

# Gasconade County SWCD

January 2016

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Volume 26, Issue 2

The Gasconade County SWCD Board of Supervisors  
Invite you to attend the

## 2016 ANNUAL MEETING

On  
April 7, 2016 at 6 p.m.  
Owensville Middle School

Our guest speaker this year is Jacob Bocking, Hermann FFA, who placed 2nd in the 2015 MASWCD State FFA Speech Contest, which was held at Tan-Tar-A on December 1st. His speech is entitled: "Soil, the Last Frontier: Helping Others Help the Land."

We will be highlighting the 2016 Parks and Soil & Water Tax, as it is up for renewal. We will present the awards for our 2016 Poster Contest Winners and as well as landowner/partnership awards.

Dinner is provided complements of the District at 6 p.m. and will be catered by Carol's Catering. Reservations need to be called into the office, at 573-437-3478 ext 3, no later than April 1, 2016.

Come enjoy an evening of good food, fellowship and support our local Youth of Tomorrow.

#### Board of Supervisors:

Dennis Berger—Chairman  
Michael Haeffner— Vice-Chairman  
Matthew Estes—Treasurer  
Debra Nowack—Member  
Matt Herring—Secretary

#### District Staff:

Manager Diana Mayfield—District Specialist III  
Technician Craig Doerr—District Specialist I



#### NRCS Staff:

Melinda Barch—District Conservationist  
Mark Brandt—Lead Resource Conservationist  
DJ Schroeder—Soil Conservation Technician

#### MDC STAFF:

Seth Barrioz—Private Lands Conservationist  
Scott Williams—Fisheries Biologist  
Aaron Holsapple—Forester  
Adam Jones—Wildlife Biologist

# 2016 *Forage and Beef Conference*

Monday, February 29, 2016

Cuba, Missouri  
Knights of Columbus  
I-44 East – Hwy. UU Exit

- 12:30 Registration
- 1:00 Livestock Watering Systems – Melinda Barch, District Conservationist, NRCS
- 1:45 Fencing – Mark Kennedy, Grazinglands Specialist, MFGC/GLCI
- 2:30 BREAK
- 3:00 The Show-Me Select Replacement Heifer Development Program –  
Dr. David Patterson, MU Beef Reproduction Specialist
- 3:45 BREAK
- 4:15 Producer Panel – Veterinary Practices to improve  
Heifer Development and Reproductive Performance  
Dr. Steve Strubberg, DVM – Hermann, MO  
Dr. Hunt Tainter, DVM – Washington, MO
- 5:15 Using DNA Technology to Improve Commercial Beef  
Herds– Dr. Jared Decker, MU Beef Genetics Specialist
- 6:30 Dinner



**RSVP by February 16, 2016** to the Crawford County Soil and Water Conservation District at 1-800-364-8732, ext. 3, or 573-364-6202, ext. 3.

**\*\*There is a \$10.00 per person charge for the conference – payable at the door.\*\***

**Sponsored by:** Soil & Water Conservation Districts; University of Missouri Extension; Natural Resources Conservation Service in Crawford, Phelps, Maries, Dent and Gasconade Counties; Maries County Bank in Vienna, Argyle, Dixon, Belle, Owensville, Vichy, St. James, St. Robert, Richland and Iberia; Crawford County Farm Bureau; Dent County Farm Bureau; Gasconade County Farm Bureau; Crawford County Cattlemen's Association; Bank of Salem; Peoples Bank in Cuba, Steelville, Sullivan and Bourbon; Bank of Sullivan in Cuba, Sullivan, Union, Labadie, Pleasant Hope, Sunrise Beach and Springfield; First Community National Bank in Cuba, Steelville, Sullivan, Rolla, Vienna and Eureka; Mid-America Bank; Town and Country Bank in Rolla, St James, Salem and Bourbon; and Legends Bank.

If you need a special accommodation, please contact Crawford County SWCD at 573-364-6202, ext. 3 by February 10, 2016.

USDA Programs and Assistance are available without regard to race, creed, color, sex, age, handicap, marital status or national origin.



UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI  
 Extension



# Parks, Soil & Water Sales Tax

## Working for You!

The Soil & Water Conservation Program works to conserve Missouri's soil and water for future generations, while the Missouri State Park System has a nearly 100-year-old tradition of preserving and interpreting the state's most outstanding natural landscapes and cultural features while providing recreational opportunities to the public. These two programs have been the beneficiaries of the One-Tenth of One Percent Parks, Soil & Water Sales Tax since its inception in 1984 and it has been renewed by voters in 1988, 1996 and 2006. The tax is placed on the ballot every 10 years to reaffirm the voter's support of the park system and the soil & water conservation efforts. The Parks, Soils and Water Sales Tax is set to expire, if not renewed by voters in 2016. Each program shares one-half of the generated sales revenue and that portion comes to about \$7 a year per person. Missouri is the only state in the union that does not rely on general revenue to fund these programs. What do the programs do for you?

### Soil & Water Conservation Program

In the 1930s, Americans realized how devastating soil erosion could be as the Dust Bowl swept across the nation, relocating an estimated 300 million tons of soil. In 1943, Missourians realized that they had the highest erosion rate in the nation, which led to the creation of the Soil and Water Conservation Districts. The District for Gasconade County was formed in 1964. Almost half of Missouri's cropland soil is classified as highly erodible. Revenues from the Parks, Soils and Water Sales Tax have resulted in Missouri having the greatest soil erosion reduction rate of any other state.

In 1982, Missouri's erosion rate was 10.9 tons per acre, the second highest in the nation. Currently, an average of 5.3 tons of soil erodes from each acre of Missouri's cultivated cropland each year. While the erosion rate has dropped by more than half, Missouri still has the fifth highest rate in the country.

There are 114 Soil & Water Conservation Districts in the state of Missouri.

- ◆ The Soil & Water Conservation Commission is governed by six landowners, which are appointed by the Governor. They develop statewide policies in accordance with the Statutes.
- ◆ District Grants are provided to each district to cover the costs of administrative and technical assistance that is provided to the local landowners, free of charge. Each district is governed by a board made up of four local agricultural landowners and one University Extension ex-officio member.
- ◆ Over \$660 million has been provided to Missouri agricultural landowners to implement more than 220,000 conservation practices through the Cost-share Program. With legislative changes in 2009, water quality practices are now available statewide to agricultural landowners in Missouri, in addition to the erosion control practices that have been in place for years.
- ◆ Research and Monitoring funding is also provided through the Soil and Water Conservation Program. These efforts identify new methods for soil & water conservation practices

that produce the best results for preventing erosion and protecting water quality. Soil Health has become a major focus point for improving agricultural production as well as preserving our precious soil.

- ◆ The Districts are partnered with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) as they provide technical assistance and office facilities for most Districts.

### Missouri State Parks

Missouri State Parks are committed to providing a high level of visitor services. Unlike most states, there are no entrance or day-use fees in Missouri State Parks. The public can enter every state park and historic site at no charge. The tax allows staff to provide service directly to visitors by maintaining parks and historic sites, upgrading facilities or assisting guests.

New initiatives have focused on engaging youth in the wonder of the outdoors. In 2014 alone, nearly 55,000 interpretive programs were presented in state parks and historic sites. More than 18 million people visit the state park system each year and they consistently provide a 97% approval rating. The park system is ranked among the top four park systems in the country.

The state parks and historic sites contribute to a healthy economy. For every dollar spent by Missouri State Parks to operate the state park system, Missouri's economy sees a \$26 return on investment.

Scientific evidence suggests that parks and recreation are improving the health of communities and citizens. Missouri State Parks contribute to improving visitor's health and well-being, as well.

The consistent funding from the sales tax has allowed Missouri State Parks to maintain and upgrade the state park system to better serve the needs of visitors and protect resources. This includes repairing, renovating and maintaining buildings, restrooms, shelter houses and cabins, while also stabilizing and protecting historic structures.

In order to provide more opportunities for the public to experience nature and explore history, the funding helps support the development of new state parks and historic sites.

Missouri State Parks is committed to providing a high level of visitor services. To accomplish this goal, there must be enough staff to provide clean and safe facilities; enough interpreters to present the significance of each of the parks and sites; enough law enforcement personnel to ensure visitor safety; and enough general staff to provide adequate service to the public.

We hope that you will take advantage of the services that are provided through the Parks, Soil & Water Sales Tax and consider renewing your support for this vital program.

