

# Agriculture



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UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI  
Extension



Farm Service Agency



# Tomorrow



FEBRUARY 2014

Published by MONTGOMERY AND WARREN COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

### Upcoming Events:

- February 11—Contractors Meeting
- February 11—Soil & Crops Conference @ Montgomery City
- February 24—Forage & Beef Conference @ Cuba
- February 28—Open House for John James, Montgomery USDA Office
- March 1—Burn WS @ Whetstone
- March 3—Young Farmer's Chili Supper @ Montgomery City
- March 6—Pond WS @ Montgomery
- March 11—Soil Health Workshop @ High Hill Christian Church, 1:30pm
- March 12—Pond WS @ Shaw
- March 25—Montg. Open House
- March 27—Warren USDA Open House & Board Supv. Election
- April 1-2—Grazing School @ Warren County Ext. Center
- April 1—Warm Season Grass Meeting @ Warren County Ext. Center
- April 8—Pond WS @ Troy HS

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Improve your soil, improve your bottom line!

## SOIL HEALTH WORKSHOP

March 11, 2014 @ 1:30 p.m.

High Hill Christian Church

852 Booneslick Road, High Hill, MO 63350

Featured Speaker: Gail Fuller, a crop and livestock producer from Emporia, Kansas who has been implementing no-till, cover crops, companion crops, and other methods to improve soil health in both cropland and pastures.

### Program also includes:

- Infiltration and Erosion Demonstrations by NRCS
- Producer Panel - hear the experiences of your local producers
  - Farm Service Agency with program updates
  - MU Extension will present test plot results

Registration (includes meal): Due by March 6. Please mail check, payable to Warren County SWCD, for 15\$ (per attendee) to Polly Sachs, Warren County SWCD, 635 West Booneslick Road Warrenton, MO 63383. Late or at the door registration will be 20\$. If you have questions, please call (636) 456-3434. For more information, you can also contact your local USDA Service Center.

Sponsored by  
The Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Farm Service Agency, and MU Extension of Montgomery, Warren, Gasconade, Osage, and Maries Counties.

Directions  
Located off I-70 in Montgomery County. Take Exit 179 and head North on MO-F. Continue straight onto Booneslick Road. High Hill Christian Assembly will be on the left.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER

### Gail Fuller Speaks About the Benefits of Cover Crops at Soil Health Workshop

By Debbie Niederer-SWCD

If you are interested in healthy soils, no-till, cover crops, commercial fertilizer reduction, and just generally keeping productive soil in place doing what it is intended for growing crops or grasses then plan to attend the Soil Health Workshop in March.

The Montgomery, Warren, Gasconade, Osage, and Maries Counties Soil and Water Conservation District's (SWCD) along with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the MO University Extension Service are teaming together to bring Gail Fuller from Emporia, Kansas to share his experiences with no-till and cover crops.

Gail is part of Fuller Farms which raises cattle, produces corn, soybeans, winter wheat, field peas, forage pea mix, sunflowers and a variety of other crops. He believes no-till counteracts erosion and uses cover crops to strengthen the health and integrity of the soil. He uses diverse seed mixes to increase the biodiversity of his farm and has 13 different plants in his cover crop mixes. Gail has cut his commercial fertilizer by 25% with cover crops.

Along with Gail, the Extension Service, FSA, and a panel of local producers will also share their cover crop and no-till experiences. NRCS will conduct the soil stability test and the rainfall simulator. Local vendors are also planned to be on hand to visit with.

Doors open at 1:30pm. Registration is \$15 before 3/6/14 and \$20 after and at the door. For more information or to register fill out the form to the left or contact Warren SWCD at 636.456.3434 x3 or Montgomery SWCD at 573.564.3715 x3.

If you are interested in being a vendor please contact Bob Ridgley at 573-564-3715 x3 or Diana Mayfield at 573-437-3478 x3.

## SOIL HEALTH WORKSHOP 3/11/14—REGISTRATION FORM

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Ph# \_\_\_\_\_

Your email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail Registration Form & \$15.00 Fee by 3/6/14 . After that date pay

\$20.00 for each person. Make check payable to:

**Warren County SWCD**

**635 W. Booneslick Rd.— Warrenton, MO 63383**

Contact Polly Sachs @ 636-456-3434, x3 for questions.

email polly.sachs@swcd.mo.gov

## Nutrient and Pest Management Sign-Up

**By Robert Ridgley, Montg. Co. SWCD-District Technician**

Those of you that are interested in Nutrient or Pest Management have until April 15, 2014 to sign up for state cost share to do one or both of these practices. These practices provide incentives to encourage the adoption and use of new techniques and technologies for applying manure, fertilizer or pesticides to cropland, hayfields, or pastureland. Contact an office in your county. They can help you and answer any questions you might have.

