

Gasconade County SWCD

July 2018—Volume 29, Issue 1

Amazing End of Fiscal Year

The Gasconade County SWCD (GCSWCD) wrapped up an amazing fiscal year with \$173,299.65 paid out to landowners to address their soil erosion or water quality resource concerns. The Soil and Water Program paid out a grand total of \$41 million to landowners across the state.

We spent the following in each resource concern.

- ♦ Livestock Exclusion—\$3,961.54
- ♦ Grazing Management Practices—\$50,951.10
- ♦ Sensitive Areas—\$13,275.25
- ♦ Sheet/Rill and Gully Erosion—\$101,671.76
- ♦ Nutrient & Pest Management—\$3,440.00

We are already processing applications for our FY19 Cost-share year. To date, we have obligated \$123,693.25. We are pleased to note that we have two Animal Waste Facilities being installed for the first time in our county.

The SWCD program now supports sending out additional funds each month in every resource concern that is obligated at least 90%. This provides us with the funding to work on many more projects as we progress throughout the year. So your wait for service and funding is very short. The GCSWCD addresses the following resource concerns.

- ♦ Livestock Exclusion—Woodland and/or Pond Fencing—Your perimeter fence must be intact and maintained for this practice.
- ♦ Grazing Management Practices—This program establishes a system that consists of a water source (if needed), watering facilities in fields that are cross-fenced into smaller paddocks. Grazing School is a required element for these practices.
- ♦ Nutrient/Pest Management—Incentive payments to follow a specific plan for nutrient and/or pest (herbicide or pesticide).
- ♦ Sensitive Areas—Well Decommissioning, Spring Development, Riparian Forest Buffer, Streambank Protection, and Streambank Stabilization.
- ♦ Sheet/Rill and Gully Erosion-Terraces, Diversions, Ponds, Waterways, Critical Area Treatments, Pasture Establishment and Enhancement, and Cover Crops.
- ♦ Animal Waste Storage Facilities—These facilities could be for beef, dairy, swine, or poultry.

If you have concerns on your land, please contact us first to see if you qualify for assistance. Please give us a call at 573-437-3478 ext 3 to schedule a site visit or to obtain more information. You may also visit our website at <https://mosoilandwater.land/gasconade>. We would be glad to assist you!

The cost-share funds are provided through one-half of the 1/10th of 1% Parks and Soils and Water Sales Tax that was renewed in 2016.

Board of Supervisors:

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

District Staff:

- Manager Diana Mayfield—District Specialist IV
- Technician Sarah Berkemeyer—District Specialist I

NRCS Staff

- Gary Applegate— District Conservationist
- Mark Brandt—Lead Resource Conservationist
- DJ Schroeder—Soil Conservation Technician
- Wally Corey—ACES Technician

MDC STAFF:

- Seth Barrioz—Private Lands Conservationist
- Scott Williams—Fisheries Biologist
- Aaron Holsapple—Forester
- Adam Jones—Wildlife Biologist

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

Like us on



Welcome our New District Technician

Sarah Berkemeyer is our new District Specialist Technician for Gasconade County. Sarah is the daughter of Bill and Beverly Turner of Japan, MO. She grew up on the family farm with 2 brothers and attended Owensville High School. After graduating high school, she went on to study Horticulture at East Central College where she found her love of vineyards. She spent several years working in local vineyards for many of the local wineries such as Stone Hill Winery of Hermann and Blumenhof Winery of Dutzow. After working in the vineyards and wineries, she went on to become a locator for USIC where she worked as a DIGRITE utilities locator for five and a half years in Gasconade County, Franklin County, and several surrounding counties.



Sarah is the mother of 2 sons, Wyatt age 13 and Wade age 4, who keep her very busy on their own little farm in Japan, MO, where they raise dairy goats and cows. Some of her other passions are kayaking the local rivers and biking the Katy Trail with her family and friends.

Release of Access Control Acres Due to Drought

In response to the impacts of extended dry weather since last fall, the Soil and Water Districts Commission granted a statewide variance during their June 13, 2018, meeting allowing grazing until September 1, 2018, in livestock excluded areas that are under maintenance of a state cost-share contract. The variance applies to the following practices:

- N-472 Woodland Protection Through Livestock Exclusion
- DWC-1 Water Impoundment Reservoir
- N-386 Field Border
- N-393 Filter Strip
- N-472 Livestock Exclusion
- WQ-IO Stream Protection

Any seeding in the excluded area that is within the first year of establishment should be evaluated carefully, to determine if it can withstand grazing. If you have any questions, please contact our office before you open up these acres to grazing.