# New Cost-share Practices for FY17

The **Animal Waste Management** concern's purpose is to manage waste from agricultural production in a manner that prevents or minimizes degradation of soil and water resources. Manure holding facilities as well as feeding and travel areas are covered. There are no erosion requirements for this practice. A Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP) must be developed prior to a cost-share application for any of these facilities, as well as, following Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) standards and specifications. Our county will address beef, dairy, or swine facilities and is limited to \$50,000 per landowner.

The **Nutrient/Pest Management** concern is back in Gasconade County. These are incentive payments and must follow a nutrient or pest management plan. Nutrient Management may receive up to \$20 per acre with a lifetime maximum of \$10,000 per landowner/operator and Pest Management may receive up to \$10 per acre with a \$5,000 per landowner/operator. All applications must be board approved between January 1 – April 15<sup>th</sup> of each year. Payments are completed after one growing season but not before October 31<sup>st</sup> of that year. Either the landowner or the operator may apply for this practice, whomever is incurring the expense.

If you are interested in learning more about these practices, please give us a call at 573-437-3478 ext 3.

## Information Education Activities in Pictures 2015 Annual Meeting



2nd OMG-WIA Event



2nd Preschool—Tracing Soil



15th 4th Grade Field Days



Tri-County Grazing School

## Calling All Contractors

The newly combined Cole, Gasconade, Maries, and Osage County Field Office Service Centers (FOSA) will be hosting a Contractors Meeting for all area contractors. So, whether you are an Earthmover/Trencher, Fencer, Customized Farm Worker, or Fertilizer/Seed Provider, we cordially invite you to attend.

A representative from Missouri One Call and the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) engineers will be on hand on to discuss changes in law, standards and specifications. The Districts will have staff on hand to discuss local requirements for federal and state programs, as well as answer any questions that you might have. This will also be an excellent time to update the county contractor lists.

*When: February 17, 2016 - 10 am*

*Where: Knights of Columbus Hall, Westphalia*

*Dinner will be provided by the District Boards*

To Register for this event, please call Angie at 573-897-2138 ext 3 by February 12, 2016.



### **Congratulations, Chet Moeckli, 2015 State Poster Contest Winner**

Chet Moeckli was selected as the 2015 State Poster Winner for the 7—9th Grade Division at the SWCD Annual Training Conference held at the end of November at Tan-Tar-A. Chet competed against 114 other counties for this award. His poster has been submitted to the National Association of Conservation Districts for the national level judging on during their annual convention on January 30—February 3rd. The poster theme for 2015 was: *Local Heroes, Your Hard Working Pollinators*. Chet was attending St. George School in Hermann, when his poster was submitted. Good Luck, Chet, at Nationals.



**The 2016 poster contest theme is:** *We all need Trees*. The poster board and information has been delivered to all of the schools associated with Gasconade County. Be sure to check with your art teachers, if you are interested in submitting a poster. Anyone in grades 2—8 may participate. Good Luck.



# FSA Updates



## CROP REPORTING DEADLINES:

- **2016** spring-seeded grains and CRP must be reported by **July 15, 2016**
- **2017** hay and pasture acres must be reported by **November 15, 2016**
- **2017** Fall barley, wheat and other fall seeded small grains must be reported by **December 15, 2016**

## Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) & Price Loss Coverage (PLC):

- ARC/PLC is a financial safety net program that comes into effect when there are substantial drops in crop prices or revenues. Annual contract signing for 2016 began on December 1, 2015, and will continue until August 1, 2016. Producers who do not sign an annual contract will lose possibility of a payment for that year. Call the FSA office to check on the status of your contract.

## FARM STORAGE FACILITY LOAN PROGRAM (FSFL):

- Eligible producers can obtain a low-interest loan for 7, 10 or 12 years to build or upgrade storage or handling facilities. This program includes grain bins and hay barns. **January Interest Rate: 2.00%** (Fixed for a 7 year term)

## FARM LOAN PROGRAMS:

- Eligible farmers and ranchers may qualify for the low interest credit if they cannot get financing at a commercial lender. Loan can be obtained for annual operating expenses, for purchase or refinance of livestock and machinery, and for the purchase of real estate.

