

PLANTING IDEAS

January 2012
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*A County Publication of the
Boone County Soil & Water Conservation District*



BOONE COUNTY SWCD GRAZING WORKSHOP

The Boone County Soil and Water Conservation District will hold an evening grazing workshop on Wednesday, February 8th at 6:30 at the Hallsville Community Center. We will begin with a light meal of sandwiches and the program will follow at 7:00 p.m. This will be a restart of the Small Grazing Workshops that we have hosted in previous years. The workshops are for the person who would like to make the first step in improving pastures or for someone who has had a grazing system for many years and would like to improve it.



Our featured speaker will be Doug Peterson, NRCS Grassland Conservationist, on the topic of soil health and its application in grazing lands. The current hot topic in soil conservation is now soil health. Although it is generally thought of as a topic for row cropland, the effects are just as important on grazing land. The health of the soil is a much larger subject than just pH and fertility. The importance of organic matter has been overlooked for many years. As the organic matter has declined in many soils, the ability to hold moisture has also been reduced. This lowers production and increases the effects of a drought.

Following the speaker there will also be a chance for a panel of producers with a lot of experience in grazing management to tell about their grazing systems and what has or has not worked for them. If you are interested in attending, please call our office to reserve a meal. We look forward to seeing you at the meeting!

GRAZING WORKSHOP

Speaker: Doug Peterson, NRCS Grassland Conservationist

Topic: Soil Health

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2012

6:30 P.M.

HALLSVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER

**A light meal will be provided by the Boone County Soil and Water Conservation District. Program will follow at 7:00 p.m.
Please RSVP by Tuesday, February 7th, by calling 875-5540 ext. 3.**

**Boone County
Soil and Water
Conservation District**

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**MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF
CONSERVATION**

**Mark McCulloch, Private Land
Conservationist**

Statement of frequency: Three/year
Mailed in Columbia, Missouri

Authorized organization's name &
address:

**Boone County Soil & Water
Conservation District**
Parkade Center, Suite 213E
601 Business Loop 70 West
Columbia, MO 65203
573-875-5540 ext. 3
www.swcd.mo.gov/boone

Hours:

Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Closed 12:00 p.m. - 12:30 p.m.

**Funding for information/education
activities are provided in part by the
Parks, Soils and Water Sales Tax
through the Missouri Department of
Natural Resources.**

FEDERAL CONSERVATION PROGRAMS THROUGH NRCS

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) accepts applications for financial assistance on a continuous basis throughout the year. However, NRCS establishes ranking periods for these programs which allows the applications to be ranked and submitted for funding consideration. NRCS then notifies all preapproved applicants of the ranking results and begins developing contracts with selected applicants. The 2012 ranking period cutoff dates for the major conservation programs and initiatives that apply in Missouri are:

January 27

Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)

February 3

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

February 3 (first sign-up), March 30 (second sign-up), and June 1 (third sign-up)

On-Farm Energy Initiative
Organic Initiative
Seasonal High Tunnel Initiative

Program and Initiative Overviews

Conservation Stewardship Program: CSP provides many conservation benefits including improvement of water and soil quality, wildlife habit enhancements and adoption of conservation activities that address the effects of climate change.

Environmental Quality Incentives Program: EQIP provides financial and technical assistance to install and implement structural and management conservation practices on agricultural land.

Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program: WHIP provides financial and technical assistance on private agricultural land, nonindustrial private forest land and Indian land to assist eligible producers establish and manage fish and wildlife habitat.

On-Farm Energy Initiative: NRCS and producers develop Agricultural Energy Management Plans (AgEMP) or farm energy audits that assess energy consumption on an operation. NRCS then uses audit data to develop energy conservation recommendations. Each AgEMP has a landscape component that assesses equipment and farming processes and a farm headquarters component that assesses power usage and efficiencies in livestock buildings, grain handling operations, and similar facilities to support the farm operation.

Organic Initiative: NRCS helps certified organic growers and producers and those working to achieve organic certification install conservation practices for organic production.

Seasonal High Tunnel Pilot Initiative: NRCS helps producers plan and implement the steel-framed, polyethylene-covered structures that extend growing seasons in an environmentally safe manner. High tunnel benefits include better plant and soil quality, fewer nutrients and pesticides in the environment, and better air quality due to fewer vehicles being needed to transport crops.

