

# Nodaway County Newsy

Volume VI  
Issue II  
April 2013

## Dates to Remember

**February 18, 2013**  
**Presidents' Day**  
**Offices Closed**

**March 14, 2013**  
**SWCD Board**  
**Meeting**

Newsletter Editor  
Karen Parman

## SWCD STAFF

Karen Parman, Manager  
Greg Frueh, Tech II  
Fred Stevens, Tech II

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Kevin Stiens, Chairman  
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## NRCS STAFF

Randy Buck, District  
Conservationist  
Rick Filley, Technician  
Nathan Bilke, Resource  
Conservationist  
Garrielle Stephens, Soil  
Conservationist

## OTHER STAFF

Jeremy Redden,  
DNR District Coordinator

Jim Pierson,  
MDC Private Land  
Conservationist

## State Wide Emergency Drought Funds Assist Landowners

On July 23, 2012, Executive Order 12-08 was issued by Governor Nixon authorizing the Missouri Soil & Water Districts Commission to implement an emergency cost-share program for water source development and/or water distribution practices to assist landowners engaged in livestock or crop production adversely impacted by the current drought. This emergency cost-share program was specifically directed to address water challenges and provide practices that would produce an immediate material benefit. In order to be eligible, landowners had to be engaged in livestock or crop production and had to meet certain criteria. Landowners had 14 days in which to apply at their local soil and water district office or apply on-line to the State. The local soil and water district had 72 hours, including weekends, in which to approve or deny a completed application. An Agriculture Water Resource Technical Review Team at the State was available to expedite implementation of this cost-share program. Projects had to be completed by October 1, 2012. The cost-share rate was 90% of the state average costs for eligible practices under the emergency cost-share program. The maximum cost-share was \$20,000 under this program.

Executive Order 12-09 was issued on September 10, 2012, by Governor Nixon extending the deadline to November 15, 2012 for completion of approved projects under the Emergency cost-share program.

In Nodaway County there were 142 contracts approved. There were 39 wells dug and all other contracts were for water distribution. The total paid out in Nodaway County was \$358,626.26. The average amount paid for a well was between \$6500—\$7000. Once the emergency drought program was issued by the Governor, the State Soil & Water Program directed all remaining regular cost-share funds from all soil and water districts in the state to the emergency drought program which left local soil and water districts with little or no more funding for regular cost-share practices for the remainder of the fiscal year. Nodaway County had spent \$250,260 for regular cost-share practices. Approximately \$450,000 was transferred from regular cost-share to the drought program.

## FALL SURVEY PROJECTS ON CROP GROUND



If you are wanting cost-share assistance in the fall after crops are out, please note the following policy set by the Board of Supervisors. Survey notes for fall projects can only be turned in to the SWCD office after the crop is harvested in the watershed area and all flags are visibly in place. Once the survey notes are turned in, the landowner's name will be placed on a waiting list. Technical staff will then go to the field to look at the survey. If it is determined by technical staff that not all flags are not visible, the landowner's name will be moved to the bottom of the sign-up list for cost-share assistance. All funds are obligated on a first-come, first-serve basis.

## **DROUGHT CREATING CONSERVATION COMPLIANCE ISSUES**



As one of the worst droughts in more than 30 years continues to grip Missouri, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) reminds producers to work with their local NRCS office to remain in compliance with their current conservation plans on highly erodible land.

Drought conditions affect yields, which affect the amount of cover left on a field following harvest. Producers who have conservation plans for highly erodible cropland need to maintain a certain level of crop residue to remain in compliance with their conservation plans. The drought could make meeting that requirement difficult for some producers.

State Conservationist, J.R. Flores, says NRCS is providing some flexibility in its program requirements to assist producers affected by the drought. Producers unable to meet residue requirements due to drought conditions may be eligible for a conservation compliance variance.

"NRCS understands that yields are down all across the state," Flores says. "For this reason, producers may have more difficulty maintaining the required crop residues. One option producers can consider to alleviate the stress on the land is to plant cover crops following the fall or spring operation." Flores also says that highly erodible fields that have been grazed or baled in 2012 would also be eligible for this variance, however the variance would not apply to irrigated fields that had sufficient water available to produce near normal yields.

Producers who have conservation contracts also may not be able to implement practices or conservation enhancements in accordance with their current conservation contract schedule. Producers are urged to visit their local NRCS staff as soon as possible, if they find themselves in this situation.

