

# Gasconade County SWCD

January 2021—Volume 31, Issue 2

## Board Sets New Cost-share Policies

At the November 3, 2020, Gasconade County Board Meeting, the Board of Supervisor's made some revisions to their current Board Policies for Cost-share.

- ✓ After some discussion, it was decided to establish sign-up periods for seeding practices in order to assist staff in allowing ample time for planning and designing of such practices. The Board took into account the seeding windows for the different species, as well as allowing for lime applications that must be given a 6 month window for any legume overseeding practice. The following dates have been established for the different type of seeding practices:
  - *Spring Seedings to include grasses and/or legumes: August 15—January 15*
  - *Fall Seedings to include grasses and/or legumes: April 15—July 15*
  - *Dormant or Grazing System Lime (DSP-3.4)/Legume Overseeding (DSP-3.5): March 15—June 15*
  - *Cover Crops: May 15—September 15*
- ✓ *The Board will no longer limit the Streambank Stabilization practice to just rip-rap as there are new technologies being introduced. The Board will follow DNR Policy for cost-share payment limitations.*
- ✓ *The Board will follow DNR Policy for DSP-3 Grazing System acreage maximums and maximum Cost-share rates for DWC-1 Water Impoundment Reservoirs.*
- ✓ *The Board will raise the cost-share amount for a tire tank from \$600 to \$800 per tank.*

### Board of Supervisors:

Mike Haeffner—Chairman  
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Joel Wehmeyer—Treasurer  
Harvey Hesemann—Member  
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### NRCS Staff:

Gary Applegate—District Conservationist  
Mark Brandt—Lead Resource Conservationist  
DJ Schroeder—Soil Conservation Technician

### District Staff:

Manager Diana Mayfield—District Specialist IV  
Technician Sarah Berkemeyer—District Specialist III  
Shared Technician April Duedeffer—District Specialist II  
Shared Pest Management Specialist—Amy Neier, District Specialist IV

### MDC Staff:

Jordon Beshears—Private Lands Conservationist  
Scott Williams—Fisheries Biologist  
Aaron Holsapple—Forester  
Clayton Light—Public Lands Conservationist

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by the  
**1/10th of 1%**  
**Parks and Soil and Water Tax.**



# ***Coming Soon!***

## ***2021 Plat Book***

The Gasconade County SWCD is sponsoring their very first Plat Book, which we hope to have ready by this spring. The Gasconade County Assessor has provided us with their recently updated map layers. Our book will contain not only the plat layer, but there will be an aerial, with roadways and streams marked, directly across from it.

There will be historical information about the District and the County in the publication. There will be a “Blast from the Past” section with pictures and an article written by one of our very first board members. We are most excited, though, about the photo contest, *Gasconade County Splendor*, which was held to create the cover of our book.

We received 20 magnificent photos from across the county. We had 8 judges to determine the top 5 candidates and then the Board made the final selections by casting votes. We are pleased to announce the top 5 winners in the contest. The 1st place photograph will be showcased on the cover and the runners-up will have their photo published somewhere in the plat book.

- \* 1st Place—Donald Melsha, Autumn in Frene Valley
- \* 2nd Place—Jessica Johnson, Reflection
- \* 3rd Place—Charles Skornia, May Splendor
- \* 4th Place—Ken Kunstmann, Harvey Splendor
- \* 5th Place—Skyler Cook, Freedom

Congratulations to our winners and a big THANK YOU to everyone that submitted a photograph. Be on the look out for the announcement of when we have the finished product available. We will also be offering large wall maps and SmartMaps through the on-line store.

**Due to COVID-19, planning for all information/education field events are on hold at this time.**

**Please feel free to call our office at 573-437-3478 x 3 for an appointment to discuss any of your conservation needs. We will assist you in any way we can!**

## Gasconade County SWCD Annual Poster Contest

The Gasconade County Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) is sponsoring their 2021 Annual Poster Contest. The theme this year is: Healthy Forests=Healthy Communities.

We use trees every day in more ways that you think. In fact, without trees and other green plants we wouldn't be alive. Some of the benefits from trees are: recreation, clean air, healthy soil, clean water, healthy people, food and other bi-products, and healthy communities. Trees are a valuable natural resource – absorbing carbon dioxide and removing up to 100 gallons of water out of the soil and releasing it into the air in a single day. We are looking for bright ideas, in pictures, on how important trees are to our community. We provide a PowerPoint of information as well as a link to an educator packet to assist with learning.

The contest is open to every student in Gasconade County in Grades 2 – 8. The contest materials and poster board have been delivered to the schools here in the county; however, if your student is virtual learning or being homeschooled and would like to participate in this contest, we request that you contact the office at 573-437-3478 x 3 to receive all of the information and the poster board.

