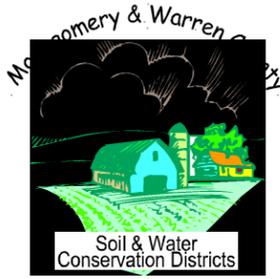


Agriculture



Tomorrow

Working together to conserve our natural resources!



February 2012

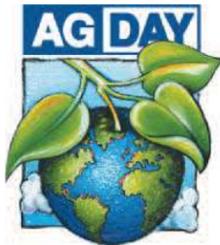
Published by MONTGOMERY AND WARREN COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS



Upcoming Events:

- February 16—Burn Workshop at Gray Summit
- March 1—Pond Workshop at Montgomery City 6:30-9:30
- March 3—Lincoln Co. Landowner Fair
- March 8—Montgomery County USDA Open House
- March 14—Burn Workshop 6:30 to 8:30pm Callaway Co. Ext. Call 573-592-1900 to RSVP
- March 17—Quail & Upland Wildlife Federation Banquet
- March 18—Warren Co. SWCD Annual Meeting and Board Supervisor Election
- April 14—Forest Management Workshop

Montgomery County USDA to Celebrate Open House Thursday, March 8th!



Open House

at USDA Service Center

COME HELP US CELEBRATE

National Ag Week

Thursday - March 8, 2012

11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

1013 S. Sturgeon

Montgomery City, MO



Food Served
11-1 and 4-6

Please take this opportunity to come out and see what your USDA Service Center has to offer the community. We would like to invite the landowners that we serve as well as the people that live and work in our community to see what services we have available that they may be able to utilize.

"The USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

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Warren County Soil & Water Conservation District

635 W. Booneslick
Warrenton, MO 63383
Phone 636-456-3434, Ext. 3
Fax 636-456-3712



Montgomery County Soil & Water Conservation District

1013 S. Sturgeon
Montgomery City, MO 63361
Phone 573-564-3715, Ext. 3
Fax 573-564-3967



FSA News



Priscilla Eggering & Ryan Eddy, FSA

DCP/ACRE Sign Up Started Jan. 23, 2012

The 2012 Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) and Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Program enrollment has begun and will continue through June 1, 2012. *Farm producers must sign a new contract (CCC-509) each year on every participating farm they own or operate to receive a payment. Contract shares must reflect how crops are shared.* For the 2012 program, one final payment will be issued in October. Check with your local office for more information or appointment times.

New Email and Texting Options for Program News

Last year, many producers signed up for Missouri eAlerts to allow local FSA offices to send electronic communications to producers via email and text messaging. The national FSA office has since developed a similar system to reach producers nationwide, called GovDelivery. Shortly, eAlert participants will receive a welcome email with the option to sign up for GovDelivery.

Remember:

- Participation in GovDelivery is NOT mandatory.
- Producers may continue to receive eAlert correspondence from their local FSA office only.
- In order to sign up for GovDelivery, producers will need to sign in through the welcome email. If producers do NOT wish to receive GovDelivery, no action is necessary. You will still receive eAlert information from your local FSA office.
- GovDelivery is generated from the national office and provides general program information.
- eAlerts will provide general program information as well as specific information and reminders specific to your farming operation.
- eAlerts has the ability for text messaging, where GovDelivery does not.
- Local FSA newsletters may be sent electronically, through eAlerts and GovDelivery.

We encourage you to provide e-mail and cell phone numbers to your local offices, so that you may receive information and reminders timely.

Expiring CRP Contracts- Important Notice

FSA is anticipating another general CRP sign up, although no official plan has been announced at this time.

During the last two general sign ups, it was discovered that numerous expiring CRP farms had tree and gully issues. For your CRP acreage to be eligible to be offered during a sign up, it must meet all CRP eligibility criteria. **Land that contains trees or gullies is not considered physically capable of being planted in a normal manner and therefore ineligible to be re-offered.**

Producers who have contracts that will expire in the next few years are encouraged to evaluate your acreage now for potential issues. If you have trees or gullies, you should address them as soon as possible. The acreage must be "openly cropable" at the time of re-offer. Visit your local FSA office for further information.

