

District To Celebrate 50 Years at Annual Meeting on March 21st *Come Help Vs Celebrate!!!*

On April 3, 1967, Chairman Elmer Kiehl of the Missouri Soil & Water Districts Commission signed the Declaration of Establishment and Certificate of Organization to establish the Maries County Soil & Water Conservation District. Shortly later the first supervisors approved the organization. The local landowners serving on the board at that time were V. D. Street. Marion Parker, Leslie Cook and E. R. Cordsmeyer. Roy Hager with the University Extension served as the secretary of the board.

Fifty years later, the office is still located in the county and going strong. Thanks to the Parks, Soils and Water Sales tax and guidance of the current board of supervisors, the staff processed 175 contracts and paid out \$316,317.20 to Maries County landowners in Fiscal Year 2016 in the district's costshare program.

To celebrate their 50th Anniversary, the district's 2017 Annual Meeting will not only consist of the awarding of the annual photo, poster and essay contests but will also include an educational program presented by the World Bird Sanctuary. The Raptor Awareness Program will include live birds of prey including the Bald Eagle.

In addition, there will be an election for two board members. Supervisors elected serve a four-year term. This year's election will be for Area I which consists of Boone and Miller Townships and Area III which includes Jefferson Township. Only Maries County land representatives may vote in the election.

The event will begin with dinner at 6:00 PM at the Visitation Knights of Columbus Hall in Vienna located at Highway 63 and 6th Street. Seating will be limited so make sure to register early!!!



2017 Forage & Beef Conference Set For February 27th @ KC Hall, Cuba

The ever popular Forage & Beef Conference will be held once again this year bringing landowners from the mid-Missouri area together to listen and ask questions from an excellent panel of speakers. This year the event will be held on Monday, February 27th at the Knights of Columbus Hall near Cuba. Registration begins at 12:30 p.m. with the first speaker to start at 1:00. The entire list of speakers and topics are listed on page 3.

Local vendors and agencies will have displays highlighting their agricultural products and door prizes will be given away. The registration fee for the conference is \$10.00 per person which includes an evening meal. If you are unable to attend at the start of the program, you should feel free to join at any time during the conference. **RSVP** to the Crawford County Soil and

Water Conservation District at 1 -800-364-8732 Extension 3 or 573-364 -6202 Extension 3 b e f o r e February 17th! District Board of Supervisors Bernard Brune, Chairman Jan Skouby, Vice-Chairman Larry J. Kleffner, Treasurer Pat Snodgrass, Secretary Rodney Southard, Member

District Personnel Sandy Stratman, District Specialist Amy Neier, District Specialist

Assisting The District Gary Applegate, District Conservationist Mark Brandt, Resource Conservationist Ed Gillmore, Soil Conservationist Megan Rudroff, Soil Conservationist D. J. Schroeder, Soil Conservation Technician Seth Barrioz, Private Lands Conservationist Aaron Holsapple, Resource Forester Adam Jones, Wildlife Biologist Scott Williams, Fisheries Biologist

Important Dates

<i>02/01-02</i>	Office Closed as staff is attending meetings
<i>02/14</i>	Maries County SWCD Board Meeting @ 6:30 PM at district office
02/20	Office Closed—Presidents Day
02/27	Office Closed - Forage & Beef Confer- ence at KC Hall, Cuba
02/28	Contests Deadline
<i>03/14</i>	RSVP Deadline for Annual Meeting
03/21	50th Anniversary—Maries County SWCD Annual Meeting at KC Hall, Vienna- Must RSVP
05/23-25	Grazing School at Vichy Fire Depart- ment—You Must Register To Attend



Thank You for supporting the renewal of the 1/10 of 1% Parks, Soils & Water Sales Tax!



District Poster & Essay Contests Ends February 28th

After the winter break and the students are back in school, it's time for them to begin working on their annual poster and essay entries. The contests are sponsored by the Maries County Soil and Water Conservation District. This year's theme is "Healthy Soils Are Full Of Life". Posters and essays should highlight that soils are the foundation for everything that we are and do. From the clothes we wear, the food we eat, to the houses we live in, every person and thing gets its start from the soil.

