

Agriculture



Tomorrow



October 2010

Published by MONTGOMERY AND WARREN COUNTY SWCD's



Upcoming Events:

- November 11— Offices Closed for Veterans Day
- November 25— Offices Closed for Thanksgiving Day
- December 24— Offices Closed for Christmas Day
- December 31— Offices Closed for New Year's Day

2010 North East Grassland Evaluation Contest

Ann Whitehead Montgomery SWCD

The 19th Annual NE Regional Grassland Evaluation Contest was held in the Montgomery County area on October 7th 2010. This contest is held for High School Vo-Ag students through the cooperative effort of Soil and Water Conservations Districts, Missouri Department of Conservation, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and University Extension. The purpose of this



Above—Dee Vanderburg, NRCS gives instructions before the contest at the farm

contest is to provide educational training to students in grassland management.

The students have twenty five minutes to complete a score sheet in each area: Grassland Condition, Wildlife Habitat, Soil Interpretation, and Plant Identification.

We had five schools to participate this year. The four top scoring teams will get to participate at the State Grassland Evaluation Contest on October 28th at Ashland.

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Above—3rd place team was North Shelby.

**Warren County
Soil & Water
Conservation**

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



**Montgomery
County
Soil & Water**

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

SARE Call for Farmer/Rancher Grant Proposals:

Janet Hurst
Lincoln County Extension

The North Central Region Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (NCR-SARE) Program has issued the call for proposals for 2011 for Farmer/ Rancher grants. The closing date for this opportunity is December 2, 2010.

SARE's Vision is an enduring American agriculture of the highest quality. This agriculture is profitable, protects the nation's land and water and is a force for a rewarding way of life for farmers and ranchers whose quality products and operations sustain their communities and society. **SARE's Mission** is to advance – to the whole of American agriculture – innovations that improve profitability, stewardship and quality of life by investing in groundbreaking research and education.

Perhaps you have an idea you have been considering for your farm. There is no time like the present to put your thoughts on paper and submit your idea! Farmers/Ranchers may apply for grants up to \$6,000 as an individual or up to \$18,000 for group of 3 or more.

Youth & Youth Educator Sustainable Agriculture grants are also open for application at this time. Youth, ages 8-18, and youth educators may apply. Proposals are due January 14, 2011. If you know of an enterprising young person with an interest in agriculture, this is a good opportunity to obtain funding for viable projects. Youth grants are available up to \$400 and youth educator grants up to \$2000.

SARE has funded 127 grant projects in Missouri since 1988. For more information please view www.sare.org/ncrsare/prod.htm or contact a Farm Outreach Worker from Lincoln University. Contact David Price, in Lincoln and St. Charles counties, 636-338-1418 priced@lincolnu.edu or Janet Hurst in Franklin and Warren Counties, 660-216-1749 hurstj@lincolnu.edu David and Janet will be happy to assist you with additional information.

Nominating Committee Wanted!

Brenda Van Booven
Montgomery SWCD
(573) 564-3715 ext. 105

The Montgomery County Soil and Water District is seeking candidates for nominating committee and landowners to run for two positions on the Board of Supervisors.

Each district board consists of five members. Four of the five are elected members. The fifth member, who serves as the official board secretary, is an ex-officio member appointed by the University of Missouri Extension.

Each elected member represents one of four territories. They serve four year terms and insure that local decision makers originate conservation programs to best address the soil and water resources in the district.

The nominating committee shall consist of three (3) land representatives residing in the same territory where the candidate is to be selected. The committee has the duty to nominate not less than two (2) qualified candidates.

The two territories up for election are:
Territory II – Upper Loutre and Montgomery Townships.
Territory IV – Prairie & North ½ of Bear Creek Townships

If you are interested in either running for an open position or being a member of the nominating committee, please stop by the Montgomery County Soil and Water Conservation District's office or call (573) 564-3715, extension 3.