Volunteering

Linda Boothe, Volunteer

Agriculture is an important part of everyone's life. Children living in a city (or even a small town) may not understand how agriculture has a significant impact on their day to day lives.

I was raised on a family farm. At a young age, we were helping with chores. We carried buckets of milk, put together farrowing crates, walked the bean fields and drove a tractor. My father was an equal opportunity employer. Gender didn't make a difference in his eyes.

I began teaching in a small rural school in 1974. At that time, nearly every child lived on a farm or had connections to one (grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc.). As the years wore on, this changed.

I would have individuals come and talk to my students about where their food comes from and how it is grown. A number of these speakers were connected with NRCS. After I retired, I volunteered in the local NRCS office. I've been involved with Women's Ag, some of the farm tours, and volunteering in the local office. As society and our culture have changed, it is even more vital for the youth of today to know how agriculture impacts their lives. Volunteers can play an important part in helping the next generation understand and appreciate American Agriculture.

If you have an y free time and would like to help, give your local NRCS office a call. It's a rewarding experience.



Lincoln County will be Hosting a Landowner Fair

The Lincoln County Soil and Water Conservation District and the Missouri Department of Conservation will host an all-day Landowner Fair on Saturday, March 3, 2012 at the Lincoln County Council on Aging (LCCOA) Building in Troy. Representatives from government agencies and private sector agriculture-related services will answer landownership questions. The Landowner Fair will be open from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

Booths will be open all day for browsing. Booth vendors include Natural Resources Conservation Service, Mo. Department of Conservation, USDA Rural Development, Forrest Keeling Nursery, Stevens Sustainable Forestry, University of Missouri Extension, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Master Gardeners, Aquatic Control, Department of Natural Resources, and the Lincoln County SWCD.

Seminars will be offered at 30-minute intervals throughout the day. The topics that will be addressed are: Fruit Tree Establishment, Trespass/Poaching Issues & Laws, Timber Sales 101, Cover Crops, Farm Research Update, Invasive Plant Control & Woodland Management in Cuivre River State Park, Nuisance Aquatic Vegetation Management, Corps of Engineers Regulatory Program, and Raised Bed Gardening.

The SWCD supervisor election for Districts 1 and 2 will be held that day also. All land representatives of any farm lying within Lincoln County are eligible to vote. A land representative is the owner, or representative authorized by power-of-attorney, of any farm lying within Lincoln County. Any land representative must be a taxpayer of Lincoln County.

Registration is required. Call the Lincoln County Soil & Water Conservation District by February 17, 2012 to sign up at 636-528-4877, extension 3.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis 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) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

MDC News Release: Cost-Share Funds Available for Loggers, Landowners

For more information contact:

Jason Jensen, Forest Products Program Supervisor
PH: 573-522-4115 Ext. 3110
Jason.Jensen@mdc.mo.gov



JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – Loggers and landowners can both benefit from a new Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) pilot cost share incentive program called the Best Management Practices (BMPs) Conservation Innovation Grant (CIG). The grants are focused on encouraging timber harvesters to use good practices that protect soil and water on private land timber sales in 57 counties across the state. The counties available for the cost share opportunity in this area include Warren, Montgomery, and Callaway Counties.

Best Management Practices were developed as a guide for loggers and landowners to combine safe logging practices with steps that will avoid damage to water quality and soil erosion associated with timber harvesting. By taking steps to learn the BMPs and implement them, the MDC hopes the Conservation Innovation Grant will encourage loggers and landowners to work together in maintaining the best possible forest health and productivity.