## 65th Annual Training Conference

**By Debbie Niederer, Warren Co SWCD-District Technician**

The Missouri Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (MASWCD) and employees was held December 16-18 at Tan-Tar-A in Osage Beach. *Share the Vision* was the theme that drew SWCD Supervisors and employees, NRCS, Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC), and MO University Extension Staff from all over the state.

Kenny Lovelace, MASWCD President welcomed the group and introduced the Keynote Speaker Kirk Hanlin, NRCS Associate Chief. This year the conference focused on sending a strong message that the Missouri Conservation program funded by the 1/10 of a percent sales tax is supported by all conservation partners.

This year's workshop topics ranged from Education and Outreach for Districts, Soil Health, Our Missouri Waters, Stream Dynamics, Plan for the Future, Nutrient Tracking Tool, Liability Insurance Updates, Personnel Policies, Terrace Tool, and a Sunshine Law Update. Conference attendees also visited with vendors Monday and Tuesday at the conference while enjoying a silent auction and raffle. A conservation partner forum which brought together representatives from the different partners for a question and answer session was well attended. Many ideas and much information was exchanged that will hopefully continue to aid the great work of the Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

## Pond Management Workshop 3/6/14

**By Jamie Barton, MDC**

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 Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) will be hosting a Pond Management Workshop on Thursday, March 6, 2014 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.

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.

## Prescribed Burn Workshop

**By Jamie Barton-MDC**

Do you have questions about prescribed fire or improving wildlife habitat on your property? If so, this workshop is for you. The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) will be hosting a Prescribed Fire Workshop on Saturday, March 1st, 2014 from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at no charge. The workshop will be held at the Whetstone Creek Conservation Area, near Williamsburg, MO.

The workshop will cover a wide variety of topics including, proper methods and techniques used for implementing control burns, burn equipment availability and developing burn plans. Professionals from MDC will give presentations and will be available to answer questions. There will also be some very useful literature and brochures on wildlife management 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 by February 27th, at (573) 564-3715, Ext. 3.

## Reckamp Farm Tour-Overall Essay Winner

**Abbie Guinn, Mrs. Corder's Class**

On October 16, 2013 which is a Wednesday our class went to Reckamp Farms for a field trip. When we were there, we visited trees and wildlife, soils and terraces, healthy food, farm safety, stream table, electricity, hog feed and babies, and beekeeper.

When we were at trees and wildlife, I learned that you can tell the age of the trees by the number of rings in the trunk. Also I learned that you can tell the different trees by their shape of the leaves, and by the seeds they produce. We also learned that wildlife can be determined by the shape of the animal's skull. Animals with fangs are usually meat eaters (carnivores) because their fangs help them to tear the meat. There is also wildlife that eat plants (herbivores), and their teeth are flat.

While we were in soils and terraces area I learned that there are three types of soil (sand, humus, and clay). The sand will not hold water, clay is too thick and sheds water, and humus has the right nutrients and lets enough water in to feed the roots. There are three types of ground soil (top soils, subsoil, and bedrock). The crops we grow are best grown in topsoil. Terraces are ridges or humps in fields that keep the rain water from washing away the topsoil. At healthy food area we learned that most dairy products are healthy. Foods made from some animals are healthy such as bratwurst, hotdogs, sausage, mutton, and fowl. We were told that bratwurst is pig, and hamburger is cow and we also had those foods for lunch!

In farm safety we learned that when you get in a silo you always need a safety rope, and if you don't have a rope you need to try to stay to the side as much as you can and if in the middle you will sink in eleven or twelve seconds. It was interesting when we took a quiz the guy told us that his daughter was allergic to chocolate and if he put M&Ms in the Skittles bag and the Skittles in the M&Ms, would his daughter look in the M&Ms bag? No! Now I know that we need to put things in its original place.

Our visit to the stream table helped us understand how water can erode the land. The rushing water carried dirt from the bank and fields as well as small rocks and trash downstream. At the beginning of the stream there are large rocks to slow the stream. Electricity can be dangerous. You need to stay ten feet away from the circuit breaker box, and the power lines. When you're driving in your car and a power line falls, stay in the car and call 911 because the tires are insulators.

