

Gasconade County SWCD

August 2017—Volume 28, Issue 1

COST-SHARE RECONSTRUCTION APPROVAL

DUE TO THE APRIL 2017 HEAVY RAINS AND FLOODING

The Soil and Water Districts Commission has given approval for cost-share to reconstruct practices that were damaged due to the heavy rains and flooding starting in late April 2017. The Commission passed the following motion to enact their reconstruction policies for districts listed in the FEMA Disaster Declaration 4317-DR.

- ◆ Approval for reconstruction of soil and water conservation practices currently under a maintenance agreement with assistance on fence reconstruction at 50% and group components to be paid based on individual components damaged.
- ◆ Provide program staff the authority to grant a variance on a case-by-case basis to the no-till requirement in the N-340 Cover Crop Practice for the incorporation of sand deposits and smoothing flood damaged fields.
- ◆ Allow landowners, who prior to having an approved contract, repaired the practices under a maintenance agreement to receive cost-share provided they have appropriate documentation.
- ◆ Allow additional extents to be added to provide cost-share at a rate of 75% (except for fencing components) on components damaged for practices that are in the construction phase.

The reconstruction contracts must be board approved by December 31, 2017.

Gasconade County is in the approved FEMA Disaster Zone, so if you suffered flood damage in April 2017 on any state cost-share practice that is still under maintenance, please contact our office immediately at 573-437-3478 x 3, so that we can process your assistance application. Even if you have made the repairs already, if you have pictures of the damage, we can still provide financial assistance for the repairs.

Sign up for E-Alerts at <https://mosoilandwater.land/gasconade>

Like us on 

Board of Supervisors:

Mike Haeffner—Chairman
Debra Nowack — Vice-Chairman
Joel Wehmeyer —Treasurer
Harvey Hesemann —Member
Matt Herring—Secretary

District Staff:

Manager Diana Mayfield—District Specialist IV
Technician August Horstmann—District Specialist I (courtesy of August Horstmann)



NRCS Staff

Gary Applegate— 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



COME JOIN US
4th Annual Event
Osage, Maries & Gasconade
OMG AgriPride
Women In Agriculture
White Mule Winery
September 7, 2017
3:00 p.m.



3:00-5:30pm	Open Registration and Vendors
3:30-4:15 pm	Beekeeping Workshop or Forestry/Natives Workshop
4:15-5:00 pm	Visit with Area Vendors with Local Products
5:00-5:45 pm	Repeat of Beekeeping Workshop or Forestry/Natives Workshop
6:00 pm	Dinner (Beef Brisket and Pork Loin)
7:15 pm	Speaker, "Susie O" – Kids, Crops, Sows and Cows: Life Happens - Learn to Bounce <i>Susie Oberdahlhoff is a humorist who lives on a working farm in Bowling Green, MO. Woven throughout her witty stories of life on the farm, Susie incorporates her 4 P's of Prosperity and reminds audiences of the importance of learning to bounce through life's twists and turns. Susie challenges audiences to "live life full of experiences rather than excuses. If you're still breathing, there's still time."</i>

Guest Speakers

Susie Oberdahlhoff (O for short) is a city-born preacher's kid turned farm-wife and mother. She entertains audiences across the country with her wit and wisdom. Her unique perspective and gift of storytelling causes people to laugh at life and learn at the same time. Weaved throughout her stories, Susie incorporates her 4 P's of Prosperity and reminds audiences of the importance of learning to bounce through life's twists and turns. Susie lives on a working farm along with her husband, Richard. They raise hogs, cattle, and hay on their acreage located in the rural area near Bowling Green, Missouri. They are parents of two children and two grandchildren.



Becky Matney, Runge Conservation Nature Center Assistant Manager, helps you discover why bringing your forest back to native plants is best. Increase populations of native birds and butterflies, game animals - such as deer and turkey, as well as create an aesthetically pleasing forest. Learn which trees, shrubs, and wildflowers will benefit you and your plan for your acreage. Becky has been with the Missouri Department of Conservation for 11 years as a Naturalist and just recently has been promoted to Assistant Manager of the Runge Conservation Nature Center. She graduated from Missouri State University with a degree in Wildlife Conservation and Forest Management before starting her career with MDC at the Springfield Nature Center, eventually making her way to the Runge Nature Center where she has been for the last nine years. Her husband and two young sons live in Holts Summit and enjoy camping, fishing, and hiking...basically anything to do in the outdoors.