**The deadline is MARCH 12, 2021.**

## Managing for Wildlife on a Budget

By: Jordon Beshears, Private Land Conservationist, MDC

Interested in increasing wildlife habitat on your property, but don't have a lot of extra time or money set aside for the project? Not a problem! There are numerous wildlife management practices that can make a real impact and won't break the bank or take up the entirety of your weekend. You most likely have all the resources on hand right now and don't even know it. No matter what size your operation is-5 acres or 5000 acres-you can make a significant difference!

Take a peek in any landowner's garage or shop around here and I'll bet you can find all the tools you need for these projects I'm referring to. A chainsaw, a lighter, and a little herbicide is all it takes to improve wildlife populations on your property. No matter if it's rabbits, quail, deer, turkeys, songbirds, or anything in between, they all benefit from early successional habitat (think annual forbs and grasses, blackberry patches, elderberry, etc.). In this FOSA's landscape, early successional is the one habitat type you could be lacking. Don't worry, a couple afternoon's work may be all it takes to turn that around.

The chainsaw is a great tool for increasing habitat on the cheap. Edge feathering is one of these practical practices that doesn't have to take all day and could make all the difference in your upcoming rabbit season. Have a gallon or two of extra glyphosate herbicide (Roundup) setting around the garage? For less than \$10 per acre you could turn something like an old fescue field corner into quality quail, rabbit, turkey, and deer habitat. Maybe you're like me and get a little stir crazy late-winter into early spring. Prescribed burning is a great way to get outside for an afternoon and set back plant succession, clean up woody sprouts, and increase wildlife habitat. All these practices I've just mentioned - edge feathering, fescue eradication, and prescribed burning - increase early successional wildlife habitat and take a minimal amount of time and money to complete.

For more information on increasing wildlife habitat on your property contact your local Private Land Conservationist (PLC) with the Missouri Department of Conservation. I'm housed at the Montgomery City USDA Field Office and can be reached at 573-564-3715 x110 or [Jordon.beshears@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:Jordon.beshears@mdc.mo.gov).

## **Gasconade County Resource Concern Spotlight Sheet/Rill & Gully Erosion**

*Gasconade County Maximum is \$20,000 per year/per landowner.  
Erosion must be above the tolerable (T) level.*

**DSL-1, Permanent Vegetative Establishment (Grass Seeding)** - Assistance is authorized for lime and fertilizer, eligible seed, seeding operation and seedbed prep. Conventional tillage or the no-till method may be used for establishment. Soil Tests are required. Maintenance Agreement – 5 years. **Signup period: Spring – August 15 – January 15, Fall – April 15 – July 15.**

**DSL-2, Permanent Vegetative Enhancement (Legume Overseeding)** – Assistance for seeding of legumes into permanent vegetation and for lime, phosphate and potash, and chemicals necessary to establish the legumes. **Lime is required 6 months in advance of a dormant legume seeding.** The legumes may be applied as a dormant seeding or drilled in the spring. Soil Tests are required. These fields must be able to show rest periods from grazing. Maintenance Agreement – 5 years. **Signup period: March 15 – June 15**

**DSL-4/44, DSL-44, Terrace System** – Assistance necessary for establishing terrace systems with or without tile is provided. Cost-share is allowed to convert an old system to a new system, if the present system is not serving its intended conservation purpose. Maintenance Agreement – 10 years.

**DSL-5, Diversion** – Assistance for diversions, ditches, dikes, or subsurface drains where necessary for the proper function of the diversion. Maintenance Agreement – 10 years.

**DSL-11, Permanent Vegetative Cover on Critical Areas** – This practice is used to stabilize critical areas such as gullies, banks, roadsides, field borders, and similar problems areas on farms. Assistance for measures needed to stabilize a source of sediment, such as grading and shaping, the establishment of grasses, including lime and fertilizer, mulching, trees or shrubs, or fencing to exclude livestock from new plantings. Maintenance Agreement – 5 years.

**DSL-111, Permanent Vegetative Cover on Confined Animal Feed Lots** – This practice receives the same assistance as a Critical Area Treatment. It is used to address erosion problems associated with animal confinement areas, feedlots, hog pens, and other areas where livestock have been confined or allowed continuous access. The following requirements apply: Cost-share is limited to 5 acres per farm. The maximum cost-share is \$500 per acre not to exceed \$2500. Maintenance Agreement – 10 years.

**DWC-1, Water Impoundment Reservoir** – \$15,000 maximum. This practice is to control active gully erosion and to provide water for agriculture uses and/or fire protection. Water Impoundment Reservoir practices must provide water source for livestock/crops as well as meeting erosion factor. They may not be constructed in heavily wooded areas or close to a residential facility. If some trees must be cleared, due to the bat population in our county, we are unable to construct a structure between March and October 31<sup>st</sup>. A watering system and fencing are required. Maintenance Agreement – 10 years.