To see what's happening in Missouri soil and water conservation districts, go to www.swcd.mo.gov and click on the county you are interested in.

WIA State Conference Sept. 13-15th

Brenda Van Booven Montgomery SWCD

Women from throughout Missouri who are involved in agriculture came together September 13-15, 2010 in Branson for the 16th Annual Missouri Women in Ag Conference (WIA). The conference theme was "Growing in Harmony" and included a tour of the College of the Ozarks, a higher-education environment in which student's couple curriculum with hands-on farm production, industry and managerial work experience.

Conference participants also had a choice of workshops covering a variety of topics, including: an overview of state and federal programs that provide technical and financial assistance; financial trust basics; awareness of Homeland Security issues associated with the agricultural community; farm-management skills; growing, preserving and using organic herbs; archery; and other optional networking sessions. Conference speakers provided insight for achieving independence and a healthier lifestyle.

"The Women in Ag Conference is a good opportunity for women to learn what's going on in other parts of the state relative to agriculture," says Amanda Cook, conference chair. "The program focused on the interests of women, especially in relation to agrobusiness and specialty types of agriculture."

Over 150 women had an excellent opportunity to network, reconnect and learn from one another. New friends were made among women with similar lives and concerns. The 2010 conference was by the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA's Farm Service Agency and Soil and Water Conservation Districts across Missouri.

Right—Those attending from Montgomery Co.: Brenda Van Booven—Rhineland, Luella Fischer—Truxton, and Beverly Bader—Big Spring.



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FSA Announces New Conservation Loan Program

Priscilla Eggering & Ryan Eddy, CEDs Montgomery/Warren Counties

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) is now making direct and guaranteed conservation loans to help farmers and ranchers implement conservation measures on their land. FSA's traditional loan program eligibility requirements regarding family sized farms, test for credit, and graduation do not apply to this program. These exceptions will allow FSA to provide access to conservation financing to more farmers. The direct conservation loan limit is \$300,000, the guaranteed conservation loan limit is \$1,112,000. Conservation loan applicants will work with Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) staff to develop a conservation plan. Conservation practices must be approved by NRCS before FSA can provide financing. Examples of eligible conservation practices include installation of conservation structures; establishment of forest cover; installation of water conservation measures; establishment or improvement of permanent pastures; transitioning to organic production; and manure management, including manure digestion systems. Contact your local FSA office for additional information.

Commodity Loans Are a Useful Tool to Manage Cash Flow

Ryan Eddy/Priscilla Eggering, FSA

Producers may need operating capital at harvest, but selling their grain at harvest is not part of their marketing plan. One of the tools that FSA provides is the Marketing Assistance Loan Program. Farmers can borrow money using their stored grain as collateral. The grain can either be stored on the farm or in a government approved warehouse facility. The term of the loan is nine months, and is offered at low interest rates. For example, the interest rate for any grain going under loan in October is 1.25%.

A commodity loan provides producers with interim financing at harvest time to meet cash flow needs without having to sell their grain at harvest. Contact your local FSA county office for details regarding the Marketing Assistance Loan Program.



Farmer and retired school teacher Marie Day of Chadwick, in southwest Christian Co., has been named

**Right—
Lafe
Schweiss-
guth-
Warren
SWCD,
teaches
students
about
safety
around
grain
and
grain
bins**



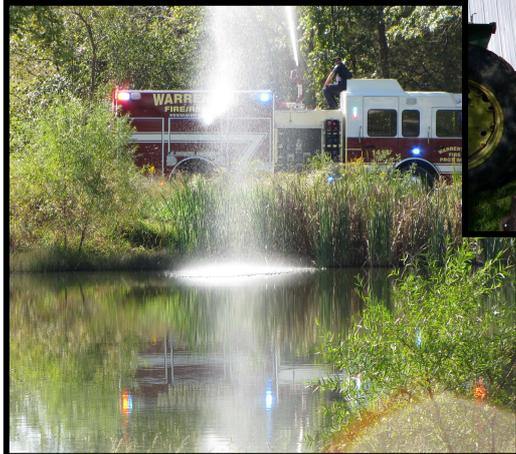
**FFA students
from War-
renton High
School
brought
goats, a tur-
key and a
calf for kids
to see.**