Visit www.mo.nrcs.usda.gov for more information on how to apply for these initiatives and/or contact your local NRCS office.

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Check for Hazards Before You Dig

Dudley Kaiser, NRCS Technician



**It's Important To Know
What's Under There
Before You Dig.**

Call or Click Before You Dig!
1-800-DIG-RITE
or 811
mo1call.com

**Call or Click
Three
Working Days
Before You Dig!**

Wait the required amount of time.
Confirm Utility Response.
Respect the marks.
Dig with care.

Careless digging can cause disruption of vital utility services and environmental damage, even injury or loss of life.

Become a partner in damage prevention.
Help prevent expensive repair costs.

**MISSOURI
ONE CALL SYSTEM**

Dig Safely.

Each day you can see where excavation is being done. Digging into underground lines can be hazardous to the operator, the service provider, and to the property whether it is public, private, or commercial. Digging into any one of these services not only slows down the construction job, but it can be costly to the excavator and costly to the people who's lives and businesses are dependent on these services.

It is your responsibility to get help locating these services by calling the Missouri One Call System. One Call can be contacted by phone, fax, or internet. Whichever method you choose, make sure you have all your location information available to complete the locate request. Lines are open twenty-four hours a day/seven days a week, but requests for locates require three full business days advance notice. There is no cost to the caller to make a locate request.

If you have applied for cost-share assistance through the SWCD or NRCS, the locate request number is required for all earth disturbing activities including fencing, waterlines, and earthwork projects so don't forget to write it down and keep it for future reference. If you have any questions or would like more information, either contact our office or talk directly to Missouri One Call. Be safe out there!



COST-SHARE NOTES

The SWCD cost-share waiting list is still three to four years long. If you wish to sign up for cost-share, you must schedule a field visit **NOW** for a site eligibility check in order to be placed on the waiting list. Cost-share for grazing practices require the owner or operator to attend a grazing school before developing a contract. If you are interested in signing up or want more information concerning cost-share, call the SWCD office at 875--5540 ext. 3.



JANUARY 2012 PLANTING IDEAS

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Parkade Center, Suite 213E
601 Business Loop 70 West
Columbia, MO 65203
573-875-5540 ext. 3

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The **2011 State Grassland Evaluation Contest** was held on October 28th on Forest Service land located in Boone County. A total of 30 teams were eligible to compete with students rotating through four sections: Grassland Condition, Soil Interpretation, Plant Identification, and Wildlife Habitat. The top five teams in both FFA and 4-H advance to the National Range Judging Contest in Oklahoma as well as compete at the 2012 Mid-America Grassland Evaluation Contest in Springfield, MO. The Columbia FFA team finished in fourth place and the Boone County 4-H team finished in second place. Both teams qualified to compete at the next level. In addition, the first place 4-H High Scoring Individual was Alex Shea, a member of Missouri's Best 4-H, representing Boone County. Congratulations to all of the students on both Boone County teams! We wish you luck at the next level of competition.



Calendar of Events

January 27	CSP Sign-up Deadline
February 3	EQIP, WHIP, On Farm Energy Incentive, Organic Initiative, Seasonal High Tunnel Pilot Initiative Sign-up Deadline
February 7	SWCD Board Mtg., 12:30 p.m.
February 8	Grazing Workshop, 6:30 p.m. Hallsville Community Center
February 20	Holiday, Office Closed
March 6	SWCD Board Mtg., 12:30 p.m.
March 21	Central Region Envirothon Runge Nature Center

SWCD Board Meeting Schedule:
First Tuesday of every month

CANDIED PECANS

- PREHEAT OVEN TO 300° F.

1 LARGE EGG WHITE
1 TABLESPOON WATER
1 TEASPOON VANILLA EXTRACT
2 CUPS PECANS

- Beat egg white, water, and vanilla. Add pecans and stir to coat.

1 1/2 TEASPOON CINNAMON
1/2 TEASPOON SALT
1/2 CUP SUGAR

- Put spices and sugar in a bag and shake to mix. Use slotted spoon to add pecans to sugar mixture. Shake to mix well.
- Put on Silpat lined pan or buttered foil-lined pan. Bake 30 minutes, stirring every 10 minutes. Cool completely and store in air tight container.