Last we went to the beekeeper. He told us about bees and their colonies. Each colony has its own queen bee and its worker bees. The worker bees build hives which they fill with honey which they get from flower pollen. The queen bee laid the eggs and that the only thing she does, and each colony has only one queen bee. When there are too many workers the beekeeper puts on a special suit and separates them and puts them in a new colony with another queen bee. Another job a beekeeper has to remove the hives that are filled with honey.

## FSA News...

*By Ryan Green, Warren and Priscilla Eggering, Montgomery*

**Farm Service Agency (FSA)  
Offers Low Interest Loans**



### Marketing Assistance Loans

Producers can borrow money through FSA's Marketing Assistance Loans (MAL) Program using their stored grain as collateral. The grain can either be stored on the farm in an eligible structure or in a government approved warehouse facility. The term of the loan is nine months and is offered at low interest rates (January is 1.125%). This marketing tool is a great way to utilize some working capital while you wait for local prices to rise, pay off higher interest notes with low interest money or purchase next year inputs. Contact your local FSA office for more details.

### Farm Storage Facility Loans

FSA's Farm Storage Facility Loan (FSFL) Program allows producers to obtain low-interest financing to build or upgrade farm storage and handling facilities such as grain bins, hay barns, etc. FSFL program participants may receive a loan for up to 85 percent of the net cost on eligible expenses. Loan terms of 7, 10 or 12 years are offered depending on the amount of the loan and the January interest rates are 2.250%, 2.875% and 3.0% respectively. For additional information, contact your local FSA office.

## Montgomery USDA Open House



# Open House



at the Montgomery County  
USDA Service Center

COME HELP US CELEBRATE

## National Ag Day

Tuesday - March 25<sup>th</sup> 2014

11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

1013 S. Sturgeon, Montgomery City, MO

Food Served from 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."



April 1st & 2nd, 2014

Warren County,  
MO 63383

For more information please  
contact 636.456.3434 x3 or  
573.564.3715 x3



Priscilla Eggering, CED for Montgomery County FSA on December 19th presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Alfred Bader who has served on the Montgomery County FSA Committee for 9 years. Committee persons can serve 3 continuous terms of 3 years. The office and producers appreciate Alfred's commitment to serving the county.

### Warren County Farm Tour Essay Winners

(Right) Essay Winners from Warrior Ridge Elementary that attended the Puetz Farm Tour September 26-27, 2013



(Above) Essay Winners from Rebecca Boone Elementary that attended the Puetz Farm Tour September 26-27, 2013



(Above) Essay Winners from Daniel Boone Elementary that attended the Puetz Farm Tour September 26-27, 2013



(Above) Essay Winners from Wright City Elementary that attended the Reckamp Farm Tour October 16, 2013

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## Warren Open House—Board Supervisor Election!

### Warren County USDA Service Center



to Host  
Open House

Thursday, March 27th  
11am-2pm

635 W. Booneslick Rd.

USDA Service Center in Warrenton



Please take this opportunity to visit and meet with staff about the many programs available through the service center.

There will also be a board supervisor election for the soil and water district from 9am to 3pm.

Landowners and operators are invited as well as those who work in the community.

Come and see what we have to offer!

Warren County SWCD is celebrating 50 years of soil and water conservation in the county and invite you to come by and visit—

Pork Loin and sides will be served

The NACD Poster Contest Theme this year for 4th Grade Students in Warren County is "Dig Deeper—Mysteries in the Soil?"

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Farm Service Agency



By: **Debbie Niederer, District Technician**

The Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District will hold two supervisor elections this year at their Open House scheduled for Thursday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014. The District is also celebrating its 50 years as an SWCD District. The SWCD board of supervisors is composed of five members. One representative is chosen from each of the four territories in the county. The fifth representative is an appointed member from the University of MO Extension. The board of supervisors manages the operations of the Soil and Water Conservation District. The duties of the board members include administering district funds received from the 1/10 of a percent soils and parks and sales tax, sponsoring informational meetings and tours for landowners and educational programs for youth in the county. They also supervise a machine rental program.

The board positions are voluntary with 4-year terms. To qualify for a position you must be a legal land representative, a resident taxpaying citizen of the county and must reside in or own a farm lying within the territory they represent. The election process starts early with a nominating committee meeting. Landowners from each of the areas are asked to contact qualified landowners to possibly run for the SWCD board. Landowners accepting nomination will have their names placed on the ballot along with the incumbent running. Terms for the Camp Branch/Elkhorn Township, Area I (currently Richard Eggering), and Area III Charrette Township (currently Ralph Glosemeyer) will be on the ballot. Richard decided not to run for the board again. Lynn Bade and Jacob Hans have agreed to run for the vacant Camp Branch/Elkhorn Township supervisor position.

