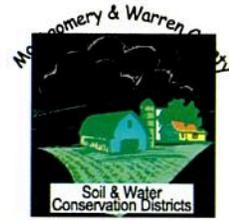


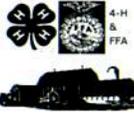
# Agriculture



Working together to conserve our natural resources!



UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI  
**Extension**



# Tomorrow

OCTOBER 2015

Published by MONTGOMERY AND WARREN COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS



### Upcoming Events:

- 11/5/15—Cover Crop Workshop in Lincoln County
- 11/10/15—Women's Soil Health Meeting @ Lions Building in Montgomery City
- 11/11/15—Offices Closed
- 11/26/15—Offices Closed
- 4/5-6/16 Grazing School held at the Warren Co. Extension

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New Technician in Montgomery County Conservation Compliance	
Grazing School to be held in Warren County	

## Women's Ag Awareness Meeting at Pea Ridge Tree Farm



**By Polly Sachs  
District Clerk, SWCD**

On Tuesday, October 6th approximately 35 gals and guys with the Women's Ag Awareness group ventured out to Pea Ridge Tree Farm near Hermann, MO. Pea Ridge is a family business that is well known for selling Christmas trees but also has a large variety of nursery stock available to the public. Mike Rood was our host and guest speaker, Mike's father, LeRoy, bought Pea Ridge in 1972. And with a lot of hard work it has now grown into a beautiful tree farm where they grow several varieties of trees. The Rood family took the group on a wagon tour of the farm where Mike and his daughter, Jessica, discussed the many different types of trees they have. Along with row-crop farmers, they also have had many problems such as the drought a couple years back and the excessive rain this spring and summer. Mike also discussed their Christmas tree operation and what types of trees do best in our climate. A meal was prepared by the Roods, pies were supplied by Sugar Mommas of Hermann and Lost Creek Winery had samples upon request. Afterwards Tammy Teeter-NRCS and Priscilla Eggering-FSA discussed programs available through the offices. If you would like to be added to the mailing list to attend a WAA meeting in the spring or fall, contact the office at 573-564-3715, x3.



**Warren County  
Soil & Water  
Conservation  
District**

635 W. Booneslick  
Warrenton, MO 63383  
Phone 636-456-3434, Ext. 3  
NRCS Fax 1-855-846-9249



**Montgomery County  
Soil & Water  
Conservation  
District**

1013 S. Sturgeon  
Montgomery City, MO 63361  
Phone 573-564-3715, Ext. 3  
NRCS Fax 1-855-846-9249

10/06/2015 17:07

**Opportunities for Native Warm Season Grass Grazing Cost-Share**

**By Ryan Diener  
Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist**

There was a lot of interest last spring in the new Regional Conservation Partnership Program for Grasslands here in East-central Missouri. I was happy to see interest in a program that would help diversify and improve summer forages for producers in our area while providing improved wildlife habitat at the same time. Sadly, none of the applications in our counties got funded the first round of this program. The next sign-up is here, and folks can apply for this program again at their local NRCS office by Nov 20th. This program is unique in that it provides an extra incentive payment on top of the normal EQIP cost-share for planting native grasses for hay or pasture. The incentive of \$30/ac for the first two years of establishment is a nice bonus to help while the fields mature enough to be able to handle harvests. There are other programs available to help with converting to native grass pasture or hay as well.

While RCPP-Grasslands offered an incentive payment, it is a very competitive program that is weighted more towards the Northwest and Southwest areas of the state. This year, we can also do forage and hay plantings of native grasses and forbs through regular EQIP in the Wildlife fund pool. This fund pool was not fully utilized last year, and applicants stand a very good chance of getting funded if they choose to apply through this program. The cost-share for the planting of native grasses, fence, waterlines, and tanks is the same as through the Grazing fund pool, but will be much less competitive. On average, the cost-share for the plantings comes out to more than the cost of the seed for the plantings as well.

The new Grasslands-CRP program is another option. This program will pay an annual rental fee to landowners that will graze the acres following a grazing plan. This program through FSA will not pay for conversions from cool-season to native warm season grasses, but we can use MDC and Quail Forever funds to pay for these seedings. After the seeding, FSA would provide the annual CRP payments for those acres.

Two other options include using MDC/Quail Forever cost-share and getting cost share through the US Fish and Wildlife Partners Program. These two programs can provide cost-share for the conversions to native grasses and forbs. These programs also include a very simple prescribed grazing plan based on residual height to ensure the quality of the stand remains intact for the lifespan of the practice. If you are interested in exploring any of these options, please contact Ryan Diener, Quail Forever Biologist, at 636-399-8733 or rdiener@quailforever.org for more information.