## **COST-SHARE FUNDS FOR FISCAL YEAR '14 (JULY 1, 2013—JUNE 30, 2014)**



The Soil & Water District in Nodaway County will receive \$649,982 in cost-share assistance for Sheet/Rill/Gully Erosion practices such as terraces, diversions, pasture-hayland seedings, waterways and basins. The district will also receive \$15,356 to obligate to landowners for Field Border practices. If interested in applying, stop by the office or call 582-7125, Ext. 3

## **PERMANENT PASTURE/HAYLAND SEEDINGS**

If you are a landowner who is interested in cost-share for a new pasture/hayland seeding for spring, you will need to stop by the office to sign up and have the field(s) checked for eligibility. If eligible, you will need to obtain a soil test and bring it in to our office. If lime is a requirement on the soil test, technical staff will determine whether or not the lime will need to be applied 3 months in advance of the seed being planted.

The seeding dates for spring are March 15 – May 31, 2013. There can be no nutrients, lime, seed or any work started prior to signing a cost-share contract and having it Board approved.

Please remember to make your request early enough in case you have to apply lime in advance. You must have at least 5 eligible acres on one tract of land that you are wanting to seed in order to receive state cost-share assistance for a new seeding.



## **AUGUST 16th DEADLINE FOR SURVEYS TO BE CONSIDERED A SUMMER PROJECT**

Any surveys in wheat or oat fields will be considered summer projects, if the survey notes are received in the SWCD office by 12:00 noon on August 16th. Any surveys in wheat or oat fields that are turned in after the noon deadline on August 16th will be considered fall projects and will be serviced along with all other surveys in corn/beans. Cost-share will be obligated on a first-come, first-serve basis. Summer projects will have priority over fall projects.

## **UPDATED DISTRICT POLICY ON COST-SHARE**

If you receive state cost-share funds in FY '13 (July 1, 2012—June 30, 2013), you will not be able to receive cost-share assistance again until FY '16 (July 1, 2015—June 30, 2016). This does not apply to landowners who received cost-share funds for pasture/hayland seedings practices or for emergency drought practices.

The Board's new policy states that once a landowner and/or tract receives cost-share that landowner and/or tract will have to skip the following two (2) fiscal years of cost-share before becoming eligible again.

### VERMEER MULCHER FOR RENT

The Soil & Water Conservation District has available a Vermeer BP-8000 mulcher to rent to cooperators. The mulcher rents for \$70/acre, which includes one day rental. There is a 1 acre minimum charge. It requires a minimum of an 85 hp tractor with dual hydraulics and a 1000 RPM shaft and is equipped with Pioneer adapters. Full payment is required at the time the mulcher is picked up at the district office. An agreement is required to be signed. Renters need to make sure all net wrap and plastic twine is removed before loading bales into the mulcher. If interested in renting,

### DISTRICT EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE FOR RENT

*DELIVERY AND PICK UP OF THIS EQUIPMENT IS FREE WITHIN THE COUNTY.*

**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO SCHEDULE, PLEASE CONTACT:**

**LLOYD NELSON, EQUIPMENT MANAGER, IN SKIDMORE AT 660-254-1935**

<b>7 CY ASHLAND EARTH SCRAPER</b>	<b>4.3 CY TOREQ EARTH SCRAPER</b>	<b>15 FT JOHN DEERE NO-TILL DRILL WITH SMALL SEED BOX/AGITATOR</b>	<b>10 FT BRILLION SEEDER</b>
<b>\$150 PER DAY (1 day minimum charge)</b>	<b>\$100 PER DAY (1 day minimum charge)</b>	<b>\$20 PER DAY <u>PLUS</u> \$8 PER ACRE (\$100 minimum charge)</b>	<b>\$20 PER DAY <u>PLUS</u> \$6 PER ACRE (\$100 minimum charge)</b>

The Nodaway County Soil & Water Conservation District prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (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)720-0600 (voice and TDD). To file

### *Did You Know? Facts about America's Farmers:*

1. Today, the average U.S. farmer feeds 155 people. In 1960, a farmer fed just 26 people.
2. Less than 15 percent of U.S. corn acres are irrigated.
3. Soy ink is used to print textbooks and newspapers.
4. The livestock industry is the largest consumer of soy meal.
5. There are 47 different breeds of sheep in the U.S.
6. The average person consumes 584 pounds of dairy products a year.
7. Agriculture employs more than 24 million American workers (17% of the total U.S. work force).
8. Pork is the most widely eaten meat in the world.

Source site: (<http://www.farmersfeedus.org/fun-farm-facts/>) & (<http://www.americasfarmers.com/about/facts/did-you-know.aspx>)