According to MDC Forest Program Supervisor, Jason Jensen, the grant is designed to be a partnership between loggers and landowners as they do business together. If approved, the cost share directly pays loggers \$10 to \$20 per acre to use the BMPs and landowners receive \$5 per acre.

"The concept behind splitting the incentive is that the logger has the equipment to implement the BMPs and the responsibility for establishing erosion prevention measures and the landowner owns the property and is responsible for maintenance of the BMPs for a reasonable period of time," Jensen said.

To participate, Jensen says loggers should sign up for the cost share program at their local MDC office. The program requires a that the logger has been through the Professional Timber Harvester course offered by the Missouri Forest Products Association or attend a BMP training class with the Department of Conservation. To find a Department of Conservation office or scheduled BMP training class near you, go online to www.MissouriConservation.org.

Warren County Annual Meeting and Board Supervisor Election Scheduled for March 18th!

By Polly Sachs District Clerk

The Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District is holding their board of supervisor election Sunday, March 18, 2012 to fill these vacancies in conjunction with the district's Annual Meeting. The terms of current board supervisors Tracy Brakensiek (Area II) and Wilmer Erfling (Area IV) will expire in March 2012 and they will not be running for re-election. There are four territories/areas in Warren County and one board member is chosen to represent each territory. The fifth member on the board is a representative from the University of Missouri Extension Center serving as board secretary.

The primary duty of a board supervisor is to manage the operation of the Soil and Water Conservation District. These duties include administering district funds received from the Parks and Soils Tax, conducting informational meetings and tours, sponsoring education program for youth and maintaining a program of machine rentals.

Territory II Candidate:

Steve Tomschin, resident of northern Warren County in the Wright City area, is running as a candidate for supervisor in Territory II. He and his wife, Chris, have been married for 17 years and they have a daughter, Erin. Steve is a life-long resident of the Wright City area. He owns 14 acres and raises cattle and hay while working as a mechanic for Sydenstricker Implement, Inc. When Steve was growing up he worked for a local farmer who used a variety of soil conservation practices.

Territory IV Candidates:

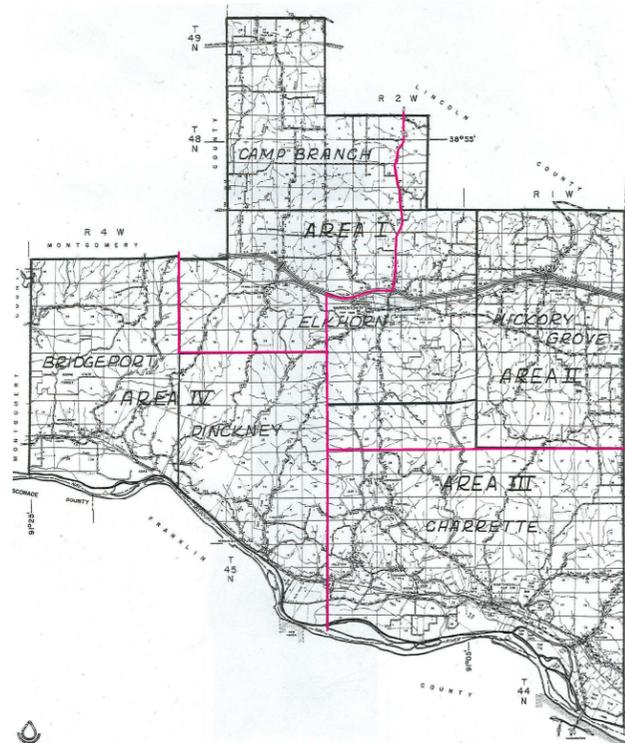
Richard Hawkins, resident of southern Warren County in the Holstein area, is running as a can-

didate for supervisor in Territory IV. He and his wife, Debbie, have been married for 30 years and have three children (Christopher, Matthew & Nathan) and two grandchildren. Rick works with a cow/calf operation full time since retiring two years ago. In 2005 he installed a rotational grazing system on the 53 acres he owns. The grazing system excludes the cattle from sensitive areas. He is an active member of St. Ignatius Church in Concord Hill and has served as a parish Consultor in past years. Rick also volunteers for Meals on Wheels in the southern area of the county.