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**EQIP Applications Being Accepted**

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) was reauthorized in the Agricultural Act of 2014. EQIP provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers in order to address natural resource concerns and deliver environmental benefits such as improved water and air quality, conserved ground and surface water, reduced soil erosion and sedimentation or improved wildlife habitat. Applicants must:

- Control or own eligible land
- Comply with adjusted gross income limitation (AGI) provisions
- Be in compliance with the highly erodible land and wetland conservation requirements
- Develop an NRCS EQIP plan of operations (conservation plan)

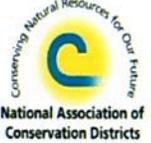
Interested parties may apply for EQIP at their local NRCS office. EQIP applications are accepted year round; however, NRCS establishes application "cut-off" dates for evaluation and ranking of eligible applications. NRCS personnel will assist each applicant to complete their application in each applicable fund pool. The cut-off date is November 20, 2015.

As part of contract implementation, the Participant must...

- have control of the land for the duration of the Contract
- obtain the authorities, permits, easements, or other approvals necessary for the implementation, operation, and maintenance of the conservation practices and activities.
- not start any financially assisted practice or activity or engage the reimbursable services of a certified Technical Service Provider (TSP) before a contract is executed, unless a waiver is approved by NRCS.
- start a financially assisted practice or activity within the first 12 months from the date of the start of a contract.

**The 2016 NACD  
Stewardship and  
Education Committee's  
educational and poster  
contest theme is:**

**"We All Need Trees"**





**NRCS Conservation**

**Reasons to Use Conservation Client Gateway**

How Conservation Client Gateway can assist your conservation efforts

- 1 REQUEST TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
- 2 APPLY FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
- 3 REVIEW, SIGN AND SUBMIT APPLICATIONS AND CONTRACTS
- 4 TRACK YOUR PAYMENTS

**What is the NRCS Conservation Client Gateway (CCG)?**  
CCG is a secure online portal that lets individual landowners and land managers track their payments, request assistance, sign documents and request conservation assistance anytime, anywhere. CCG provides users the flexibility to determine when they want to engage with NRCS online and when they prefer in-person conservation planning assistance.  
<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/cgate/>

# Puetz Farm Tour—September 29 & 30th

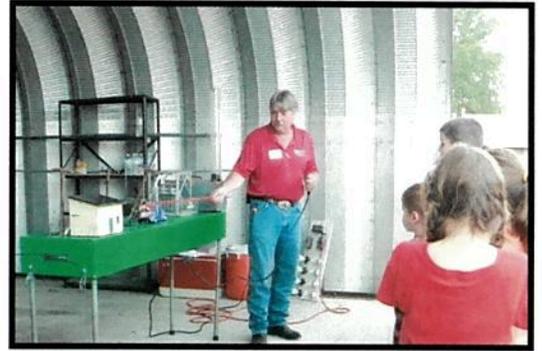
**By Polly Sachs  
Warren SWCD**

No rain delays for Puetz Farm Tour this year! We were able to have the two-day tour for three public schools located in Warrenton on the first try! There were 12 classes of 4th graders from Daniel Boone Elementary, Warrior Ridge Elementary, and Rebecca Boone Elementary that cam out to the Puetz Farm to learn about natural resources. This is the 17th year for the farm tour.

Students were able to learn about a variety of subjects regarding conservation and safety throughout the day at stops such as Fishing & Water Quality, Trees & Wildlife, Soils & Terraces, Farm Animals, Fire Department, Farm Safety, Electricity and Healthy Foods.

A huge thanks to the Puetz Family for allowing us to use their farm for the tour and the workers, volunteers, and Warren County Pork Association for preparing lunch for everyone who attended!

**Right--Keith Mueller-Central Electric Power Coop, teaches students about the dangers around electricity.**



**Left--Lafe Schweissguth-MDC & Dolores Owenby-volunteer giving a test on Look-A-Likes at the Farm Safety Stop. Below--Lafe Schweissguth demonstrating safety around farm equipment / lawn mowers.**



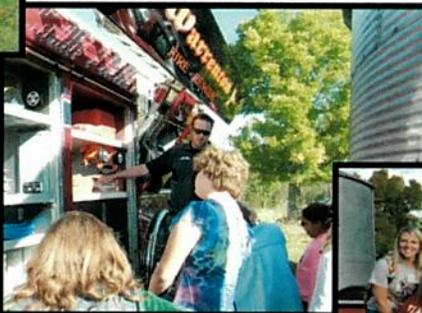
**Left & Below--Warrenton FFA Students along with their instructor, Diane Miederhoff taught students about care of farm animals and what food we eat from animals.**