Did you miss our Grazing School?

Franklin County is hosting a school on September 12–13th in Sullivan. If you are interested, please give Lori a call at 636-583-2303.

High quality Whitetail Forage In Low Fertility Soils

by Seth Barrioz. MDC Private Land Conservationist

How many times have we heard that the Ozarks of Missouri don't produce the big antlered bucks like Northern Missouri because their soils are so poor? I know that this topic, for me, is discussed quite often. However, new research may lead us to rethink this topic.

Whitetail deer researchers in Tennessee sought to prove or dispel this myth. They took plant and soil samples across 12 states, including Missouri. What they found was that individual plant species had similar nutrient and crude protein levels across a variety of soils. With regards to deer nutrition needs, forbs (broadleaf plants) contained more crude protein than woody plants.

What does all this mean? Well, from a managers standpoint, it indicates that no matter whether we are standing on deep prairie soils of Northern Missouri or the rocky woodlands of the Missouri Ozarks, our native plants are still producing the same amount of beneficial nutrients and that is going directly into the deer foraging on it.

So then we ask does soil fertility even matter? Well, yes it does! Even though the plants have the same nutritional value, because of soil fertility the plants themselves produce less forage in poorer soils. In a deer's world less forage means that either 1) fewer deer can be sustained, i.e. carrying capacity or 2) deer will not have enough forage to adequately express their genetic traits, i.e. antlers.

Unfortunately, here in Gasconade County we are unable to fertilize our woods as it is just not a practical practice nor beneficial, but when it comes to our old fields that are directly managed for wildlife, I would encourage some liming and fertilization to increase the tonnage of browse and not let that be a limiting factor. In our woodlands, I encourage landowners to thin the woodlands to get sunlight down on the ground and burn the leaf litter to stimulate those forbs that provide higher crude protein than the woody browse of unmanaged woodlands. Typically, thinning alone isn't enough to get the true extent of the vegetation produced. The burning is critical, as it will expose the seed that is currently in the soil for germination. Planting back isn't necessary in many cases, as natives plant species have been know to respond to fire and sunlight even after being closed canopy for 80 years. Examples of these high quality browse plants include pokeweed, old field aster, prickly lettuce, blackberry, beggar's lice, ragweed, sunflowers, and goldenrod. In the case where seeding might be necessary, would be in areas where livestock have openly grazed the woodlands. In these cases, I would restrict livestock access to the woodlands and then over seed the area after thinning.

For more information on how to manage for these high quality plants please give me a call at 573-897-3797 x116.



24th Annual

Missouri State
Women in Ag Conference



Treasures of
Southeast
Missouri



2018

Women In Ag

Cape Girardeau, MO
September 17-19, 2018

USDA is an Equal Opportunity Provider,
Employer and Lender

Funds have been provided by the Missouri
Parks, Soils & Water Sales Tax

**For more information or a registration form,
please contact us at 573-437-3478 ext 3.**

FSA Updates

ACREAGE REPORTING DEADLINES:

- **2019** hay and pasture acres must be reported by **November 15, 2018**.
(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.)
- **2019** Fall barley, wheat and other fall seeded small grains must be reported by **December 15, 2018**.

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

- For producers with base acres, **Aug. 1** is the deadline to sign 2018 Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) or Price Loss Coverage (PLC) contracts. If a farm is not enrolled (contract not signed) during the 2018 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, skid steers etc). **July Interest Rate: 3%** (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 2019 election must be postmarked or received in the local USDA Service Center by close of business on Aug. 1, 2018. 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.

Calling All Volunteers

We are looking for fun loving volunteers to assist with our upcoming 4th Grade Field Days on October 3 & 4 at the Kurrelmeyer Farm.

It is a great opportunity to mingle with our youth and teach them a little something to boot!

Please give us a call at 573-437-3478 x 3 and sign-up today!