Harold Gloe, is a life-long resident of the Case area of southwest Warren County and is running as a candidate for supervisor in Territory IV. He and his wife, Geryllyn, have been married for 32 years and have three grown children. Harold is the co-owner of Gloe Farms, Inc. with his brother, Dale. They raise corn, soybeans, hay and beef cattle. The farm is 100% no-till. All cropland has been grid sampled and they use variable rate fertilizer programs. They have water control structures and do some rotational grazing. Harold is a past president and a current board member of Warren County Farm Bureau. He is presently serving his second term on the Missouri Soybean Merchandising Council. He is a member of St. George Church in Hermann and Vice President of the Gore-Case Community Club.

The election process was started in November with a nominating committee meeting. In addition to that, in accordance with commission policy, the district placed two advertisements in the local newspaper. One notifying the public of the names of the nominating committee members and the other of the candidates that accepted the nominations.

Any qualifying candidate not nominated by the committee may



have their name added to the ballot if they reside in one of the two areas where an election needs to be held and have secured 10 signatures of land representatives in the territory they wish to represent on a petition and submit the petition to the Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors at least 10 days before the election (March 8, 2012).

In order to run for board supervisor, (according to Missouri's Code of State Regulations, 10CSR 70-2.020, Conduct of Supervisor Elections, a candidate shall):

- 1) Be a land representative as defined by "the owner, or representative authorized by power of attorney, of any farm lying within the soil and water conservation district (SWCD); provided, however, that any land representative must be a taxpayer of the county within which the SWCD is located,"

In order to vote, you must be a land representative. A land representative is the owner, or representative authorized by power-of-attorney, of any farm lying within any area of the district; provided however, that any land representative must be a taxpayer of the county within which the SWCD is located. **Please note that all land representatives, so designed by power of attorney, must present their properly signed POA form to the election judges at the time of voting, regardless of whether you have it on file in our office, NRCS or FSA.**

At the election this year you will be **required** to show proof of ID and your name will have to be checked off a list from the assessors office that indicates you own ag-assessed land in Warren County or **you will have to provide your POA.** If you have questions, please don't hesitate to call the office!

Ryan Eddy, CED from Warren County FSA Transfers to Butler County FSA

After more than 4 years with the Warren County FSA, Ryan Eddy will be leaving. He has accepted the Butler County Executive Director position in Poplar Bluff, MO. This allows him and his family to get back closer to their home. Ryan would like to tell all of the Warren County producers how much he has enjoyed the opportunity to serve them. He would like to especially thank the FSA County Committee members Gerald Schulze, Jeanne Schroer, and Allan Wehrman for hiring him in June of 2007. It has truly been a pleasure!



Warren County Soil & Water Conservation District Sponsors 2012 Essay Contest—Theme "Soil to Spoon"

The district will again be sponsoring an Essay Contest for students in grades 9-12 who are currently members of FFA or 4-H and who reside in Warren County. Please make essays related to soil and water conservation specific to Missouri. All essays will need to be postmarked or turned into the Warren County Soil & Water Conservation District by March 1, 2012 at the following address: 635 W. Booneslick Rd., Warrenton, MO 63383. The district is not responsible for essays lost in the mail. The winner of the essay contest will be asked to read their essay at District's Annual Meeting at 5:00pm on March 18, 2012 at the Warren County Extension Center. Prizes: 1st place is \$200.00 and 2nd place is \$100.00. For more information and a list of the rules, please contact the Warren Co. SWCD office at 636-456-3434, x3.