**Below/Right--The Warrenton Fire Department demonstrates how they clean dry hydrants that are used in rural locations for water sources for the FD. Also they show students the equipment used to fight fires.**



**Above--Chris Merritt -Warren Co. Extension Office shows students a variety of healthy foods and the quantities of each we should consume.**



**Left & Right--Hayrides were provided to the back of the farm to the fishing, trees, and soils stops.**



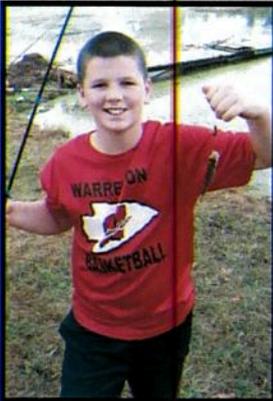
# Puetz Farm Tour



**Left--**Fishing & Water Quality Stop. Ben Avis-Volunteer, and Debbie Niederer-SWCD discuss water quality and show students how to cast a fishing pole.



**Above--**Abby Andrews-FSA assists a student with her tangled fishing line at the Fishing



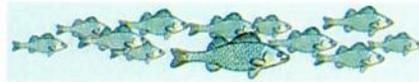
**Above--**These students were the lucky ones that caught fish at the tour!



**Above--**Thanks to the Warren County Pork Association for preparing and serving food to all the students, helpers, parents and teachers for the two-day tour! Pictured are (back row) Paul Fischer, Hubie Kluesner, Tom Kopmann, (front row) Erma Fischer, Alice Kluesner & Vikki Glosemeyer).



**Above--**Gary Noel-NRCS shows students the different layers of the soil and let them feel the difference in the soils.



**Left--**Jeff Bakameyer-MDC shows students a variety of furs to identify and the many different types of trees that grow native here in Missouri.



**Right--**  
**The Puetz Family again did a great job getting ready for the tour this year.** Pictured are some of the Puetz Family and helpers from the tour....(back row) Eugene Lewis-NRCS, Jeff Bakameyer-MDC, Alan Sachs-MDC, (front row) Mary Ann Puetz-host, Ralph Glosemeyer-SWCD board member, Jim Amrein-host, Audrey & Dennis Puetz-hosts and Debbie Niederer-SWCD. Not pictured is Karl Puetz who did a great deal of work to prepare but was unable to attend—thank you Karl!



## United States Department of Agriculture

Dear Lady Landowners of Montgomery, Warren, Lincoln and Pike Counties—

Women who own or manage farmland in Montgomery and surrounding counties are invited to participate in a free conservation discussion focused on soil health on Tuesday, Nov 10th at the Montgomery City Lions Club Building at 1120 Farnen Rd., Montgomery City, MO 63361. The program, sponsored by Women, Food and Agriculture Network, the Missouri Department of Natural Resources Soil and Water Conservation Program, and is called Women Caring for the LandSM.

Registration, coffee and resource sharing will begin at 8:30 a.m. Lunch will be provided, and during an afternoon field tour participants will travel to a nearby farm to watch a demonstration of soil testing. The tests will measure for soil structure, stability, and infiltration. We will walk a short distance into a field, so please wear or bring appropriate clothing and footwear. We will return to the Lion's Building for dessert and wrap-up, and end the meeting by 3 p.m.

Maintaining healthy soil is the key to productivity and environmental health for our farmland. Women landowners who attend this meeting will learn to assess and improve the health of their soils through cover crops, no-till and strip-till, and other conservation practices.

Nearly half the farmland in Missouri is currently owned or coowned by women. Women Caring for the LandSM offers a peer-to-peer, informal discussion format to allow women landowners to talk about their individual farm management goals, facilitated by women conservationists. This response from one recent attendee is typical of our landowners' experiences: "This has given me some understanding of what my husband talks about. I came to this meeting with no understanding – I am excited about the projects possible to protect the Iowa soil and feel this meeting has helped me in beginning to learn about farming."

In order for us to have the right amount of food available, please RSVP by 4 p.m. Friday, November 6th to Polly at (636)456-3434, ext 3 or email polly.sachs@swcd.mo.gov. For more information about this program, visit [www.womencaaringfortheland.org](http://www.womencaaringfortheland.org) or call Carol at 641-430-2540. If you have a female friend or family member who you think would benefit from this gathering, please have her call and register too!

This program is made possible with funding from the Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program. If you will need physical accommodations for this event, please let Polly know at 636-456-3434.

