

# Grundy County Conservation Update

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**EQUIPMENT FOR RENT AT THE SWCD OFFICE**

- \* 12' Great Plains No-Till Drill  
- \$7/acre (\$50/minimum)
- \* 24' Krause Cultipacker  
- \$6/acre-2 passes (\$50/min)
- \* Vermeer Big Bale Mulcher  
- \$75/day or \$200/5-day wk
- \* 4' Plotmaster Seeder  
- \$25/day
- \* 24' Ogden Harrow  
- \$100/day
- \* Toreq Scraper (6 cu. yd.)  
- \$100/day or \$75/day (2 days)
- \* 15' Rhino Rotary Cutter  
- \$150/day or \$900/7-day wk
- \* Root Plow (18" – 24" Deep)  
- \$10
- \* 80" Rotary Tiller  
- \$50/day
- \* Survey Equipment - \$15/day
- \* Burn Equipment - \$25/day

## New Faces at SWCD & Monies to Distribute

When you stop by the Soil & Water Conservation District Office you will see the new faces that have joined the team.

Heather Keith joined the district staff October 8, 2008 as the District Program Specialist and Web Maintainer. She works with landowners by assisting with contracts, bills and submitting claims for the Cost-Share Program. Heather is married to Mike and has 2 children, Derik & Kristyn.

Kevin Stover joined the district staff November 10, 2008 as the District Technician. He works closely with landowners to design and implement conservation practices. Kevin will advise landowners on conservation practice methods. Kevin has a daughter, RyLee.



Due to the extremely wet weather conditions, many needed conservation practices have been delayed or moved to the wayside. We still have cost-share monies available for YOU!

Make plans to stop by the SWCD/NRCS Office and visit with us for your conservation needs. We have Kevin, Corey, Scott, Marggie and Heather ready to assist you.

Make your conservation plans and sign-up for the many cost-share practices that will benefit you and your land.

Soil Conservation is the goal...Conservation Practices are the key!

We will leave you with the words of a good friend,

**“What gets measured...Gets done!”**

## County Board Members (cont. Page 2)

**Kendall Foster**

**Chairman of the Board**

Kendall grew up on a farm and began his farming endeavor in 1974. He is married to Mary Jo and has 3 children: Kendra, Marshall and Malinda. Kendall has been on the Board since 1997.

**Mike Trump**

**Vice-Chairman of the Board**

Mike is a life-long resident of Grundy County. A strong farming background compliments his role on the SWCD Board. Mike has been on the Board since 2001.

*“Meet the Grundy County Staff & Board Members”*

## County Board Members (cont. from Page 1)

### John Rice

#### Treasurer of the Board

John grew up in the Southern part of Grundy County. He retired from NRCS after 30 years of service. He still operates the family farm with his brother. John is married to Margaret and has 4 children and 6 grandchildren. John has been on the Board since 1995.

### Tim Baker

#### Secretary of the Board

Tim is a Horticulture Specialist for University of Missouri Extension. He works with commercial fruit & vegetable growers in six Northwest MO counties and serves as the County Program Director for the Grundy County Extension Center. Tim has served on the Board since April, 2008.

### Paul Johnson

#### Member of the Board

Paul grew up on a farm and began his farming endeavor in 1975. He is married to Stormy and has 2 daughters, Jessie & Rachel. Paul has been on the Board since 2003.

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## District Staff

### Marggie Scott

#### Contact [Marggie](#)

Hickory Creek 319 Watershed Manager for the Soil & Water Conservation District. Marggie provides support for Watershed demonstration projects. Marggie has been with the District over 7 years.

### Heather Keith

#### Contact [Heather](#)

District Program Specialist and Web Maintainer for the Soil & Water Conservation District. Heather works with landowners and oversees the Cost-Share Program. Heather joined the District October 8, 2008.

### Kevin Stover

#### Contact [Kevin](#)

District Technician for the Soil & Water Conservation District. Kevin works with landowners to help design and implement conservation practices. Kevin joined the District November 10, 2008.

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## NRCS Staff & MDC Staff

### Scott McClure

#### Contact [Scott](#)

District Conservationist (DC) NRCS employee that works with landowners interested in natural resource conservation to implement conservation practices on their land and serves as a technical advisor to the Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) within a Field Office Service Area (FOSA). Scott is the DC for the Grundy/Mercer FOSA and has been employed by NRCS for over 20 years.

### Corey Walker

#### Contact [Corey](#)

Soil Conservationist for the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Corey assists landowners in planning and implementing conservation practices. He plans the layout and design of structural practices, such as ponds and terraces. Corey started with the SWCD as a District Technician in 1994, then in 2001 began working for NRCS.