2018 Poster Contest Winners

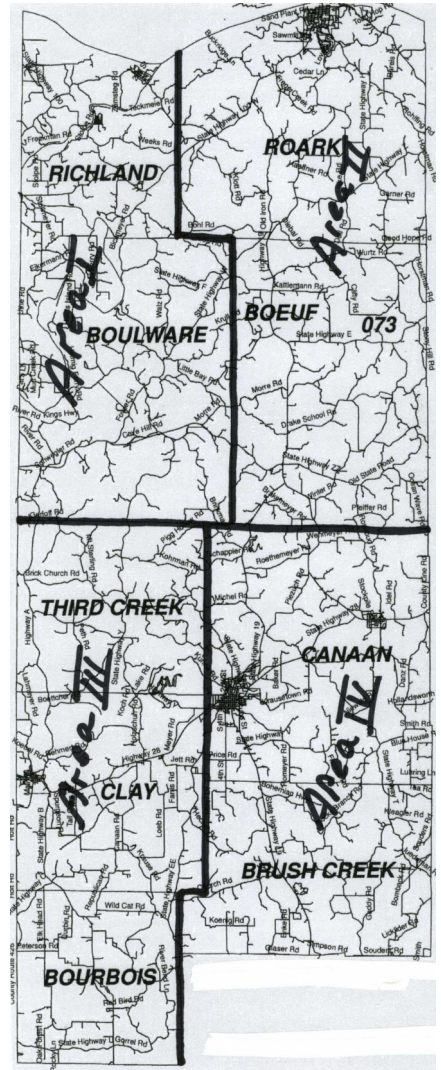
Election Notification

The GCSWCD will be holding an election in the spring of 2019 for the Board Supervisor positions for Area I (Richland and Boulware Townships) and Area III (Third Creek, Clay, and Bourbois Townships). We will be needing two nominating committees by November 2018, consisting of 3 persons each, willing to seek candidates to run for these positions.

To serve on the nominating committee, you must be an agricultural landowner and cooperator of the district and a tax paying resident for a minimum of 2 years, and you must live in the designated area.

A Supervisor candidate must also be an agricultural landowner and cooperator of the district and a tax paying resident for a minimum of 2 years; however, they do not necessarily have to live in the specified area. The candidate must be willing to attend all Board Meetings, which are scheduled on the 1st Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. The term of office is 4 years.

If you are interested in serving on the nominating committee or as a Supervisor candidate, please contact the office at 573-437-3478 x 3.



2018 Farm Tour

**BRING
LAWN
CHAIRS**

**Gasconade County
SWCD/NRCS Sponsored**



**October 18, 2018
Beginning at 3:30**



- ◆ 3:30 PM—Jason Kopp Farm, 3075 Pin Oak Road, Gerald. Tour established winter grazed N-340 Cover Crop and WQ-10 Stream Protection Practice
- ◆ 4:15 PM Travel to next Farm
- ◆ 4:45 PM—Richard Greunke Farm, 2239 Hwy ZZ, Owensville. Tour established DSP-3 Grazing System and Century Farm
- ◆ 5:30 PM—Dinner at the Greunke Farm with a short presentation on:
 - ⇒ FSA Programs—Kate Gerlemann, County Executive Director
 - ⇒ NRCS/SWCD Cost-share Programs and Maintenance Requirements
 - ⇒ NRCS David Doctorian—Soil Health Trailer

Registration

Please register for this event by calling 573-437-3478 ext 3 by October 5th.

Meal is provided courtesy of the Gasconade County Soil & Water Conservation District

Helping People Help the Land
An Equal Opportunity Provider, Employer, and Lender



Above: Kathy Shoemaker—2018 Volunteer Award Recipient

Below: Mike Stillman—Representing VFW 6133 as our Partnership Award Recipient.