Sincerely,

Tammy Teeter  
District Conservationist for Lincoln, Montgomery, Pike, Warren

Natural Resources Conservation Service  
1013 South Sturgeon Montgomery City, MO 63361  
(573) 564-3715 ext 3  
An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

## Conservation Compliance

Are you in conservation compliance? Farmers with HEL determined soils are reminded that they must follow their conservation plan requirements which include tillage, crop residue and crop rotation.

You need to notify us prior to conducting land clearing or drainage projects to insure compliance. Failure to obtain advance approval for any of these situations can result in the loss of eligibility and all federal payments which include new crop insurance indemnities.

## New SWCD Technician in Montgomery County



Hi everybody! My name is Jacqueline Sexton, and I'm the new Montgomery County SWCD technician. My old and new stomping ground has been Montgomery City for 28 years now. I have 2 kiddos, my daughter Austyn 7 years old and my son Riley 5 years old. I currently reside about 15 miles outside of Montgomery city on our family farm. After working hours I enjoy refurbishing and painting old furniture and making things out of horseshoes. I also love taking my kiddos on hay rides and 4-wheeler rides around the farm and through the woods. I'm excited to be part of the SWCD team to meet and help land owners and operators with the practices we offer to achieve their farming goals.

The Montgomery USDA office welcomes Jackie Sexton—Montgomery SWCD Technician





**GRAZING SCHOOL TO BE HELD IN WARREN COUNTY  
APRIL 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>**

Are you interested in increasing the plant diversity and quality of your pasture, and possibly increasing the number of cows per acre that you can graze?

Rotational grazing could be the answer that you have been looking for! The Montgomery and Warren County SWCD's and NRCS in cooperation with University of Missouri Extension are holding grazing school Tuesday and Wednesday, April 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> at the Warren County Extension Center, 107 W. Walton St., Warrenton, MO. There is a speaker fee, please contact the office for more information. Other speakers, materials and lunch both days are provided through a NRCS grant. Please register by March 25<sup>th</sup>. This event is sponsored by the NRCS, Montgomery/Warren SWCDs, and Missouri University Extension. This school is limited to the first 25 paid participants and is an approved school for the DSP-3 cost share practice. If you are interested in receiving more information contact either the Montgomery SWCD or Warren County SWCD office at 573-564-3715 ext.3 or 636-456-3434 ext.3.

**FSA News...**

*Priscilla Eggering, Warren & Montgomery FSA*

**IMPORTANT REMINDERS**

**2016 Crop Reporting Deadlines**

Upcoming deadlines for the 2016 Crop Year are approaching.

For all pasture, forage (including hay), rangeland and apiculture the deadline to report is Monday, November 16th.

For all Fall Seeded Crops, including wheat, barley and oats, the deadline to report is December 15th.

If you are participating in ARC/PLC program all cropland acres need to be reported on to be eligible for any payments. Call for an appointment to report (573) 564-2262 x2.

**Reminders**

In observance of Veteran's Day, the office will be closed on November 11th.

- Be sure and keep our office updated with any changes including,
- Farm ownership changes – this includes transferring your land into a trust or other entity type, death of owner, sale or purchase, etc.
  - Changes in entity structure
  - New operator
  - Changes in land use – this includes building a house, machine shed, barn, etc.
  - Contact information: address, telephone or e-mail

**Marketing Assistance Loans available for 2015 Harvested Crops**

FSA offers short-term, low-interest financing through their Marketing Assistance Loans (MAL) program. These 9-month commodity loans provide financing that allows producers to store production for later marketing. This allows the producer to gain cash flow capacity at a low interest rate while waiting to capture favorable market conditions. The grain can either be stored on the farm or in a government-approved warehouse facility. The October interest rate is 1.375%. Contact the county office for more information.

**Montgomery County Equipment Rental Rates**

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

**Available through the Montgomery SWCD Office**

**573-564-3715, x33**

- 7 ft. Great Plains No-Till Drill with Native Grass Box ..... \$7 acre  
\$25.00 minimum charge
- Two 10 ft. Great Plains No-Till Drills 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 w/blowers .....\$20 per day
- Tree Planter..... \$50/day • Maximum charge of \$100
- Tree Root Pruner.....\$25/day
- Truax "Seed Slinger" - Hand Grass Seeder:.....\$10/day
- Truax Electric ATV Mounted Seeder:.....\$10/day
- 10' ATV Mounted Sprayer:.....\$10/day
- 18" Hay Probes..... (with \$50 deposit)-FREE

**Additional rental rates charged for out-of-county landowners**

**Warren County Equipment Rental Rates**

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

**Available through the Warren SWCD Office 636-456-3434, x33**

- 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
- 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
- Warm Season Grass Burn Equipment..... \$20 per day

**Additional rental rates charged for out-of-county landowners**