You Are Invited
to the
48th Annual Meeting
of the
Warren County
Soil & Water Conservation District

Sunday, March 18, 2012 at 5:00pm
 at Warren County Extension Center
 Warrenton, Missouri

The District is providing the entire meal.
 Afterwards, there will be awards presentations.

Our speakers this year will be
 the winners of the essay contest for Warren County
 FFA and 4-H members.

The theme is "Soil to Spoon"

Board Supervisor Election held 12:00noon to 5:00pm
 at the extension center

Everyone is invited, we hope you will join us!

Seating is limited so please
 RSVP by calling 636-456-3434, Ext. 3



Pond
Management
Workshop

By Jamie Barton-
MDC
Private Land
Conservationist



Do you have questions about building a new pond or an existing pond on your property? If so, this workshop is for you. The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC), Montgomery County Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) and Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) will be hosting a Pond Management Workshop on Thursday, March 1, 2012 from 6:30 – 9:00 p.m. at no charge. The



workshop will be held at the Public Library, 224 N. Allen Street, Montgomery City, Missouri.

Montgomery City, Missouri.

The workshop will cover a wide variety of topics including, pond site selection, pond construction, pond stocking, fisheries management, aquatic vegetation management, pond watershed management and nuisance wildlife. Professionals from MDC, NRCS and SWCD will give presentations and will be available to answer questions. There will also be some very useful literature and brochures on pond management available as well as snacks and refreshments.

If you are interested in attending this free workshop, please call and register with the Montgomery County Soil and Water District at (573) 564-3715, Ext. 3

Forest Management Workshop for Private Landowners

By **Jamie Barton-MDC**
Private Land Conservationist

Do you own forestland and have an interest in improving it for wildlife? Did you know that this can be done while simultaneously increasing timber value and forest health at little to no cost to you? Whether your goal is to create wildlife habitat for grouse, deer and turkey, generate income, or maintain aesthetics, forests require active management. Our forests evolved over time with frequent disturbance, mostly wildfire. Now that fire has been eliminated from our woods, trees have grown too crowded, fire intolerant species are starting to take over the oaks and our woods are in poorer shape because of it. In many cases, it is no longer practical to allow fires to burn in our woods. However, there are other forest practices which can emulate these disturbances and create habitat which many wildlife species thrive upon.

The Missouri Grouse Chapter of Quail and Upland Wildlife Federa-

tion and the Missouri Department of Conservation are sponsoring a Forest Management Workshop for Private Landowners. The workshop will be held on Saturday, April 14th on the Bill Haag property near Portland. The workshop will begin at 9 am.

We will spend 2-3 hours with MDC Foresters and Biologists discussing tree identification, forest management, cost share opportunities, wildlife management, and timber harvesting. Landowners will have the opportunity to tour approximately 700 acres of actively managed forests, woodlands and glades. This is an opportunity to see various forest and wildlife management practices and ask questions.

To get more information and to register please call MDC Private Land Conservationist Jamie Barton at 573-564-3715 ext. 3 by April 12th. Lunch will be provided by the Missouri Grouse Chapter of QUWF.



USDA Open House Montgomery County

By **Robert Ridgley**
Montgomery SWCD

The Montgomery County Farm Service Agency (FSA), Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), Montgomery County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD), Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) and Rural Development (RD) would like to invite you to our open house at the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Service Center, 1013 S. Sturgeon, Montgomery City, MO, on Thursday, March 8th from 11:00 - 6:00. Food will be served from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

It is our way of saying "Thank You" to the agriculture producers we serve in our county and to also show our community what the USDA Service Center has to offer. March has been set aside as National Ag month.

Within our office we have several different agencies that work together on different programs such as: conservation of our natural resources, information and educational programs to our schools, landowners and community groups,

providing wildlife assistance, farm loan programs, home loan programs, work with disaster programs, annual farm program payments and many more. We feel this would be a great opportunity to come out and see what we do and how we may be able to assist you.