Any student living in Maries County and/or enrolled in the 3rd through 6th grades of any Maries County school or home-schooled in Maries County may participate in the Poster Contest. Posters should be on poster board measuring 14" x 22" and capable of supporting its weight when leaned against the wall. Only one individual may work on a poster. The name of the student, address, school, grade and age must be listed on the back of the poster. Students are not required

to be in an art class to enter a poster.

Each individual grade countywide will be judged together. From each grade, three posters will be chosen to win cash awards. Grade level prizes will be: 1st place - \$15, 2nd place - \$10 and 3rd place - \$5. From these winners one entry will be declared the grand prize county winner and receive an additional cash award of \$50. The first place poster from each grade will be sent to state competition. All grade winners will be notified and invited to the District's Annual Meeting in March to receive their awards and to find out what prize they have one.

The district's Essay Contest is open to any student living in Maries County and/ or enrolled in the 7th through 12 grades of any Maries County Junior or High School. Essays should be 400 to 500 words in length. It should be double spaced typed or legibly handwritten. Sources of information must be listed. A separate sheet of paper with the stu-



dent's name, address, grade, name of school and teacher's name should be stapled to the back of the essay. A student may also enter their essay directly to the district office. Only one essay per student is permitted.

The entries will be judged in three groups: 7th and 8th; 9th and 10th; and 11th and 12th. Awards will be given to the top three essays in each group. 1st prize will be \$50. 2nd prize will be \$25. 3rd prize will be \$15.

All contests will end on February 28, 2017. The posters and essays are due in the Soil and Water by the close of business on that date. The office is located at 105 Parkway in Vienna.

It's Photo Contest Time!

Did vou capture some great photos lately? It's now time to make your entries in the 2017 Photo Contest sponsored by the district. This is the thirteenth year for the event. Photographs must be taken in Maries County, Missouri and should be entered in the appropriate category and division.

The contest is divided into two Divisions: Youth (up to and including high school seniors) and Adult (any adult residing or owning land in Maries County). Each photo can only be judged in one of the following Categories: Trees/Plants/ Landscapes; Wildlife; or Farming in Maries County.

Entries should follow these guidelines when entering:

The contest is open to amateur photographers. Each participant may enter up to, but no more than five

photographs. All photos must be taken in Maries County, Missouri. Photos will not be returned.

- Black-and-white prints and color prints are both acceptable. Photos cannot be accepted via email and must be no larger than 8x10. They should not be framed and/or matted.
- The following information must be attached to the back of each photo. A. Photographer's name, address and phone number; B. Division and Category entered; C. Title of photograph; D. Subject Names (if people are in the photo); E. Location; F. Year photo was taken.

All entries become the property of the Maries County SWCD, and Maries County SWCD reserves the non-exclusive right to use all photographs in publications, on the district's webpage, on display and/or for promotional purposes. Previous entries will not be judged for the 2017 contest.

Judges will select one county winner in each of the three categories in each division. Winning photos will be displayed at the Maries County SWCD 2017 Annual Meeting in March. Winners will receive

\$25 and a framed print of their winning photo from the district. Honorable mentions will receive certificates.

All entries must be postmarked by February 28, 2017.



Forage & Beef Conference

Monday, February 28, 2017 Knights of Columbus Hall, Cuba, Missouri (I-44 East, Take Highway UU Exit)

- 12:30 Registration/Trade Show
- 1:00 Missouri Department of Agriculture Programs For Producers John Knudsen, Alan Freeman
- 1:45 Prevention and Control of Anaplasmosis/VFD Update Dr. Payne, MU Extension Veterinarian
- 2:30 Break/Visit Trade Show
- 3:00 Livestock Risk Protection Insurance Rachel Hopkins, University Missouri Extension
- 3:45 Break/Visit Trade Show
- 4:15 Producer Panel Winter Feeding Strategies Joy & Cindy Haeffner - Stockpiling/Stripgrazing Andy Carrender–Winter Feeding Facility
- 5:15 "Can we have a low input cowherd that is high output?" Lee Leachman of Colorado
- 6:30 Dinner

RSVP by February 17, 2017 to the Crawford County Soil and Water Conservation District at 1-800-364-8732 Extension 3 or 573-364-6202 Extension 3.