**Left—Judy
Stubblefield-FSA talks
to students about the
dangers of look-a-
likes.**

**Below—Kali Glosemeyer visits
the Animals Stop.**

**Below—The Warrenton
Fire Dept. demonstrates
dry hydrants for water to
fight fires.**



**Above—Brenda Van
Booven-Montgomery
SWCD points out the
various dangers
around small tractors
and lawn mowers. Be-
low—The Warrenton
Fire Dept. demon-
strates dry hydrants
for water to fight fires.**



**Below—The Fire Department
shows students the different
tools they use to fight fires
on their fire truck.**



**Above—Keith Mueller-
Central Electric Power Co-
operative, demonstrates
the dangers of electricity
at the Electricity Stop. Left—
Mike Cook, NRCS shows
students how a rock was
used as a tool to crack
nuts. They also learned
many uses for rocks at the
Rocks and Minerals Stop.**



Left—Bob Ridgley—Montgomery SWCD and Jordon Beshears—Montgomery NRCS teach students about the different types of soils at the Soils & Terraces Stop.

Below—Students take turns looking through a level.

Below—Chris Merritt—University Extension and Jane Eggering—FSA at the Healthy Foods



Below—Ed Luetwiler—MDC Volunteer lets students see and touch a milk snake at the Trees & Wildlife Stop.



Below—Pam Wilcox—MDC Volunteer shows a variety of furs to students of various animals that are native to Missouri.



Right—This student is demonstrating the "catch and release" method of fishing.

The Fishing Stop



Left—Jenny Glosemeyer—FSA assists a student with a tangled fishing line.



Above—Jeff Esely—MDC helps a student with her catch!



Another Day at the Farm...

**Lafe Schweissguth, District Technician
Warren SWCD**

The fourth graders of Rebecca Boone had a very exciting and educational field trip to Puetz Farm Tour which was hosted by Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District and the Puetz Family. This year the Farm Service Agency (FSA) in Warren County also assisted the district in funding the tour. There were nine different stops that the kids got to go on to learn about important parts of farming and everything that is involved. This two day field trip covered some very important topics including, Farm Safety, Electricity, Fire Department, Healthy Foods, Fishing, Wildlife, Soils and Terraces, Animals, and Rocks.

The kids were bussed out to Puetz Farm and separated into groups. Every kid gets to go to every stop so for instance; the bus arrives, and the first stop a group might go to is the Animals Stop. This stop was represented by the Warren County FFA (Chip Branson, Ariella Morrow, Candice Bandy, and Kristen Toedebusch), they brought a bottle calf, a turkey, and some goats. The FFA volunteers would talk with the kids about the importance of livestock and where our food comes from. The next stop would be Fire Department, The kids were able to look at a fire truck and have some of Warren County's Fire Protection's finest show them parts of the trucks. They would also tell them about fire safety on a farm and having smoke alarms checked. The next stop after that would be Farm Safety, this stop was worked by Soil and Water Conservation Districts and FSA. This stop talked about the importance of keeping chemicals in their original container, grain bin safety, the evolution of tractor safety, and warnings on farm machinery and 4-wheelers. The next stop would then be Electricity. Electricity was sponsored by Central Electric Co-op, and at this stop they cover the importance of respecting electricity, staying away from downed power lines, and how important electricity is to farmers. Rocks and Minerals stop was showing kids how important rocks are. Not to mention everything we use come from rocks and minerals such as glass, cars and chainsaws, for example.