Lynn and his wife Kathy live just west of Warrenton. Lynn farms with his brother Larry as part of Bade Farms. They farm approximately 2000 acres of row crops. Lynn also serves on the Service & Supply Coop Board in Bellflower. Lynn decided to run as he is curious how the soil and water district operates and to try to make a difference in conservation in the County.

Jacob Hans lives off of Key Road near Jonesburg. After graduating from MU farms with his father Roger and does interior house painting. Together they farm approximately 2300 acres of crop ground and have cattle. He also serves on the St. John's UCCC council in High Hill. Jacob agreed to run as he would like to get more involved in the county's agriculture area.

In Charrette Township, Ralph Glosemeyer and Scott Jacob are the candidates. Ralph has been a member of the SWCD Board for the past 16 years and served as chairman since 2002. Ralph and his wife Vikki live in Concord Hill. Ralph rents out his row crops acres, has hay ground, custom bales, contract finishes 4000 hogs yearly, keeps 30-40 cattle and sells feeder calves. Ralph also serves on the St. Ignatius Church Fin. Comm. and cemetery board. He sits on the State Technical Review Comm. and the Plan for the Future Comm. with the state Soil and Water Cons. Program. Ralph has served as a past president of Farm Bureau. Ralph has a great understanding of the county's agricultural area and is a very active member of the board attending numerous meetings, workshops, and hosting a farm tour for the local 4<sup>th</sup> grade students.

Scott Jacob lives near Marthasville where he farms with his father Al. Together they operate approximately 650 acres of row crop and have 50 head of cattle. Scott also works off the farm as an operating engineer. Scott feels representing the county on the SWCD board will be a good experience and will help him understand the government programs.

Votes may be cast for the election by landowners and legal representatives of the county at the USDA Service Center, 635 West Booneslick Rd, Warrenton between the hours of 9am and 3pm on March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

### Puetz Farm Tour Essay Winner—Day 2

Kiersten Anderson, Miss Huitt's Class, Rebecca Boone Elementary

*What I Learned on the Conservation Farm Tour*

Electricity goes around the world seven times before you finish saying "Go Cardinals!" I also learned about Farm Safety and Soils & Terraces.

For Electricity I learned that you need to stay ten feet away from power lines. Electricity is invisible and takes the quickest route to the ground. Electricity travels 180,000 miles in one second. If you run into a power line pole and power line falls and touches your car, stay in because electricity's one job is to get to the ground. So don't touch the ground and the car at the same time.

I learned at the Farm Safety station that you should always wear a safety rope when entering a silo. Always have a buddy with you. Always be careful around a silo. There are parts that can cut you. You can die if you don't wear a safety rope in a silo. That's what I learned at Farm Safety.

This is what I learned at Soils & Terraces. One kind of soil is Mexico. It is the soil you plant crops on. It works better than a lot of other soils. Terraces help stop erosion. To make soil you need silt, and clay. That is what I learned at Soils & Terraces.

### Puetz Farm Tour Essay Winner—Day 1

Abigail Blanchard, Mrs. Swoboda's Class, Daniel Boone Elementary

*What I Learned on the Conservation Farm Tour*

The Puetz Farm Tour was really fun! But there was a lot of walking. But it was still really fun! My favorite station was the Fishing station. But it would be better if I caught a fish. My second favorite station was Soils and Terraces it was really cool. There are many sizes of fish.

There are also many types of fish too. It is really fun fishing at Puetz Farm Tour but the pole got tangled a lot. The bobber hit the back of my head, well that's because I am bad at fishing. But fishing was still fun. I didn't catch any fish.

When we were at Soils and Terraces we got to eat soy beans which were surprisingly good. We looked through a video camera to see which number we could see best on a level. We got a lot of seeds and we got to take them home with us. But only some people took them home.

Did you know electricity goes the speed of light? I learned that from the Puetz Farm Tour too. The Electricity Station was cool. This guy showed us what to do if the electricity line falls down on the ground or on a car. Also, how the electricity gets to our houses. It goes through the ground. Now that was one of the coolest field trips I have ever gone on! There were a lot more stations than this though. There were like 20 stations in all though! - THE END!

## **New Manager at MFA Rhineland/Hermann**

*Gary Heldt pictured with new manager, Gregg Lamb.*

**Want Wildlife?**