The Montgomery County Soil and Water Conservation District will be presenting their Conservation Awards at lunch time, so we ask that you plan to come out, eat with us and meet the recipients of these awards.

This year the district board decided to have the county poster contest as in the past. The winners will be recognized at their schools and their winning posters will be on display at the open house.

The Montgomery County Soil and Water Conservation District will not be holding a Supervisor election this year.

Mark your calendar now to join us March 8th - Agriculture is a very important part of Montgomery County. Help us recognize National Ag Week and take a minute to think what your day would be like without the agriculture producers in our community.



Missouri Grouse Chapter of QUWF Banquet Scheduled for Saturday, March 17th

The Missouri Grouse Chapter of Quail and Upland Wildlife Federation will be having their annual banquet on Saturday, March 17th, 2012. The banquet will be held in the Valentine Hall in Starkenburg, MO. Doors will open at 4 pm and dinner will be served at 6:30 pm. For more information you can contact Tom Westhoff at (573) 929-3632 or Jamie Barton at (573)-564-3715, ext. 110.



On December 8th the Puetz Family was recognized for volunteering their farm for the past 13 years for the Puetz Farm Tour. The tour is for 4th Grade students from Rebecca Boone Elementary. The farm tour was started by Karl Sr. and Ralline Puetz. Their children have carried on their wish to have students visit a farm to learn about conservation. Pictured are Mary Ann Puetz, Gary Puetz, Audrey Swoboda, Dennis Puetz and Karl Puetz Jr.

Montgomery SWCD Cost-Share Reminder

Eric Niemeyer
Montgomery SWCD

The sign-up period for Montgomery Co. cost share funds is ongoing and will continue throughout the year. Landowners can call or stop in during regular work hours to have their name placed on the cost share list.

As cost share funds become available we will call the name that is at the top of the list. We will ask if they are ready to implement the conservation practice, if yes, we will schedule an appointment to stake the practice. If we

call and you are not ready to stake the practice, you have the option of having your name removed from the list or having it replace at the bottom of the cost share list to be called back at a later time.

Our goal is to assist as many landowners as possible, with the funding available, in a fair and timely manner.

If you have any questions about this process please call or contact us. Comments or suggestions would be greatly appreciated and considered by the board.

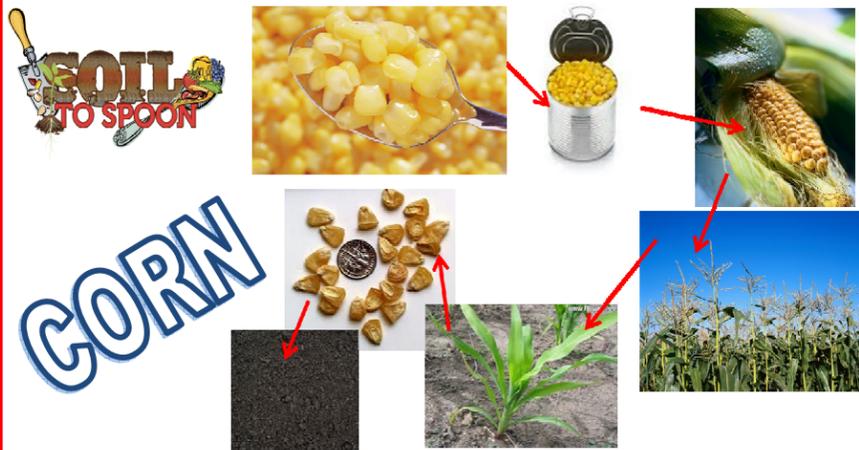
Puetz Family Recognized at Warren County School Board Meeting



Poster Contest presentations begin! Theme: "Soil to Spoon"



Above Lafe Schweissguth, Warren SWCD, talks to students at Rebecca Boone Elementary about how all our food comes from the soil. The powerpoint demonstrates how all the fruits, vegetables, grains, meat, and dairy go from soil to spoon! See below...