**DWP-1, Sediment Retention Erosion or Water Control Structures** – Structures such as erosion control dams (dry holes), de-silting reservoirs, sediment basins, debris basins, wascobs, or similar structures. Maintenance Agreement – 10 years.

**DWP-3, Sod Waterways** – To establish waterways through site prep and establishing permanent non-woody vegetative cover. Establishment of berms and berm removal are a component of this practice. Maintenance Agreement – 10 years.

**N-340, Cover Crop** – Provide operators an incentive to encourage the adoption of cover crops for reducing soil erosion, improving water quality and soil health. Applies to cropland acres where row crops are grown and soil erosion needs to be prevented or water quality and soil health improved. Acres must currently be in a minimum of 2 species production crop rotation. Cover crops must be no-tilled or broadcast seeded within the set time frame. The Production crop following the cover crops must be planted using a no-till system. The cover crop seeding must be planned with a minimum of 25% cool-season annual grass, small grain component or warm season grass. Payment of \$30 per acre for a 1 – 2 species planting or \$40 per acre for 3 or more species. There is a lifetime maximum of \$20,000 per operator. **Signup Period: May 15 – September 15**

**MDC PRIVATE LANDS CONSERVATIONIST CHANGES**

Seth Barrioz has taken another position within MDC as of December 2020. Jordon Beshears from Montgomery County will be covering our county until a replacement for Seth is hired. We would like to welcome Jordon and wish Seth the very best.

Jordon Beshears is a MDC Private Land Conservationist for Montgomery and Callaway Counties and is currently serving Gasconade.

Jordon has worked with Missouri Department of Conservation for the last 11 years and has worked and lived across many parts of the state. Jordon says, “No two days are alike in this position, but I would say my main duty is to provide technical assistance on wildlife habitat and forestry improvement projects to landowners within my assigned counties. This covers a wide variety of practices such as prescribed burning, timber stand improvement, prairie plantings, and incorporating wildlife management into

working row crop and livestock farms.”

Jordon and his wife live in northern Montgomery County near Middletown. He enjoys working on their farm, spending time with his small family, and most things outdoor related. They have two daughters and a son all under the age of 5. That pretty much keeps them busy! Jordon is looking forward to working with our Gasconade County Landowners.



***Some of our 2021 Plat Book Photo Contest Entries—Thank you so much for submitting!***



# Gasconade County SWCD

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

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## 2021 Dates to Remember

<b>Jan 15</b>	Signup period for Nutrient/Pest Mgmt— <b>Ends April 15</b>
<b>Feb 2</b>	<b>Board Meeting, Farm Bureau, 6:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Feb 15</b>	President's Day, Office Closed
<b>Mar 2</b>	<b>Board Meeting, TBD, 6:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Mar 12</b>	Healthy Forest=Healthy Communities Poster Contest Due Date
<b>Mar 15</b>	Signup period begins for Dormant/DSP-3.4,3.5 Seedings— <b>Ends June 15th</b>
<b>Apr 6</b>	<b>Board Meeting, TBD, 6:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Apr 15</b>	Signup period begins for fall seedings— <b>Ends July 15th</b>
<b>May 4</b>	<b>Board Meeting, TBC, 6:30 p.m.</b>
<b>May 15</b>	Signup period begins for cover crops— <b>Ends Sep15th</b>
<b>May 31</b>	Memorial Day Holiday—Office closed
<b>June 1</b>	<b>Board Meeting, TBD, 6:30 p.m.</b>
<b>June 15</b>	<b>End of FY21 Cost-share Year</b>

**Be sure to Like us on Facebook and we have a web page listed below. You can signup for e-alerts, either using e-mail or text messages, to get notification of events and programs. Call the office for more information!**

Visit us on the web at <https://mosoilandwater.land/gasconade>

### Gasconade County SWCD Equipment

**A NEW LEASE AGREEMENT MUST BE SIGNED THIS YEAR AND ON FILE AT THE SWCD OFFICE BEFORE EQUIPMENT CAN BE RENTED.**

**Drills: Minimum of 10 acres applies. Proof of vehicle insurance is required at the time of pickup.**

- ◇ 1590 John Deere 10 ft no-till drill! \$12 per acre charge. Located at 3325 Hwy 19 Owensville. Call Gary Miller at 573-690-9065 to schedule.
- ◇ Great Plains 7 ft no-till drill with warm season box is located at the SWCD office. \$10 acre, \$9 per acre over 50. To schedule call 573-473-3478

#### Located at the SWCD Office:

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