### January Interest Rates:

Direct Farm Ownership-3.875%

Direct Farm Operating-2.625%

Beginning Farmer Down Payment Farm Ownership-1.5%

## MARKETING ASSISTANCE LOANS (MAL):

- MALs are available to producers after they have harvested their grain crop, and have it stored on the farm.
- Producers can use the loan proceeds to refrain from selling the grain crop until the market price is higher. The loan can be used to pay for current expenses, or to reduce cost of seed and fertilizer by purchasing it earlier.
- A lump sum is advanced to the producer in an amount equivalent to the value of the grain stored on the farm, or a lesser amount if the producer so chooses.

## EMERGENCY FLOOD PROGRAMS

- **ECP-** Emergency Conservation Program- emergency funding for farmers to restore land damaged by natural disasters, which may include fence loss, gravel and sand deposits.
- **ELAP-** Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish- emergency relief for damaged or destroyed livestock feed purchased, or harvested, with the intention of using as feed for producers' eligible livestock. (Must submit a notice of loss within 30 days of the disaster.)
- **LIP-** Livestock Indemnity Program- payments for livestock death losses due to adverse weather. The losses must be in excess of the normal mortality rate.

## NON-INSURED CROP DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (NAP)

- Provides financial assistance to producers who produce agricultural commodities that are not covered through standard crop insurance agencies.
- Provides financial assistance when a natural disaster occurs and causes lower yields, crop losses, or completely prevents the planting of crops.
- Some crops that may be eligible include fruits and vegetables, mushrooms, floriculture, forage and grazing crops, aquaculture, ginseng, honey, syrup, and industrial crops.

## CENTRAL REGION GRAZING SCHOOL DATES ANNOUNCED!

Due to the increased training requirements, the UME/NRCS Certified Grazing School has been extended from 2 to 2.5 days. Remember that this school is a requirement to receive State Cost-share for Grazing Management Practices and is considered ranking points when applying for Federal Cost-Share through the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP).

**Rolla Grazing School—April 12, 13, 14**  
**Tri-County Grazing School (Osage) - September 14, 15, 16**  
**Wurdack Grazing School—September 28, 29, 30**

If interested in applying for one of these schools or need to know about other schools throughout the state, please call our office at 573-437-3478 x 3.

The Missouri Department of Conservation and the United States Department of Agriculture invites you to a free workshop



**Prescribed Burn Workshop for Landowners**  
**Friday, February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016**  
**9 AM – 3 PM @**

**Vienna Volunteer Fire Protection District**  
**308 N Mill St**  
**Vienna, MO 65582**

### Workshop Topics:

- \*Proper methods and techniques used for implementing control burns.
- \*Burn equipment, how it is used and availability.
- \*Developing burn plans.

### Demonstration Burn: (If weather conditions are suitable)

A demo burn will follow classroom session on a nearby glade at Spring Creek Gap Conservation area.

**Brown bag lunch will be provided for registered participants.**

**Register by February 16, 2016**

### For Reservations:

Seth Barrioz (573) 897-3797 ext. 116 ( MDC Private Land Conservationist)

**Directions:** From Jefferson City, take Hwy 63 South to Vienna, MO.

While heading south you will turn left onto 8<sup>th</sup> St.  
 Take 8<sup>th</sup> Street to N. Mill Street. The Fire Station will  
 Be there on the corner.



United States Department of Agriculture

## New Faces

Hello, I am Craig Doerr; I am 27 years old, and I am the new District Technician for Gasconade County. I attended Owensville High School and participated in FFA all through high school. I attended East Central College and majored in culinary arts and business management. I also played the role of Smokey the Bear at a Gasconade County SWCD Annual Meeting and I have numerous volunteer hours at the Soil and Water office in Owensville.



I'm married to Rachel (Siebert) Doerr, she is a graphic designer. We have 3 dogs, two beagles and one lab, at our home in the Stoney Hill area. My parents are Jeff and Connie Doerr to which Connie worked for the NRCS for several years. My Grandparents are Leroy and the late Delores Diekmann, Leroy was on the board for a long time and Delores also worked for the District here in Owensville for 16 years.

I was raised on hog, beef and bird farms for most of my life and I still help Dad on the family farm, when I can. I live in my great grandparents farm house, which I remodeled. I enjoy hunting, fishing, and I love to build things out of wood and I'm very creative when it comes to that kind of stuff (so I'm told).

