

St. Clair County Soil & Water Conservation District



ST. CLAIR COUNTY SWCD
3835 NE HWY 13
OSCEOLA, MO. 64776 PH. 417-646-8108 EXT. 3

June 2010

District Cost-Share

We are preparing to start our new Fiscal Year and that will mean some changes for landowners interested in using our cost-share program for conservation practices. As some of you are already aware, we have undergone significant changes in our cost-share funding process. Due to the down turn in the economy, our sales tax revenues are down and DNR (Soil & Water Program) has reduced our funds for practices quite drastically. It will be **very important** that everyone interested in cost-share, contact us and be put on our list of interested landowners. Even if you have already talked with us in the past, it would be a very good idea

to call. We will not have enough funding to obligate the needed funds for everyone interested, therefore we will need landowners to work with us to ensure we can get the funds to the people who are ready to implement their practice and get it done in a timely manner. We will still have the same practices available as we did for FY-10, just not as much funding for them. We will be required to make sure that each landowner signing up, will make every effort to complete the practice. This is a **contract** and we must treat it that way. If we have obligated all of our funds, your name will be put on the top of the list for next years

funding and we will work our way down the list. If you are approved for a practice and don't get it completed you will not be rolled over automatically. If you don't complete the contract by the termination date on the contract or the end of the FY, whichever is sooner, you could forfeit your funding at board discretion, and would go back to the bottom of the cost-share request list for next years funding unless the list was short enough to allow funding for the practice sooner. We will do our best to work with landowners and we will need your cooperation to accomplish more practices implemented for our county.

New NRCS Employee

NRCS has a new part-time technician. Leonard Roberts has been hired to work in the St. Clair and Hickory County offices. Leonard lives in Hickory County, and has farmed most of his life and has also worked with the Missouri state parks system. Leonard is being trained to assist with the federal programs.

Dates to Remember

- JULY 1ST — SWCD FY-11 BEGINS
- JULY 5TH — OFFICE CLOSED FOR 4TH OF JULY HOLIDAY
- SEPTEMBER 6TH LABOR DAY HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSED

In This Issue

COST-SHARE	1
NEW NRCS EMPLOYEE	1
SWCD AWARDS	2
WOMEN IN AG	2
MONITOR FOR SALE	2
NRCS WETLAND FUNDING	3
OFFICE DIRECTORY	4



St. Clair County Soil & Water Conservation District

SWCD Awards

DSL-1: Permanent Vegetative Establishment

WQ10: Stream Protection

DSL-2: Permanent Vegetative Cover Improvement

N574: Spring Development

DSL-4: Terrace Systems

N351: Well Decommissioning

DSL-44: Terrace Systems w/tile

C100: Timber Harvest Plans

DSL-11: Permanent Vegetative Cover Critical Area

N655: Restoration of Skid Trails (Forest)

DSP-2: Permanent Vegetative Cover Enhancement

C650: Stream bank Stabilization

DSP-3: Planned Grazing System (DSP3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4,3.5)

N443: Irrigation System, Surface

DWC-1: Water Impoundment Reservoir

N393: Filter Strip

DWP-1: Sediment Control Structure

DFR-4: Forest Plantation

DWP-3: Sod Waterways

The SWCD held it's Annual Meeting March 19th. We awarded the conservation poster contest winners for the county from 3rd, 4th and 5th grades. They received \$20.00 cash for being a county winner for their grade. The winners were: Rebecca Siegismund - Appleton City,

Nate Shroyer - Lakeland, William Koch - Lakeland and Morgan Jones - Osceola.

Margie went to all the schools awards programs in May and presented each grade winner with \$5.00 and a backpack from the SWCD.

The district also awarded the Grassland Conservation Award for last year to Kenneth Buhr from Lowry City. Kenneth has a cattle operation Northeast of Lowry City and has implemented a grazing system through district cost-share. Congratulations to Kenneth and Sue.

Women In Ag Conference

The 16th Annual Women In Ag conference will be held in Branson September 13, 14 & 15. There will be several interesting workshops the afternoon of the 13th. On the 14th, the group will tour the College of the Ozarks. On the 15th there will be workshops in the morning followed by the closing luncheon.



