



SWCD Ends Cost-Share Fiscal Year

The Camden Soil and Water Conservation District completed their fiscal year 2016 with a record number of dollars spent on soil saving cost-share practices. A total of \$141,868.47 was paid to landowners in the county who completed practices.



Practice	# of contracts	Total Payment
Perm.Vegetative Cover Establishment	10	\$23,708.05
Perm Vegetative Cover Improvement	5	\$9698.84
Grazing System Water Development	2	\$7173.00
Grazing System Water Distribution	1	\$20298.00
Grazing System Fence	4	\$32368.85
Grazing System Lime	3	\$25825.41
Livestock Exclusion Fence	1	\$9772.92
Nutrient Management	2	\$2588.00
Stream Protection	2	\$10435.40
		141,868.47

If you are interested in improving your farm with some advice and/or financial incentives, contact the SWCD office. All practices will require a farm visit by our technician to determine if your practice will qualify for a financial incentive. Some practices will require a soil test. Do not start the practice before you are approved.

Many Thanks to our Volunteers

Volunteers who have helped us this past year with cleaning and maintenance of our office, setting up for our annual meeting, photography duties and hosting our grazing school are: Mike Luttrell, Matthew Jackson, Jason Luttrell, Larry and Brooke White, and Heather Luttrell. We appreciate all you do. Thanks!

It's calving season and you check on your cows daily. Today when you go out you count only 28 animals and you should have 32, two of the four missing being 1st-calf heifers. You spend 2 hours walking through the woods before you find all of the wayward girls and determine that they had their calves and all were ok. Another scenario is that it is a warm summer day and most of your herd is standing in the creek or pond, fouling their drinking water source.

The solution to the above situations is to build fences to exclude your livestock from the woods, ponds, or creek. The Camden SWCD has help for landowners who wish to apply this solution. We have cost share funds available in two programs, the N472 Use Exclusion and WQ10 Stream Exclusion, to build new fences that will keep your livestock from forested or water areas. Camden SWCD will pay landowners 75% of the average cost of the new fence, whether barb wire, woven wire, or high tensile electric. The type of fence is dependent upon what type of livestock is being excluded (cattle, horses, sheep, or goats) and the location (woods, pond, or creek). All fences must conform to the NRCS specifications for the type of fence being constructed.

The N472 Use Exclusion practice is used for new fences that will exclude livestock from woods or ponds. Animals must be prevented from grazing the excluded area at all times and motor vehicles can have limited access. The landowner may still use the woods for pleasure horseback riding, hunting, and firewood cutting. Logging or clearing the woods cannot be done for the life of the maintenance agreement, which is 10 years. Ponds can still be used for recreational use, such as fishing, swimming, or canoeing.

The WQ10 Stream Exclusion practice provides cost share monies to construct a fence that restricts livestock access to a stream. Both sides of the stream must keep the livestock out, however if one side of the stream has a high, steep bank that naturally stops the livestock from entering the stream then only 1 side of the stream must be fenced. The fence must be a minimum of 25' distance from the top of the stream bank. Because of the strong possibility of flooding it is highly recommended that a 2-strand high tensile (HT) electric fence be the fence of choice. On any electric fence the SWCD will include cost share on the fence charger and the installation of the grounding system. In addition to the 75% fence cost share, the SWCD will pay the landowner \$500 for each grazing acre that the fence will remove from potential production. The fence must be maintained for 10 years.

If the creek is the only water source for your stock, the SWCD will cost share for installing a well or pond, pipeline, and tank. If it is more practical and economical than the well/pipeline/tank route, stock may be given limited access to the stream to provide drinking water and give the landowner a place for a stream crossing.

Neither of the above two practices will pay for a fence that will serve as a boundary line, or property line fence. There must be another fence or natural barrier (such as a high bank or bluff) behind the cost share fence between you and your neighbor.

If you are interested in either of these cost share opportunities, contact the Camden SWCD office (573.346.5125) and speak with Dennis or Connie for more information.

2015 Camden County Plat Book Now Available

Who owns Camden County? Thousands of people have a piece of it, and they are listed in the new plat book published by Mapping Solutions and distributed by the Camden County Soil & Water Conservation District. The 2015 book is available for purchase for **\$40.00** at the Conservation District office located at 275 Old South Hwy 5 in Camdenton. Premium wall maps are also available for \$60.00. For more information contact their office at (573) 346-5125.