2018 Conservation Family of the Year



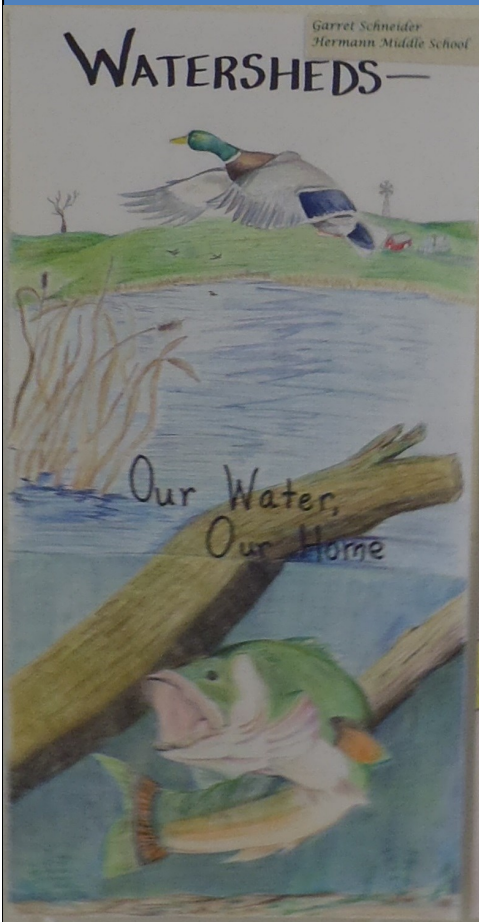
Richard and Pamela Greunke have been married for 40 years and have 3 children (Beth, Josh and David) and 7 grandchildren. Richard is a lifetime farmer and is the operator of the families' century farm, which was granted status in 2001. They currently run 20-25 head of cows plus calves. The calves are sold as feeders. The farm is a combination of pasture and woodlands. Some of the pastures are cut for hay. A rotational grazing system is used along with strip grazing in fall and early winter. Excess hay is sold (if lucky).

The Greunke's have been cooperating with the Gasconade County SWCD since 2012, when Richard began by attending a grazing school.

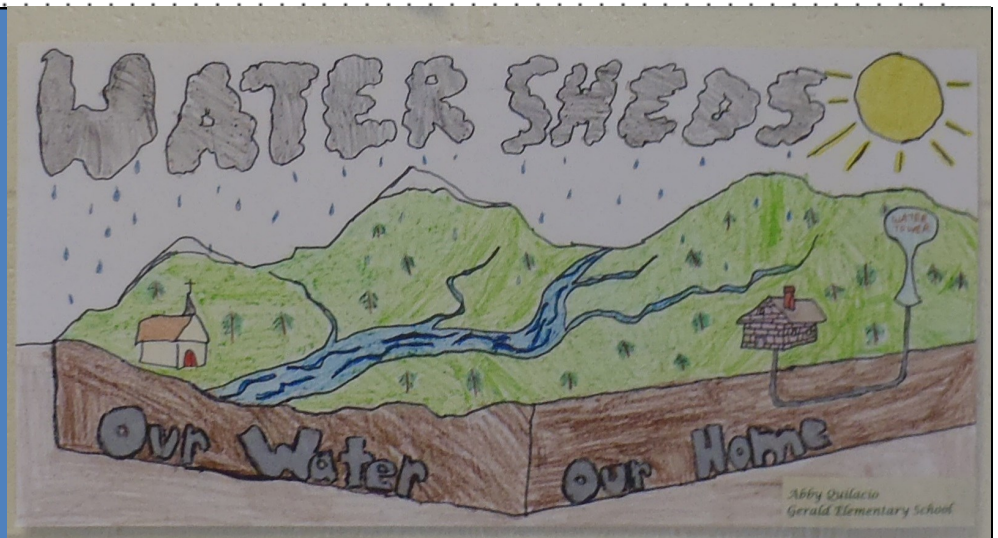
The Greunke's have installed 4300 feet of pipeline and 3 tire tanks and 2 frost proof tanks. They plan to install at least two more tanks in 2018. They have also protected their woodlands by installing 5600 feet of electric fence. They have found the lime and overseeding legume practices very helpful in maintaining their soil health.

Richard is a lifelong member of St John Lutheran Church, Drake. He is a member of Bay Community American Legion Unit 541, Gasconade County Threshers Association and the NRA. He retired from the Gasconade County Road department after 38.5 years of service. Pam is also a member of St John Lutheran Church and the Bay Community American Legion Auxiliary. She is currently serving as the Gasconade County Circuit Clerk & Ex-Officio Recorder of Deeds. They are both life members of the Gasconade County Bible Society and members of the Gasconade County and Missouri Cattleman's Association and Gasconade County Farm Bureau. Congratulations on a job well done!