Jane Sueme is owner of Isabee's Beekeeping Supplies in St. Louis County and will present on Introduction to Honeybee Beekeeping, offering basic information and tips on starting honeybee colonies - for hobby, for pollination or for honey production. Jane started with her first hives in 2004 and turned her passion into a business by opening Isabee's in 2009 where she sells beekeeping equipment and honeybee stock, offers classes as well as consulting and management services. Jane has volunteered on the board of the Eastern Missouri Beekeepers Association, served as Communications Coordinator for the Heartland Apicultural Society, co-founded the Saint Louis Beekeepers club and the BeeSpeakSTL speaker series, and recently received her Master Beekeeper certification from the University of Montana.



RSVP by August 15, 2017 to: Maries County SWCD-WIA, 105 Parkway, Vienna, MO 65582

Name _____
 Address _____
 Phone Number _____ Email Address _____
 Additional Attendee Names _____

NOTE: V-Neck T-Shirts are only available with pre-registration—pre-paid by August 15th. Check out Facebook for shirt details.

	Number of Attendees	Price, each	Subtotal
		\$10.00	
Quantity of Shirts	Size (S, M, L, XL, 2X, 3X)	Price, each	
		\$15.00	
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED			

Shuttle available from SWCD office in Vienna. Advanced registration required. Call for more information.

Grazing Systems Provide Optimum Forage Benefits

By August Horstmann

I have seen first-hand how implementing a grazing system has really helped us manage our grass and forages better. By giving our cattle smaller areas to graze, we are seeing more consumption of undesirable plants. For example, we turned 50 pairs into a 12 acre paddock that had a large amount of Queen Anne's Lace in it. After about 10 days of grazing, you can see what the cows have accomplished. I now don't have to brush-hog 12 acres. The cows went into the Paddock on the right the same day this picture was taken. We like to leave the paddock with about 4" of plant material so the plants have time to recover before we rotate back into the paddock. This farm is 75 acres and has been divided into 4 pastures with temporary electric fence. Four pastures are the minimum for which the SWCD will cost-share. I plan to work with the Gasconade County SWCD to divide these 75 acres into at least 10 paddocks in the future.



New Year, New Board

Welcome to Joel Wehmeyer and Harvey Hesemann, who joined our Soil and Water Board on March 30, 2017. They replaced Matthew Estes, who served 4 years and Dennis Berger, who served 8 Years. We thank Dennis and Matthew for all of their service to our community.

Our FY 18 Cost-Share Allocation is \$170,860. If we achieve 90% in a specific recourse concern at the beginning of each month, we will receive an additional \$50,000 in that concern, until we reach \$500,000. The Board has changed policy to state that, if you own 3 acres and can show an annual income of \$1,000 agricultural income, you may be eligible for assistance. So if you have a need to address soil erosion or water quality issues, please contact our office. Technical & administrative services are free.

In FY 17 the District Claimed the following: Sheet/Rill & Gully (\$96,170.22) Grazing System Management (\$65,075.66); Woodland Erosion (\$8,355.00); Sensitive Area (\$32,460.29); Nutrient/Pest Management (\$4,272.00) Animal Waste Facility (0). The District has claimed \$206,333.17 this year.



Please volunteer to assist with our Annual 4th Grade Field Days on October 4th & 5th at the Brenda Kurrelmeyer Farm.

You are sure to bless and be blessed.

Call Diana at 573-437-3478 x 3 by September 1st.

Sign Up Now For Cover Crops

N-340, Cover Crop – Provides 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 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 seedings 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.