If you are interested in attending the conference you can find the registration and hotel information on the MASWCD website at:

<http://www.maswcd.net/2010WIARegistration.pdf>

If you don't have access to the internet, call the SWCD office and we can send you the information.

District Computer Monitor For Sale

The district has a 19 inch Samsung monitor for sale. It is 3 years old and in good working condition. If you are interested in bidding on this monitor, please submit a sealed bid between June 21st and June 25th. The bids will be opened at the SWCD board meeting on July 1st. The minimum bid is \$25.00. We must receive your sealed bid by end of day June 25th.

NRCS Funding for Wetlands

The USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has more than \$25 million to help Missouri landowners restore wetlands.

Most of the available funds are part of a \$175 million package announced May 14 by Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack that will restore about 75,000 acres of wetlands in 22 states through the NRCS Wetland Reserve Program (WRP).

Missouri's portion of the funding is expected to help landowners add 9,200 acres to the state's 800,000 acres of wetlands. Last year, WRP easements totaling \$5.9 million were approved that will restore 3,025 acres of wetlands in Missouri.

"We are hoping to significantly increase WRP applications this year," says Kevin Dacey, Missouri NRCS natural resources specialist. "More people are becoming interested in taking advantage of the Wetlands Reserve Program as an opportunity to convert marginal farmland, and we want to assist them in a timely manner."

Wetlands are areas saturated by water all or most of the year. Often called "nature's kidneys," wetlands naturally filter contaminants out of water. Wetlands also recharge groundwater; reduce flooding and soil erosion; support diverse populations of wildlife, plants and fish; improve aesthetics; and offer recreational opportunities.

At one time, wetlands covered 4.8 million acres of Missouri, primarily in the "Bootheel" region of southeastern Missouri. They began to decline in the late 1800's amid competing land uses, and today 800,000 acres remain. That total includes more than 130,000 acres of wetlands that have been restored in Missouri through WRP.

WRP provides technical and financial assistance to eligible landowners to increase wetlands. The voluntary program strives to achieve the greatest wetland functions and values and to receive optimum wildlife habitat benefits on every acre enrolled. WRP participants limit their future use of the land, but retain private ownership.

Participating landowners can select permanent easements that provide a one-time payment up to \$2,800 per acre and up to 100 percent of wetland restoration costs, or 30-year easements that pay up to \$2,100 per acre and up to 75 percent of the restoration costs. WRP also offers cost-share agreements to restore wetland functions and values without placing an easement on enrolled acres.

Dacey says fields that frequently flood and fields which it is difficult to produce crops because of wet soils are good candidates for WRP.

"WRP is a great alternative for landowners with flood-prone fields or fields containing wet areas," he says. "By working with the natural tendencies of the land, they minimize cropping obstacles, improve the environment, and still recognize economic gains."

To apply for WRP, or to get more information call the NRCS office and talk to Chris Hoeme.



DISTRICT EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE FOR RENT

**10 FT. GREAT
PLAINS
NO TILL DRILL
(WARM SEASON
BOX)
\$7.00 PER ACRE
(\$8.50 OUT OF
COUNTY)**

**10 FT. GREAT
PLAINS
NO-TILL DRILL
\$7.00 PER ACRE
(\$8.50 OUT OF
COUNTY)**

**BIG BALE MULCHER
\$20.00 PER ACRE**

**BURN EQUIPMENT
\$25.00 PER DAY**

Remember to visit the
SWCD website : [http://
www.swcd.mo.gov/](http://www.swcd.mo.gov/)

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Phone: 417-646-8108 ext. 3

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Willard Kauffman, Area III ————— Chairman
Terry Strobe, Area I ————— Vice-Chairman
Susan Abbott, Area IV ————— Treasurer
Saralee Jamieson, Appointed ————— Secretary
Kathy Conrad, Area II ————— Member



District Personnel

Donna Hooper - - - - - Program Specialist II
email : donna.hooper@swcd.mo.gov
Margie Best - - - - - Program Specialist I
email : margie.best@swcd.mo.gov
Mark Brownlee - - - - - District Technician I
email : mark.brownlee@swcd.mo.gov



NRCS Personnel

David Wright ————— District Conservationist
Chris Hoeme ————— Soil Conservationist
Leonard Roberts ————— Part-time Technician

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