

Gentry County Soil & Water Conservation District

Newsletter

March 2015

Structure Signup

The Gentry County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors decided at their January meeting to have a 2 week signup for structures located in pastureland only. Signup will begin on Monday, April 6, 2015 and end on Friday, April 17, 2015. Landowner will need to signup at the Soil District Office and mark on an aerial map where they are wanting to build the structure.

Election To Be Held In April

The terms of board supervisors, John Derks and James W. Grace expire in April, 2015. John serves Area 2 which includes Cooper and Jackson Townships; Jim serves Area 4 which includes Athens and Howard Townships.

Running in Area 2 is John Derks from King City, MO and Jim Luke from Stanberry, MO.

Running in Area 4 is James W. Grace from Albany, MO (unopposed).

Eligible voters shall cast their votes on April 8, 2015, between the hours of 7:30 AM and 4:30 PM at the USDA office, 512 East Highway 136, Albany, MO

Check Your Conservation Plan Before Planting

Does your plan call for:

- *Residue Management or No-Till?
- *Forage/Biomass Planting?
- *Crop Rotation?
- *Structural Practices?

You are responsible for implementing and following your conservation plan, undated RUSLE (Sheet/Rill Erosion Model) and gully control. Keep in mind that a certain number of farms are selected each year by NRCS for a Compliance Review. We recommend you review your conservation plan, make sure you understand it and contact NRCS for any changes needed.

Opening For Summer Internship

The Gentry County Soil and Water Conservation District is offering an internship position this summer starting May 1, 2015 through September 1, 2015.

Applicants must have organizational skills, be able to communicate effectively and work closely with the public and be prepared to offer assistance with field work.

Applicants must be a higher education (college, university, technical school, etc.) student within any degree major or focus area.

Resumes must be submitted to the Gentry County Soil and Water Conservation District office, located in the USDA/NRCS Office, 512 East Highway 136, Albany, MO, no later than 5:00 PM on Tuesday, March 17, 2015.

CSP—Conservation Stewardship Program

The Conservation Stewardship Program helps agricultural producers maintain and improve their existing conservation systems and adopt additional conservation activities to address priority resources concerns. Participants earn CSP payments for conservation performance - the higher the performance, the higher the payment.

http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detailfull/national/programs/financial/csp/?cid=nrcs143_008316

CSP General Sign-up Extended Until Friday, March 13, 201

The mission of the NRCS Outreach and Advocacy Division is to provide leadership to ensure that all programs and services are made accessible to all NRCS customers, fairly and equitably, with emphasis on reaching the underserved and socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers and landowners.

This program is open to all producers, but are you eligible:?

An eligible Veteran Farmer or Rancher:

- meets the definition of a Beginning Farmer or Rancher
- has not operated a farm or ranch; or hasn't operated a farm or ranch for more than 10 consecutive years
- was discharged or released, under conditions other than dishonorable, from the United States Army, --Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, its reserve components and the National Guard

A Beginning Farmer or Rancher means an individual or entity who:

1. Has not operated a farm or ranch, or who has operated a farm or ranch for not more than 10 consecutive years. This requirement applies to all members of an entity
2. Will materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm or ranch.

A socially disadvantaged group is a group whose members have been subject to racial or ethnic prejudice because of their identity as members of a group, without regard to their individual qualities. These groups consist of the following:

American Indians or Alaskan Natives
Asians
Blacks or African Americans
Native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islanders
Hispanics

Limited Resource Farmer or Rancher

A Limited Resource Farmer or Rancher or Forest Owner is an applicant:

With direct or indirect gross farm sales not more than the current indexed value in each of the previous 2 years, and
Who has a total household income at or below the national poverty level for a family of four, or less than 50 percent of county median household income in each of the previous 2 years.

An entity or joint operation can be a Limited Resource Farmer or Rancher if all individual members independently qualify.

All NRCS/SWCD programs and services are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis, without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, marital status or handicap.

Missouri NRCS Reorganizes

Effective February 22, 2015 the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Missouri has implemented a reorganization plan to improve field office efficiencies and availability of staff.

Missouri had previously grouped counties into 2 and 3 county combinations called FOSA's (Field Office Service Areas). Under the new plan implemented in February 2015 these FOSA boundaries have changed to encompass 3 or 4 county combinations.

Previously Harrison and Gentry County made up a FOSA. These two counties have now been combined with the Grundy and Mercer County FOSA to make the Harrison/Gentry/Grundy/Mercer Field Office Service Area.

The administration of this new FOSA will be under the direction of a District Conservationist stationed in the Bethany Field Office. Scott McClure has been selected for the District Conservationist position.

McClure is a native of Harrison County and has worked in several different counties throughout north Missouri. Most recently, McClure was the District Conservationist for Grundy and Mercer FOSA. McClure states, "I look forward to working with the staff and producers in this new 4 county FOSA".

NRCS customers probably won't notice any sweeping changes immediately however as NRCS experiences vacancies and personnel changes customers may see staff from within these FOSA boundaries shift to accommodate workload demands.

No-Till Drill For Rent



The Soil and Water Conservation District has a 10' Haybuster No-Till Drill for the purpose of planting warm and cool season grasses, legumes, soybeans, and small grains.

Call or stop by the office for availability.

Rental Rates are: \$9.00/Acre, plus \$20 per day for 20 Acres or less
 \$8.00/Acre, plus \$20 per day for use on 20 Plus Acres
 There is a \$75.00 Minimum and \$100 Deposit.

Also FOR RENT

Haybuster Mulcher—\$75 per Acre
\$50 for each Additional Acre
Additional \$20 for Out-of-County Use

Burn Equipment—\$15 per Day

Equipment Available—Rakes, Swatters, Drip Torches, Backpack Sprayers



Thank You...

A special thank you to everyone who donated to the Gentry County Soil and Water Conservation District this year. Your continued support you give us each year is very much appreciated!!!

Newsletter

Gentry County Soil & Water Conservation District
512 East Highway 136
Albany, Missouri 64402
Phone 660-726-5255, Ext. 3

Gentry County Soil & Water Conservation District

Board of Supervisors

John Derks—Chairman
Kenneth W. Kent Jr.—Vice-Chairman
James W. Grace—Treasurer
Shawn Deering—Secretary
David Teel—Member

District Staff

Linda Richardson—District Manager
linda.richardson@swcd.mo.gov
David Stevens—District Technician
david.stevens@swcd.mo.gov
Luise Craven—District Clerk
luise.craven@swcd.mo.gov

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Scott McClure—District Conservationist
Danelle (DJ) Engel—Soil Conservationist



OFFICE HOURS

7:30—5:00 Monday thru Thursday

7:30—4:30 Friday