

STATE OF MISSOURI
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon, Governor • Mark N. Templeton, Director

www.dnr.mo.gov

**MEMORANDUM
2011-004**

DATE: August 12, 2010
TO: All Soil and Water Conservation Districts
FROM: ^{KS} Ken Struempf, District Operations Section
Soil and Water Conservation Program

SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2012 Needs Assessment Process

To assist the commission in allocating cost-share funds for fiscal year (FY) 2012, it is necessary for the districts to update their Needs Assessments by October 15th. Through updating the Needs Assessments early in the fiscal year, the commission is able to utilize this data in providing the advance cost-share allocation. This tool proved to be effective in continuing the implementation of conservation practices seamlessly across fiscal years.

The program appreciates the effort districts have shown in completing the Needs Assessments the past two years. The Needs Assessments are an extremely valuable tool in allocating the cost-share funds with the expanded docket. The Needs Assessments continue to display the vast farmer demand for implementing conservation practices resulting in the ability to protect the State's water resources and control soil erosion on agricultural land.

District staff should update the cost-share funds that your district could utilize in FY12 and enter some estimated numbers for FY13 through the MoSWIMS program. As districts are updating the FY12 numbers, the new policies for the Nutrient and Pest Management practices need to be considered when estimating the funds necessary for contracts approved after January 1st. When the FY12 advance cost-share allocation is made available to the districts in January, it will include the total commission approved allocation amount for the Nutrient and Pest Management Resource Concern.

Districts need to have their Needs Assessments updated in MOSWIMS and the written narratives submitted to the program office by October 15, 2010. Program staff will be available to assist districts with questions related to the Needs Assessment process. Please ensure your staff validates the numbers entered into the MoSWIMS program, to ensure it is a reflection of your county's assessment.

If you have questions or need assistance with the Needs Assessment process, please contact your district coordinator.

KS:jpd