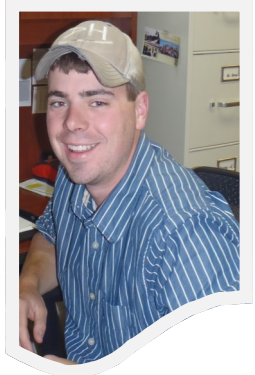


Annual Awards
March 30, 2017



New District Technician

My name is August Horstmann. I was born in St. Louis County and spent my weekends at my grandparent's (Lee & Jessie Horstmann) farm. My grandpa introduced me to the cattle business when I was three years old, when he gave me my first heifer. When I was in high school, my family moved out to Wyoming, and I quickly found a job working on a ranch that ran 350 pairs. After high school, I attended Mizzou to study Animal science. I would spend every weekend on the farm in Owensville. In December 2012, I formed Horstmann Cattle Company LLC, and in Feb of 2013, I bought 55 bred cows. In 2014, the family farm was enrolled with the SWCD cost share program to establish a grazing system and that summer we began by putting in a well as our water source. The spring and summer of 2015 we put in the pipeline and tanks, and in the summer of 2016, we put in the cross fence. I graduated from Mizzou in December of 2015; I planned to graduate one semester early because I had 50 heifers to calve that spring. We currently run about 80 cows and we only fed hay for about 30 days this winter. I am a firm believer of stock piling grass and rotational grazing. On October 8, 2016, I married Katelyn Robertson of Rosebud. We currently reside on the family farm. In my free time, I enjoy training our two border collies, Fly and Kona. When it comes to being the new district technician, I am most looking forward to working alongside the landowners to help implement successful cost-share practices that will benefit their farm.



FSA Updates

ACREAGE REPORTING DEADLINES:

- **2018** hay and pasture acres must be reported by **November 15, 2017**.
(Call the FSA office to hear more about continuous certification for perennial crops, which would eliminate the need to report hay/pasture acres every year.)
- **2018** Fall barley, wheat and other fall seeded small grains must be reported by **December 15, 2017**.

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

- For producers with base acres, **Aug. 1** is the deadline to sign 2017 Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) or Price Loss Coverage (PLC) contracts. If a farm is not enrolled (contract not signed) during the 2017 sign up, producers on that farm will not be eligible for financial assistance from the ARC or PLC programs should crop prices or farm revenues fall below the historical price or revenue benchmarks established by the program. Call the FSA office to check on the status of your contract.

FARM STORAGE FACILITY LOAN PROGRAM (FSFL):

- Producers can obtain a low-interest loan for 3, 5, 7, 10 or 12 years to build or upgrade storage or handling facilities and equipment. New provisions provides expanded options for eligible items. This program includes grain bins and hay barns. Some new and used equipment may be eligible (Ex: Grain Carts, hay trailers, etc). **July Interest Rate: 2%** (Fixed for a 7 year term) Call for more information.

COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTIONS:

- To be eligible to serve on an FSA county committee, a person must participate or cooperate in a program administered by FSA, be eligible to vote in a county committee election and reside in the local administrative area where the person is nominated.
- Farmers and ranchers may nominate themselves or others. Organizations representing minorities and women also may nominate candidates. To become a candidate, an eligible individual must sign the nomination form, FSA-669A.
- Nomination forms for the 2017 election must be postmarked or received in the local USDA Service Center by close of business on Aug. 1, 2016. Elections will take place this fall.

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.

Gasconade County SWCD

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

STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Owensville, MO
Permit No. 8

2017 Dates to Remember

AUG 1	BOARD MTG—USDA SERVICE CENTER 6:30
SEPT 4	LABOR DAY HOLIDAY—OFFICE CLOSED
SEPT 5	BOARD MTG—USDA SERVICE CENTER 6:30
SEPT 7	OMG-WIA CONFERENCE—WHITE MULE WINERY
SEPT 11—13	STATE WIA CONFERENCE—OLD KINDERHOOK
OCT 3	BOARD MTG—USDA SERVICE CENTER 6:30
OCT 4—5	ANNUAL 4TH GRADE FIELD DAYS
OCT 9	COLUMBUS DAY HOLIDAY—OFFICE CLOSED
NOV 7	BOARD MTG—USDA SERVICE CENTER 6:30
NOV 10	VETERAN'S DAY HOLIDAY—OFFICE CLOSED
NOV 23	THANKSGIVING DAY HOLIDAY—OFFICE CLOSED
NOV 27-29	ANNUAL TRAINING CONFERENCE—STAFF OUT OF OFFICE
DEC 5	BOARD MTG—FARM BUREAU MTG RM 6 PM
DEC 25	CHRISTMAS DAY HOLIDAY—OFFICE CLOSED
JAN 1, 2018	NEW YEAR'S DAY HOLIDAY—OFFICE CLOSED
JAN 2	BOARD MTG—USDA SERVICE CENTER 6:30

The GCSWCD is now on Facebook. Search for Gasconade County MO Soil & Water Conservation District. Be sure to like us on Facebook so you don't miss out on any important updates!

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

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 Gary Miller, 3325 Hwy 19 Owensville. Call 573-690-9065 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) - \$100 deposit, \$20 a day each piece
- ◇ ATV Warm Season Grass Seeder—no charge—Donated by Quail Unlimited
- ◇ Soil Probe - no charge