DEPARTMENT

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

www.dnr.mo.gov

MEMORANDUM

2013-004

DATE:

September 19, 2012

TO:

All Soil and Water Conservation Districts

FROM: \circlearrowleft

Jim Boschert, Planner III

Soil and Water Conservation Program

SUBJECT: Calendar Year 2013 Health Insurance

For calendar year 2013, the Soil and Water Conservation Program will continue to provide health insurance grant allocations to soil and water conservation districts (SWCDs) for select plans offered through Missouri Consolidated Health Care Plan (MCHCP). Soil and Water Conservation District Boards with employees that are employed at least 1,000 hours from eligible funds may participate in either the MCHCP PPO 600 or PPO 2000 plan. The same stipend will continue to be provided for health insurance premiums to the district boards that were offered in calendar year 2012.

The cost of the PPO 600 plan remains the same at \$601.08 per month for employee only coverage. The program will continue to provide \$560.08 per employee per month or \$6,720.96 per year to the district board in semi-annual allotments. The district board can use these grant funds to supplement their district employee's health insurance premium(s). The PPO 600 plan requires a \$41.00 per month premium copay for district staff electing to participate in that plan.

The cost of the PPO 2000 plan remains the same at \$469.21 per month for employee only coverage. The program will continue to provide \$469.21 per employee per month or \$5,630.52 per year to the district board in semi-annual allotments. The district board can use these grant funds to pay their district employee's health insurance premium(s) for those district employees that choose the PPO 2000 plan for their health coverage.

As has been stated in previous years, management from MCHCP has strongly cautioned the program and asked us to inform the district supervisors to refrain from covering the cost of the district employee's portion of health care costs, due to increased utilization of the health insurance. Such an approach will serve to drive up the cost of health care for all the districts. If the district supervisors decide to pay the employee expenses, then the health insurance monthly premium will likely be renegotiated at a higher cost for all 114 districts in the future.

Recycled Paper

All SWCDs September 19, 2012 Page two

MCHCP will send open enrollment forms to the districts in the near future. Open enrollment for calendar year 2013 insurance for SWCD employees is October 8 through November 9, 2012. Please remember, if your district has employees that choose not to participate in the MCHCP health insurance plans offered, they will still need to complete the open enrollment forms and indicate that they do not wish to participate. For specific information regarding the PPO 600 and the PPO 2000 plans, please refer to the MCHCP website at www.mchcp.org.

If you have any questions, please contact me at the Soil and Water Conservation Program, P.O. Box 176, Jefferson City MO 65102-0176 or by phone at 573-522-3320.

JB:dc