The back part of the farm had stops that a lot of the kids really looked forward too. The Fishing Stop is always a big hit with all the kids. Everyone gets a chance to fish, even though not everyone catches one they still have a chance. MDC does a stop about wildlife which a lot of the kids really seem to enjoy, they bring in different animal pelts and talk about the importance animals have to our environment and the way we are able to do things. The last stop was Healthy Foods which was put on by University of Missouri Extension and Soil and Terraces which were combined this year. The Healthy Foods section shows the kids where their food comes from, what foods are good for them. The Soils and Terraces section talks about what Soil and Water Conservation Districts and NRCS do to help farmers keep their soils and nutrients on their farm property. The SWCD can build terraces, dry structures, waterways and water control structures. The kids learned how long it takes to make one inch of top soil, and many other facts about soils. We want to thank everyone that helped, and all the kids for learning a lot and being on their best behavior. A special thanks to Karl Puetz and Gary Puetz and the Warren County Pork Association for all their hard work in helping make the tours possible!

Advanced Grazing School

**Robert Ridgley
District Technician
Montgomery SWCD**

On August 17&18 the Montgomery and Warren County offices sponsored an advanced grazing school, held at the Montgomery City Library.

The 26 participants were welcomed each evening with a delicious meal and then speakers covering topics that included: a refresher on Management Intensive Grazing, Advanced Soil Health, Advanced Fertility Management, Feeding Options and Nutrition for Body Scoring and Rebreeding, Matching Forages to Livestock and Alternative Forages for Winter.

Kenny Suter, a livestock producer from Northeast Missouri, spoke the last evening about the innovative ideas that he uses in his operation.



Loutre Valley Chapter of Quail & Upland Wildlife Federation Holds

On Saturday, October 2nd the Loutre Valley Chapter of QUWF administered their first wildlife banquet. Over 260 people attended the fundraiser for wildlife habitat management. Banquet attendees played games and raffles, shared hunting & fishing experiences, participated in live & silent auctions and shared a good meal. Some of the items raffled or auctioned include: an ATV sprayer, chainsaw, leaf blower, several ladies items, a lifetime hunting permit, several guns, 1/2 beef and many other outdoor items. The event was held in the Merchants Building at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds. Quail & Upland Wildlife Federation is an organization dedicated to improving wildlife habitat for all species. The organization is headquartered in Buffalo, MO. Wildlife enthusiasts can contact Jamie Barton at (573) 564-3715, ext.110 about next years banquet.



FY11 Cost-Share Season Underway...

Brenda Van Booven
District Manager
Montgomery County SWCD

The **Cost-Share Program** is a state funded program which provides financial incentives to landowners for installing erosion reduction practices. This funding comes from the 1/10th of 1% Parks and Soils Sales tax.

Cost-share sign-ups, 187 Montgomery County landowners have applied for FY11 cost-share assistance. Montgomery County's FY11 allocation includes \$216,690.30 for the traditional Sheet and Rill & Gully Erosion resource concern as well as \$33,000.00 for Nutrient Management, \$151.50 for Pest Management, \$5,100.00 Grazing Management, \$3,300 Woodland Erosion and \$11,341.76 for Sensitive Areas.

Montgomery County offers landowners 75% Cost-share up to \$11,000 per landowner per year. If you are interested in doing and conservation work please call the office (573)564-3715 ext. 3.

NRCS Program Application Deadlines for FY2011 Funds are:

November 19

- Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)
- Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP)

November 30

- Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP)
- Grassland Reserve Program (GRP)

GROW YOUR FARM course helps landowners plan new farm enterprises

Contact Person:
Shelley Rowe,
County Program Director
University of Missouri Extension
107 W. Walton
Warrenton, MO 63383, Phone 636-456-3444



Warrenton, MO—A new educational program will help landowners who want to get into farming for the first time as well as current farmers who are interested in starting new enterprises.

Grow Your Farm, a program offered by University of Missouri Extension and Lincoln University, will connect people considering a farm career with successful farm operators and business experts, says Shelley Rowe, MU Extension county program director.

