Congratulations!

Awards Galore

Congratulations One and All!

This year's Annual Training Conference at Tan-Tar-A (December 16 - 18th) was filled with valuable information for the Board Chairman Dennis Berger, Vice-Chairman Mike Haeffner, Member Matt Estes, District Technician Kory Hubbard and District Manager Diana Mayfield. The training conference allows the 114 Soil and Water Conservation Districts of Missouri time to come together and discuss policy and program delivery. It also provides an opportunity to present awards to various folks for outstanding accomplishments.

This year, our very own District Technician, Kory Hubbard, was recognized as the Missouri Soil & Water Conservation District Employee's Association "Area 5 Employee of the Year." Kory was recognized for his outstanding accomplishments since coming to the District in 2012. He has grasped the knowledge needed to service the landowners of Gasconade County and is a great asset to the District. Congratulations, Kory!

For the last two years, the Missouri Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts has sponsored a State Level Speech Contest for FFA Students throughout Missouri. This year, we were pleased to learn that Heather Hingst, from the Hermann FFA, took first place with her speech on "Dig Deeper, Mysteries in the Soil." She won her local area competition and then competed against four other Area candidates Tuesday, December 17th. She presented her winning speech to the assembly during the noontime banquet. Heather was escorted by her advisor, Doug Ridder. We hope to have Heather present her speech at our upcoming Annual Meeting.

On the evening of December 17, during the Awards Banquet, we had two very special guests and their families. From St. George School in Hermann, Brenna Jones and Calista LeBrell were presented with their First Place State Awards for their 2013 "Where does your Water Shed?" posters. Brenna Jones was selected 1st in the 4th - 6th Grade Division and Calista LeBrell was selected 1st in the 7th - 9th Grade Division. Their posters have now been forwarded on to the National Level Competition. We wish the girls "good luck" at the next level. Please feel free to go online at http://www.swcd.mo.gov/gasconade/documents/MicrosoftPowerPoint-2013PosterContestWinners.pdf to view all of the winning posters from the Gasconade County 2013 competition.

NEW NRCS STAFF

SOIL CONSERVATION TECHNICIAN

Hello! My name is Amy Neier. I am the new Soil Conservation Technician for the Maries, Osage and Gasconade FOSA. I work out of the Linn Office. I previously worked for the Maries County Soil and Water Conservation District in Vienna for 8 ½ years. My husband, Cory, and I have one daughter – Claire – she is our "wild child"!! Our farm is located in Maries County where we raise beef cattle and we also raise crops in Osage County on rental property, along with being active in the operation of both of our Family Farms. I really enjoy farming, being outdoors and spending time with our friends and family. I am excited about this new venture and look forward to assisting the landowners in all 3 counties!

SOIL CONSERVATION TECHNICIAN

Hello, my name is Braden Schmitz or more commonly known as Turtle by my close acquaintances. I'm excited to be replacing Mark Brandt as the new Soil Conservationist for Gasconade County. I grew up in Westphalia, Missouri, with three siblings: Jessie, Curtis and Cody. I attended St. Joseph's grade school as a child and once graduated from Fatima High School, I attended Lincoln University where I achieved a bachelor's degree in Natural Resources with an emphasis in wildlife management. I still currently reside in Westphalia with my parents Leon and Cindy. I really enjoy outdoor recreational activities such as hunting, fishing or four-wheeler riding. Everyone in the office is great to work with and I know I have a lot to learn, but I'm really excited to be starting a new chapter in my

Gasconade County SWCD

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Owensville, MO 65066

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FAX: 855-842-7890

STD

U.S. Postage

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Dates to Remember 2014

January 20	Martin Luther King Jr. B-Day Holiday, Office Closed
February 3	**Board of Supervisor Mtg, USDA Service Center, 6:30 p.m.**
February 4	Contractor/Vendor Mtg, Belle VFW Hall
February 17	George Washington's BDay Holiday, Office Closed
February 18	Pond and Timber Management Workshop, Swiss Church, 6:00 p.m.
February 24	Forage & Beef Conference, Knights of Columbus, Cuba
March 4	**Board of Supervisor Mtg, USDA Service Center, 6:30 p.m.**
March 11	2nd Annual Soil Health Workshop, TBA
March 27	50th Anniversary Annual Meeting, Owensville Middle School 6 p.m.
April 1	**Board of Supervisor Mtg, USDA Service Center, 6:30 p.m.**
April 10-11	Rolla Grazing School
May 6	**Board of Supervisor Mtg, USDA Service Center, 6:30 p.m.**
May 26	Memorial Day Holiday, Office Closed
June 2	**Board of Supervisor Mtg, USDA Service Center, 6:30 p.m.**
June 13	**End of Cost-share Year FY 14**

Gasconade County SWCD Equipment

LEASE AGREEMENT MUST BE ON FILE AT THE SWCD OFFICE BEFORE EQUIPMENT CAN BE RENTED.

Drill charge: Minimum charge of $100.00 for less than 10 acres usage. An additional $10.00 will be charged for each additional acre under 50 acres. There will be an $9.00 per acre charge for 50 acres or more.

For Scheduling of equipment, please call the SWCD office at 573-437-3478 ext 3, unless other wise indicated.

- ◊ John Deere 10 ft no-till drill is located at James Miller, Second Creek Farms, 2828 Hwy 19 Owensville. Call 314-609-7905 to schedule.
- ◊ Great Plains 7 ft no-till drill with warm season box is located at the SWCD office.

Located at the SWCD Office:

- ◊ Rotowiper - $25 a day
- ◊ Burn Equipment - $50 deposit, $10 use charge
- ◊ ATV Equipment (Seeder, Sprayer, Disk) - $100 deposit, $20 a day each piece or $50 for all three
- ◊ ATV Warm Season Grass Seeder—no charge—Donated by Quail Unlimited
- ◊ Soil Probe - no charge