This book includes aerial view maps opposite the landownership map pages. The 92 page spiral-bound book features township and range maps of Camden County. These maps include the property boundaries for all rural parcels within the township, the name of the owner and the number of acres owned. Also, there is a handy landowner index for easy cross referencing.

Conserving Soil and Water for Future Generations

The Soil and Water Conservation Program works to conserve Missouri's soil and water for future generations. The program includes several voluntary programs that provide agricultural landowners with incentives for using soil and water conservation practices.

About the Parks, Soils and Water Sales Tax

- The Parks, Soils and Water Sales Tax is a statewide one-tenth-of-one percent sales tax that provides funding for Missouri state parks and historic sites and soil and water conservation efforts. The tax is divided equally between the two efforts.
- The Parks, Soils and Water Sales Tax was first approved by voters in 1984, and has since been reapproved by voters three times. In 1988, 1996 and 2006, the tax was renewed by more than two-thirds majority of Missouri voters.
- The Soil and Water Conservation Program is funded by the Parks, Soils and Water Sales Tax.
 - The portion of the Parks, Soils and Water Sales Tax that supports soil and water conservation averages about \$7 a year per Missourian.
- *The Department of Natural Resources has provided over \$660 million to Missouri agricultural landowners to implement more than 220,000 conservation practices using revenues from the Parks, Soils and Water Sales Tax.
- The Parks, Soils and Water Sales Tax is placed on the ballot every 10 years to reaffirm the voter's support of the park system and soil and water conservation efforts. The Parks, Soils and Water Sales Tax is set to expire if not renewed by voters in 2016. This issue will be on November's ballot.

Camdenton High School Team Takes Top Place in Central Region Envirothon

Back row:

Bailey Parish

Mitch Bohon

Brenden Barbour

Front row:

Autumn Reeves

Brock Andreasen



Camden County students recently participated in the Central Region Envirothon competition at the Runge Nature Center in Jefferson City.

Two teams from the Camdenton High School and one team from the Stoutland High School, along with fourteen other teams from the central region participated in this environmental contest. One team from Camdenton won top honors and went on to participate in the state competition. The team was comprised of Brock Andreasen, Bailey Parish, Autumn Reeves, Mitch Bohon, and Brenden Barbour. The Camdenton Purple team also placed 1st in four of the six individual categories: Soils, Wildlife, Aquatics, and Forestry. .

The Envirothon is a problem-solving, natural resource education program for high school students. At the Envirothon, five-member teams take a series of field station tests that focus on five topic areas—soil and land use, aquatic ecology, forestry, wildlife, and an environmental issue. The teams also prepare and give an oral presentation to panels of judges who evaluate each team on its problem-solving abilities, oral presentation skills and plan to help solve the specific problem.

Teams participating represented the best and brightest of high school teens across Missouri. At the state level, the Envirothon is sponsored by the Missouri Association of Conservation Districts, 114 local soil and water conservation districts, the Missouri Employees Association, Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Missouri Department of Conservation, Natural Resources Conservation Service, University of Missouri Extension, and the Show-Me Chapter of the Soil and Water Society.





Paradise In the Ozarks

State Women in Ag Conference to be held in Springfield, Mo

The 22nd annual state Women in Agriculture Conference will be held August 29-31, 2016 at the Ramada Oasis Convention Center in Springfield. The conference will include workshops, tours, and speakers. Workshop topics include Holistic Farming-Rotational Beef & Poultry, Young Living Essential Oils, Soil Health, Organic Gardening, Electric Fencing, and Harvest Finds-Tips and Treasures for the Home.

On Tuesday the group will tour the Talbot Conservation Area, the Springfield Livestock Marketing Center, and Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds. Wednesday's events are a speaker on the Impacts of MO Weather on Agriculture and Ashley Reynolds with KY3 speaking at the closing session.

Registration is \$80 per person. Hotel rooms are \$84/night. If you are interested in attending this event, contact Connie at the SWCD office for more information and a brochure on the conference.

Annual Mtg Photos (More photos on website)



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CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

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Conserving for the Future
<http://swcd.mo.gov/camden>

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**GRAZING SCHOOL HELD
IN APRIL**

On April 28 & 29, thirty-three persons spent two days learning the basics of rotational grazing. Special thanks to Larry and Brook White for allowing us to tour their operation, White Angus Farm.