The curriculum includes eight group sessions, with two additional farm tours and activities. The course will be offered this winter at the Warren County Extension Center in Warrenton, where classes begin February 1, 2011, from 6:30pm to 9:30pm and continue into March.

Most sessions will focus on business planning and the process of selecting enterprises that can be profitable, based on an individual's skills and resources. Planning is a big part of the program. "Along with an instructor, most classes will have actual farmer presenters, people who have been successful at the enterprises they will discuss with the class," says Debi Kelly, Missouri Alternatives Center project manager on the MU campus, the curriculum's coordinating author.

"With the continued growth of people moving into rural fringe areas around major cities, extension receive more questions from people who want to make a living, or at least create a profitable business, on their acreage," Kelly says. "*Grow Your Farm* is designed to answer those questions and help them start successful enterprises. It should also be valuable for producers looking for new ideas to make their existing farms more successful."

Class sizes are limited to 20 farms, with two decision makers from each farm encouraged to participate. "Farming takes a lot of work and family commitment," says Janet Hurst, Lincoln Univ. Farm Outreach Worker and one of the organizers of the local program. "Participants are likely to be more successful if both spouses, or a parent and an adult child who will be involved in the operation, are both part of the learning process."

A fee of \$225 per operation (for two participants) includes courses and one set of materials. For each additional person, there is a small extra charge. Fees include the cost of a course notebook and additional textbook, copies of the set of *Grow Your Farm* PowerPoint presentations, group sessions with guest speakers, farm tours and refreshments. To register, contact the Warren County Extension Center at 636-456-3444, or e-mail bushs@missouri.edu.

For more information, browse the *Grow Your Farm* Web site at extension.missouri.edu/growyourfarm. Up-to-date locations and schedules for courses will be posted.

A big "Thanks" to the Warren County Pork Association for all their help with the District's farm tours



Pictured above are (front row) Marvin & Ellen Engelage, Erma Fischer, (back row) Hubie Kluesner, and Vikki Glosemeyer. Not pictured is Becky Gibson.

Each year this group of volunteers cook a meal for all the 4th grade students that attend one of the Districts farm tours either at Puetz Farm-Warrenton, Reckamps Farm-Wright City, or the Glosemeyers Farm-Marthasville. They do this free of charge and it is very much appreciated by all who attend. Many students have never had a bratwurst or a pork burger so here at the farm tours it's just another opportunity to learn something new!

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY SWCD
Board of Supervisors**

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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

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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 & Jeff Esely, Private Land Conservationists
Josh Stevens & Jeff Bakameyer, MDC Forestry
Scott Voney & Sarah Peper-MDC Fisheries Biologists
Matt Spurgeon & Jim Kuenzle-MDC Wildlife Conservationists

Warren Rental Rates

(Montgomery Co. landowners charged same rates)

Warren SWCD Office 636-456-3434, x3

7' Great Plains No-Till Drill w/Native Grass Box
\$8 acre

Vermeer Mulcher \$50 per day/1st hr free •
\$25/each additional hour

Warm Season Grass Burn Equipment—\$10 per day

Root Plow—\$7 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, 636-932-4035

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

Available through Ralph Glosemeyer, 636-932-4897

7' Great Plains No-Till Drill w/ Native Grass Box
\$8 acre

\$25.00 minimum charge on all drills

Additional rental rates charged for out-of-county landowners

Montgomery Rental Rates

(Warren Co. landowners charged the same rates)

Montgomery SWCD Office 573-564-3715, x3

7' Great Plains No-Till Drill with Native Grass Box
\$7 acre

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

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—REE

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 Mike Grosse, 573-252-4216

Aerway Pasture Renovator—10' Pull-Type Model
\$125/day

Landpride Power Ditcher—\$70/1st day •
\$50 each additional day

**Available through Darrell Reinhardt,
573-486-2469**

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

Additional rental rates for out-of-county landowners