



SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT OF PERRY COUNTY

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**Meetings the First
Monday Night
of Each Month**

1003 North Main
547-4077
Extension 3



OUR SOIL* OUR STRENGTH

NEWSLETTER

Perryville, MO 63775
JUNE 2010
Vol. 41, No. 3

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NRCS STAFF

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COST SHARE SIGN-UP

The Perry Soil and Water Conservation District is announcing the cost-share sign-up for any practices that landowners wish to complete after July 1, 2010. Landowners can come into the office anytime during business hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.) from June 14th to June 30th and draw a number at random from the hat. Whatever that number is will be the number you are on the list. For example, if you draw number "30" then you will be listed as that. If you draw "1" then you will be the first to get your practices completed. The cost-share funds will be spent until all the funds are exhausted. The owner or the operator may draw a number.

The policy that landowners will not be eligible for cost share in any 2 consecutive years will be in effect again this year. For example, landowners that received a cost share payment this past fiscal year (July 1, 2009 to June 20, 2010) will not be eligible to receive cost share in fiscal year 2011. These landowners will be eligible again in fiscal year 2012. Due to the amount of cost-share we received this year each landowner will be limited to \$7000.00.

Be sure and mark June 14 - 30 on your calendar. If you have wanted that erosion control practice, this year may be the year to get it completed. Remember, erosion control does not cost - it pays. If you have any questions, just call 547-4077 (ext 3) or come by the office at 1003 North Main in Perryville.

\$\$ NRCS PROGRAMS AVAILABLE \$\$

The deadline to apply for the second round of funding for the Conservation Stewardship Program is June 11, 2010. CSP offers payments to producers who maintain a high level of conservation on their land and who agree to adopt higher levels of stewardship. Eligible lands include cropland, pastureland and non-industrial forestland. It offers payments for adding conservation practices and maintaining and managing existing conservation practices.

Do you have flood-prone fields or fields containing wet areas? The Wetland Reserve Program may be for you! For the land to be eligible it must have a minimum of 20 acres (50% of the application acres need to be "open" ground) and must have hydric soils suitable for wetland restoration or be subject to flooding. Permanent Easements receive a one-time payment of up to \$2,800/acre for crop ground (requires crop history) and up to \$700/acre for wooded areas, pasture, etc. Five rights retained by landowners in the WRP program are: recreational rights such as hunting and fishing, private access (no trespassing), mineral rights, ability to sell or lease the property and the aesthetic beauty of the property.

EQIP helps to complete a wide range of conservation practices including: Fencing out woods/creeks/ponds, Watering Facility Development, Erosion Control Practices (sinkhole development, terraces, dry structures), Grazing Systems, Forest Stand Improvement, Pasture and Hayland Plantings, and Wildlife Enhancements, Nutrient Management, to name only a few.

WHIP (Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program) assists landowners with funding to complete various wildlife habitat improvement practices on land that will be retired from agriculture production such as: green browse food plots, forest stand improvement, warm season grass establishment and prescribed burning, and many more.

For more information on the NRCS programs available to landowners/producers in Perry County, please contact the NRCS office at 573-547-4077 ext 3.

CONSERVATION COMPLIANCE REMINDER!

If you are tilling your Highly Erodible (HEL) crop ground every year or even every 2 out of 3 years, you are most likely not in compliance with your crop rotation. This is especially true if wheat is not a part of your rotation. HEL Compliance is required to be eligible for farm program benefits (payments) received from the FSA and/or the NRCS. Annual compliance status reviews are completed every year in June on randomly selected tracts throughout the Perry County. Crop residues that are left in the field after the crops have been harvested are important for many reasons. They are good sources of plant nutrients, they add organic material to the soil, and they reduce erosion. Therefore, the more crop residue left on the surface throughout the year, the better your chances of not losing soil to erosion and the more firm your conservation compliance status!

NRCS CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF HELPING PEOPLE HELP THE LAND

For 75 years the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has been helping people help the land by providing financial assistance and free technical assistance to land users. NRCS employees want to use their agency's 75th anniversary to help spread the word about the work that they and their partners do.

"NRCS is an agency that has done a lot of good for a lot of people," State Conservationist, J.R. Flores said. "We want to get the word out to the communities about our amazing 75-year history and the wide variety of assistance that we can provide."

NRCS was founded April 27, 1935. Hugh Hammond Bennett, known for his studies regarding the effects of soil erosion, was named the first chief.

"We are a federal entity that works primarily with local people," Flores said. "We don't work with them in a regulatory sense, where we are telling them what to do. We have a true partnership which we are always looking for ways we can work together."

NRCS serves all 114 Missouri counties. Across the Show-Me State, 400 NRCS employees work out of more than 100 offices with another 400 employees of the local soil and water conservation districts and state agencies also working out of Missouri NRCS offices.

FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO APPLIED FOR THE ENERGIZE MISSOURI AGRICULTURE PROGRAM

The Technical Review Team for the Cost Share Grant through the Energize Missouri Agriculture Program is in the process of reviewing the more than 1800 applications that they received to determine which applicants will be awarded grants. More than \$6,800,000 was requested by applicants for the \$3,000,000 budgeted for this program. No final decisions have been made at this time. They are working diligently to complete the review process, and expect to notify applicants by mail as to whether or not they are a recipient between June 1 and June 30, 2010.

THE PERRY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION HAS BEEN BUSY PROMOTING INFO/EDUCATION PROGRAMS!

Annual Meeting Successful

Perry County Soil and Water Conservation District had their annual meeting to award the Conservation Farmer of the Year, district accomplishments and contest winners. Lavern Taylor and Frank Wideman were the speakers for the evening. They gave an update on the present issues of water in the county and remedies to keep it clean.

The winners of the fifth grade poster contest were – first place Zoe Vernon of Perry County Middle School, second place Sara Gremaud of St. Vincent and third place Alexis Doll of Perry County Middle School. Winners in the fourth grade were – first place Josids Renaud of Renaud Home School, second place Macey Stueve of Perryville Elementary and third place Abby Buchheit of St. Vincent.

In the coloring contest second grade winners were – first place Blake Duvall of Perryville Elementary, second place Jonathan Renaud of Renaud Home School and third place Malenzie Franklin of Perryville Elementary. In the first grade winners were – first place Sidney Buerck of Immanuel Lutheran School, second place Mallory Clifton of St. Vincent and third place Anna Zoellner of Immanuel Lutheran. Congratulations to all the winners!!!

The Conservation Farmer Award was presented to Brian and Dianna Koenig.



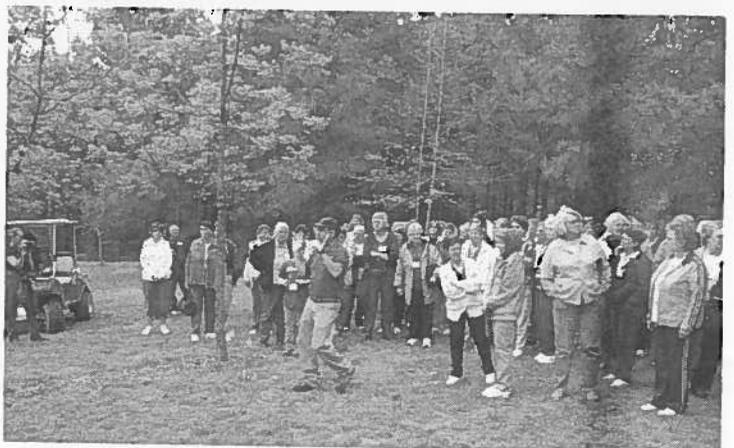
Steve Huber presenting the Conservation Farmer award to Brian and Dianna Koenig

Women In Ag 6th Annual Tour

Perry and Cape County Soil and Water Conservation District recently sponsored their annual "Woman in Ag" day in April. The 120 ladies attending enjoyed touring Jones Heritage Farm and Market and Martin Walnut Tree Farm. The local districts would like to thank the many businesses and partners that make this day so enjoyable for the ladies.



The Manager of Jones Heritage Farm explaining to the ladies their method of organic farming.



The ladies are listening to the process from planting the Walnut trees to the process of harvesting the walnuts.)

2 - GREAT PLAINS NO-TILL DRILL

10 ft. - 7 1/2 inch spacing

(will do soybeans, milo, wheat, alfalfa, clover, fescue, orchard grass)

\$8.50 AN ACRE

(\$100.00 Minimum Charge)

or

7 FT. GREAT PLAINS NO-TILL DRILL

with warm-season grass box

\$8.50 AN ACRE

(\$35.00 Minimum Charge)

FINN MULCHER

NEW - TAILGATE MULCHER

Trailer mounted, ideal for yards, conservation practices and road cuts.

\$75.00 - 1/2 Day • \$100.00 - 1 Day

To schedule call Karen at
Perry County Soil & Water Conservation District
547-4077

Education Day for 6th Graders

On a beautiful day in May the 225 6th graders of Perry County enjoyed the Karst and Water Quality Educational Day. The presenters educated the students on the karst topography of Perry County and our impacts on water quality and the effects on cave life and also our drinking water. The project was sponsored by the Perry County Karst Project with help from Missouri Department of Conservation, University of Missouri Extension, the NRCS office and the Perry Soil and Water Conservation District.



**PERRY COUNTY
SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT
1003 North Main St.
Perryville, MO 63775
(RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED)**



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