MONTGOMERY COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

1013 S. Sturgeon • Montgomery City, MO 63361

Board of Supervisors

Tom Kremer, Chairman • Harry Cope, Vice-Chairman • Rich Hoormann, Secretary
Jim Kleinsorge, Treasurer • Gene Eldringhoff, Member

District Personnel

Brenda Van Booven, District Manager
Robert J. Ridgley, District Technician
Ann Whitehead, Lower Loutre & Bear Brush Creek AgNPS Project Manager
Eric Niemeyer, District Technician

WARREN COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

635 W. Booneslick • Warrenton, MO 63383

Board of Supervisors

Ralph Glosemeyer, Chairman • Wilmer Erfling, Vice-Chairman, Shelley Rowe, Secretary • Richard Eggering, Treasurer • Tracy Brakensiek, Member

District Personnel

Debbie Niederer, District Technician
Polly Sachs, District Manager
Lafe Schweissguth, District Technician
.....

Assisted by NRCS Personnel

Tammy Teeter, District Conservationist
Sarah Szachnieski, Resource Conservationist
John James, Soil Conservation Technician • David Korman, Soil Conservationist
.....

Assisted by Missouri Department of Conservation

Jamie Barton & Lia Heppermann-MDC Private Land Conservationists
Jeff Bakameyer, Tony Peper, Angela Belden-MDC Forestry
Scott Voney & Sarah Peper-MDC Fisheries Biologists
Matt Spurgeon & Jim Kuenzle-MDC Wildlife Conservationists

Montgomery Co. SWCD
1013 S. Sturgeon
Montgomery City, MO 63361
Phone 573-564-3715, Ext. 3

Warren Co. SWCD
635 W. Booneslick
Warrenton, MO 63383
Phone 636-456-3434, Ext. 3

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Warren County Equipment Rental Rates

(Montgomery County landowners are charged the same as in-county)

Available through the Warren SWCD Office 636-456-3434, x3

7 ft. Great Plains No-Till Drill with Native Grass Box\$8 acre
\$25.00 minimum charge
Vermeer Mulcher..... \$50 per day/1st hr free • \$25/each additional hour
Warm Season Grass Burn Equipment \$10 per day
ATV Seeder \$20 per day
ATV Disc Harrow w/trailer \$20 per day
ATV Plotmaster w/trailer \$50 per day
ATV Tank Spray Unit..... \$10 per day
ATV Harrow FREE

Available through Matt Berry, near Marthasville, 636-932-4035

10' John Deere No-Till Drill\$8 acre
\$25.00 minimum charge

Available through Ralph Glosemeyer, in Concord Hill, 636-932-4897

7' Great Plains No-Till Drill with Native Grass Box\$8 acre
\$25.00 minimum charge

Additional rental rates charged for out-of-county landowners

Montgomery County Equipment Rental Rates

(Warren County landowners are charged the same as in-county)

Available through the Montgomery SWCD Office 573-564-3715, x3

7 ft. Great Plains No-Till Drill with Native Grass Box\$7 acre
\$25.00 minimum charge
10 ft. Great Plains No-Till Drill with Native Grass Box\$8 acre
\$25.00 minimum charge
Vermeer Mulcher..... \$50/1st hour use • \$25/each additional hour
Warm Season Grass Burn Equipment \$10 per day
Tree Planter..... \$50/day • Maximum charge of \$100
Tree Root Pruner FREE
Truax "Seed Slinger" - Hand Grass Seeder..... FREE
Truax Electric ATV Mounted Seeder..... FREE
10' ATV Mounted Sprayer FREE
18" Hay Probes (with \$50 deposit) FREE

Available through Darrell Reinhardt, near Hermann, 573-486-2469

10' Great Plains No-Till Drill with Native Grass Box.....\$8 acre
\$25.00 minimum charge

Additional rental rates charged for out-of-county landowners