FSA Updates

NEW PROGRAMI FARM STORAGE FACILITY LOAN PROGRAM (FSFL) HAS EXPANDED OPTIONS:

- FSFL expanded program now allows producers to obtain a low-interest loan for new or used equipment, in addition to previously allowed hay barns or grain bins. Examples of items now eligible for loan are bale beds, grain trucks, grain trailers, hay trailer, skid steer, grain auger, hay wrapper, grain cart, gravity wagon, grain vac, round hay bale gripper, portable grain dryer, and pup trailers.
- 3, 5, 7, 10 or 12 year notes available up to \$500,000. Loan amounts less than \$50,000 only require 5% down payment.
- January Fixed Interest Rates:
 - 3 Years: 1.5%,
 - 5 Years: 1.875%
 - 7 Years: 2.250%
 - 10 Years: 2.375%
 - 12 Years: 2.5%

ANNUAL CROP REPORTING DEADLINES:

- 2017 spring-seeded grains and CRP must be reported by July 15, 2017
- 2017 grapes/apples/peaches must be reported by January 15, 2017
- 2017 spring oats & potatoes must be reported by May 15, 2017
- 2018 hay and pasture acres must be reported by November 15, 2017
- 2018 fall barley, wheat and other fall seeded small grains must be reported by December 15, 2017

CONTINUOUS CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM (CCRP):

- Through CCRP, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) helps farmers offset the costs of restoring, enhancing and protecting certain grasses, shrubs and trees that improve water quality, prevent soil erosion and strengthen wildlife habitat. Contact the local FSA office to hear about competitive cash rental rates for acres taken from production and put into a grass stand. Cost-share is eligible for planting the acres to grass. This includes field borders, stream buffers, etc.
 - * * * Contact the Farm Service Agency office in Linn if you have any questions at 1-800-811-4649 Extension 2. * * *

Only \$10 per

person-payable

at the door

(includes dinner)

Reservation Due For Annual Meeting By March 14th

Maries County SWCD Annual Meeting Tuesday, March 21, 2017 Visitation Knights of Columbus Hall, Vienna 6:00 PM

NAME

RESPOND BY MARCH 14TH

ATTENDING

Mail or deliver to: 105 Parkway, Vienna or call (573) 422-3342

2017 Grazing School To Be Held In Maries County

This year Maries County will host a Grazing School from May 23 to 25, 2017 at the Vichy Firehouse. Reservations are required and payment is needed as space is limited. The cost is still to be determined. Attendance is a requirement for some cost-share programs.

Call the office at 573-422-3342 if you are interested in attending or to get information on other schools in the area.

Women in Agriculture Conferences

<u>OMG WIA (Osage</u>, Maries and Gasconade Women in Agriculture) - Planning for the 2017 event will begin soon. Stay tuned for more information on what's in store for this year and check out our Facebook page - OMG AgriPride Women in Agriculture.

Missouri Women in Agriculture Conference - This annual event is coming to central Missouri at Old Kinderhook in Camdenton. It will be held from September 11 to 13. You will enjoy networking with women of all agricultural genres, whether they are small or large animal producers, crop producers, home-based and home-grown entrepreneurs, agriculture based businesswomen and/or a mixture of all of the above. Like Us on Facebook - *Missouri Women in Agriculture* to keep up to date on registration information or contact the Maries County Soil & Water Conservation District at 422-3342.

Newsletter made possible by the 1/10 of 1% Parks, Soils & Water Sales Tax

An Equal Opportunity Provider & Employer Helping People Help The Land

Phone: (573) 422-3342 Fax: (573) 422-3590 Office Hours: 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM Website—www.swcb.mo.gov/maries

105 Parkway, Vienna, MO 65582

CONSERVATION DISTRICT MARRES COUNTY SOIL & WATER

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