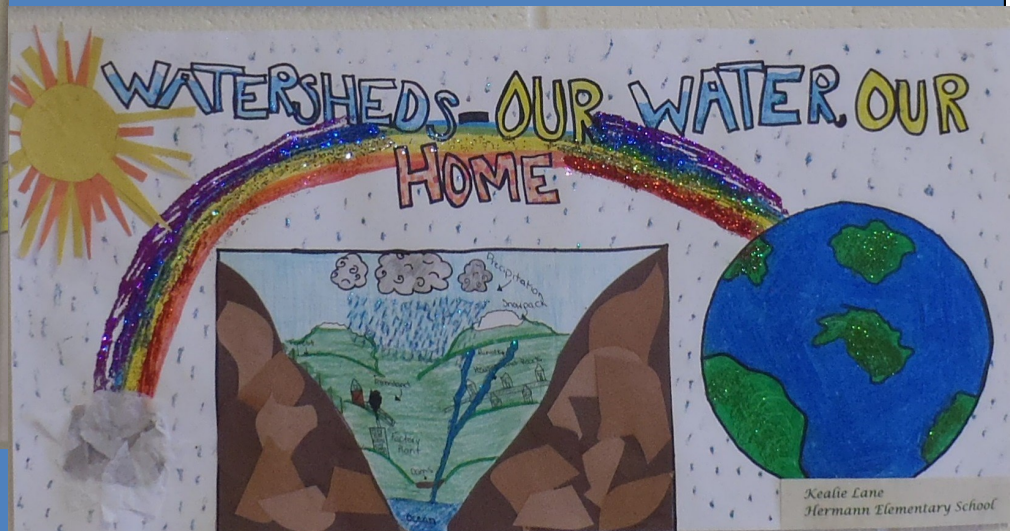
2018 State Entries



Garrett Schneider
Hermann Middle School
7th—8th Grade



Abby Quilacio, Gerald Elementary School
2nd—3rd Grade Entry



Kealie Lane, Hermann Elementary School
4th—6th Grade Entry

Raised Up DOWN HOME

Women in Agriculture 5th Annual Event

Thursday, September 6, 2018
White Mule Winery



Send RSVPs and Check
by August 15, 2018 to:

Maries County SWCD-WIA
105 Parkway | Vienna, MO 65582
Email: sandy.stratman@swcd.mo.gov
573-422-3342

Admission: \$10 pre-paid/\$15 at the door

Limited Seating



@omg.wia

Schedule of Events

- 3:00-5:30pm Open Registration and Vendors
- 3:30-4:15 pm Two Workshop Choices – Heritage Homesteads: Buildings of our Past or Cast Iron Cooking
- 4:15-5:00 pm Visit with Area Vendors with Local Products
- 5:00-5:45 pm Repeat of Workshops – Heritage Homesteads: Buildings of our Past or Cast Iron Cooking
- 6:00 pm Dinner (Beef Brisket and Pork Loin)
- 7:15 pm Speaker, Cynthia Crawford - Declutter Your Life

Have you had enough of living frantically and fragmented? Cynthia will clue you in on why clutter – both physical and psychological – is even worse for you than you think it is and strategies for conquering the cycle of cluttered lives. The rewards are rich – more of what you want (and she's not talking about things.)

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____ Email Address _____

Additional Attendee Names _____

NOTE: Shirt details are on Facebook. Orders are preferred with pre-registration—paid by August 15.
The shirts are 3/4 sleeve baseball tees this year.

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

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

Gasconade County SWCD

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

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2018 Dates to Remember

August 7	BOARD MTG—CANCELLED
August 21	MASWCD Area 5—Montgomery City 4:00 pm
Sept 3	Labor Day Holiday, Office Closed
Sept 6	OMG-WIA Conference—White Mule Winery, pg 7
Sept 7	BOARD MTG—USDA SERVICE CENTER 6:30 pm
Sept 12-13	Franklin County Grazing School, pg 2
Sept 17-19	State WIA Conference—Cape Girardeau, pg 3
October 2	BOARD MTG—USDA SERVICE CENTER 6:30 pm
October 3-4	Annual 4th Grade Field Days
October 8	Columbus Day—Office Closed
October 18	Farm Tour— pg 5
November 6	BOARD MTG—USDA SERVICE CENTER 6:30 pm *Election Day*
November 12	Veteran’s Day Holiday—Office Closed
November 22	Thanksgiving Day Holiday—Office Closed
Nov 26—28	Annual Training Conference—SWCD staff out of office
December 4	BOARD MTG—TBA 6:30 pm
December 25	Christmas Holiday—Office Closed
January 1, 2019	New Years Day Holiday—Office Closed

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