I enjoy being outdoors and meeting with landowners, as I am now part of the Soil and Water team. I am very happy to be working here and look forward to assisting you with your conservation needs.

Hi, I am D.J. Schroeder and the new member of the NRCS team here in Gasconade County. I have been employed with the Natural Resource Conservation Service as a Soil Conservation Technician for right at 15 years now. I have worked most of my NRCS career in Cole and Moniteau counties, where I have learned a lot from some



very experienced employees, farmers and dozer/high lift operators. I am married to my wife, Joanne, and we have a daughter age 9 and two sons age 7 and 5, and we live on our farm near Meta. We currently run 90 head of cow/ calf pairs on around 370 acres of woods and pasture with no crops. I enjoy farming and have always wanted to farm even in my childhood. My other time is spent as a volunteer EMT with COMM-Unity Ambulance Service and as a Firefighter for Meta Fire & Rescue. Since July 2015, I have been meeting the people of Gasconade County and enjoying the conversations I have had with them. The land is very diverse and that helps to make my job fun and also challenging. I look forward to serving the landowners through USDA and SWCD programs in the future.

**Welcome to Gasconade County,**  
**DJ and Craig!**

# Gasconade County SWCD

314 Olive Street  
Owensville, MO 65066  
(573) 437-3478 ext. 3  
FAX: 855-842-7890

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## 2016 Dates to Remember

<b>February 2</b>	<b>Board Mtg, USDA Service Center, 6:30 p.m.</b>
<b>February 15</b>	George Washington's Birthday Holiday-Office Closed
<b>February 16</b>	Burn Workshop, Vienna, MO, Page 7
<b>February 17</b>	Contractor's Mtg, Westphalia, MO, Page 5
<b>February 29</b>	Forage & Beef Conference, Cuba, MO, Page 2
<b>March 1</b>	<b>Board Mtg, USDA Service Center, 6:30 p.m.</b>
<b>March 4</b>	2016 Posters due, Judging will be March 8th
<b>April 5</b>	<b>Board Mtg, USDA Service Center, 6:30 p.m.</b>
<b>April 7</b>	2016 Annual Meeting, Owensville, MO, Page 1
<b>April 13</b>	2016 Central Region Envirothon, Runge Center
<b>April 15</b>	<b>Nutrient/Pest Management Deadline</b>
<b>April 20</b>	2016 State Envirothon, Location TBA
<b>May 4</b>	<b>Board Mtg, USDA Service Center, 6:30 p.m.</b>
<b>May 30</b>	Memorial Day Holiday, Office Closed
<b>June 7</b>	<b>Board Mtg, USDA Service Center, 6:30 p.m.</b>
<b>June 15</b>	End of Cost-Share Year
<b>June 30</b>	End of Fiscal Year 2016
<b>July 4</b>	Independence Day Holiday
<b>July 5</b>	<b>Board Mtg, USDA Service Center, 6:30 p.m.</b>

### Gasconade County SWCD Equipment

**LEASE AGREEMENT MUST BE ON FILE AT THE  
SWCD OFFICE BEFORE EQUIPMENT CAN BE  
RENTED.**

**Drill charge: Minimum charge of \$100.00 for less than 10 acres usage. An additional \$10.00 will be charged for each additional acre under 50 acres. There will be an \$9.00 per acre charge for 50 acres or more.**

For Scheduling of equipment, please call the SWCD office at 573-437-3478 ext 3, unless otherwise indicated.

◇ John Deere 10 ft no-till drill is located at James Miller, Second Creek Farms, 2828 Hwy 19 Owensville. Call 573-529-2507 to schedule.

◇ Great Plains 7 ft no-till drill with warm season box is located at the SWCD office.

**Vehicle insurance cards must be presented!**

**Located at the SWCD Office:**

- ◇ Rotowiper - \$25 a day
- ◇ Burn Equipment - \$50 deposit, \$10 use charge
- ◇ ATV Equipment (Seeder, Sprayer, Disk) - \$100 deposit, \$20 a day each piece or \$50 for all three
- ◇ ATV Warm Season Grass Seeder—no charge—Donated by Quail Unlimited
- ◇ Soil Probe - no charge