### MDC Staff

### Scott Roy

#### Contact [Scott](#)

Private Land Conservationist for the Missouri Department of Conservation, serving Grundy, Mercer and Livingston Counties. Scott helps landowners meet wildlife management objectives on their farms and provides technical support to the FSA and NRCS concerning fish, forest and wildlife needs.



## SAFE Acres for Quail

A new continuous Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) sign-up is currently underway. Landowner's who are interested in managing for bobwhite quail may be eligible for **SAFE – State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement** also known as **CP38E**.

In May the USDA's Farm Service Agency approved 6250 acres for statewide use. Producers must meet basic eligibility requirements for CRP. Also, the land being offered can not be currently enrolled in another CRP program. Contract lengths will be 14 to 15 years. In return producers will receive annual CRP rental payments, incentive

payments and cost-share assistance to help with establishment cost.

The goal of **SAFE** is to provide nesting and brood-rearing habitat for bobwhite quail within a CRP field. Landowners will be required to establish between 10 to 20 percent of the area in annual grain food plots, create 1 percent shrubby escape cover by edgefeathering or planting shrubs and installing a native warm season grass/wildflower mix. Mid-contract management will be required once the grass stand is established.

All cropland fields (meeting CRP requirements) as well as CRP contracts expiring in 2008 and 2009 are

eligible. Entire fields or partial fields may be enrolled. Acres are going quickly. Currently 4000 acres have been accepted with the balance expected to go after the fall harvest. The good news is talk is already underway to shift more acres to the program.

If you are interested in finding out if you qualify for CRP SAFE contact your local Farm Service Agency office or your local MDC Private Land Conservationist.

**Article Courtesy of  
Scott Roy Missouri  
Department of  
Conservation**

*“The goal of **SAFE** is to provide nesting and brood-rearing habitat for bobwhite quail within a CRP field..”*

## Pond Cost-Share Limit Raised

For years, the amount of cost-share a landowner could receive for building a pond, or structure was limited to \$8,250. This meant that in order to receive full cost-share, the total project cost was limited to around \$11,000. This limit was set statewide by the Soil and Water District's Commission. Any costs that ran over this limit had to be paid completely by the landowner.

This limit was originally set to keep a few people from

abusing the system and building large recreational lakes. However, rapidly rising costs in the last few years have severely limited the size of even legitimate ponds that could be built under the cost limit.

In response to this rising cost burden for landowners, several SWCD boards, including Grundy County, wrote letters and petitioned the Commission to raise the cost-share limit.

At a meeting this summer, the Commission did vote to raise the limit to \$10,000.

Hopefully fuel and steel prices will also stabilize, or even decline and these combined factors will make this popular conservation practice somewhat more affordable.

If you have an eroding ditch and have been thinking of building a pond, now may be a good time to check into it. If you would like more information on ponds, or other cost-share practices, please stop by the office, or give us a call.

**Article Courtesy of  
Corey Walker NRCS**

## 2009 Grundy County Cost-Share Report

*“\$271,395.59  
Monies obligated  
for the 2009  
Year!”*

Practice Type	# of Practices	\$'s Obligated to date
Vegetative Cover	3	\$14,267.85
Terrace Systems	6	\$41,446.00
Grazing Systems	1	\$13,500.00
Ponds	16	\$133,561.24
Basins	9	\$29,721.66
Sod Waterways	4	\$15,040.81
Use Exclusion	1	\$1,161.60
Stream Protection	1	\$22,696.43

**This table displays the practice type, number of practices and dollars obligated to date for the 2009 fiscal year.  
7/1/08 – 6/30/09**

### Brief History of the Cost-Share Program

In 1982, Missouri was losing soil at a rate of 10.9 tons per acre each year on cultivated cropland. A one-tenth-of-one-percent parks, soils and water sales tax was passed by Missouri voters in 1984 to fund state parks and soil conservation efforts. Prior to the passage of the parks, soils and water sales tax, Missouri had the second highest rate of erosion in the nation.

Almost two-thirds of Missouri voters renewed the tax in 1988 and 1996. In 2006, the tax passed by its highest percentage to date (70.8). Since 1982, Missouri has reduced its rate of soil erosion more than any other state.

The majority of the soils side of this tax has been used to assist agricultural landowners through voluntary programs that

are administered by the Soil and Water Conservation Program through district boards in each of the 114 counties. By promoting good farming practices that help keep the soil on the fields, each soil and water conservation district is conserving the productivity of our working lands.

This excerpt was found at <http://dnr.missouri.gov/env/swcp/overview.htm>

### Pumpkin Eater

Pumpkins were once recommended for removing freckles and curing snake bites!

Pumpkin flowers are edible.

Pumpkins are 90% water.

Pumpkins are used for feed for animals.

Pumpkin seeds can be roasted as a snack.

Native Americans used pumpkin seeds for food and medicine.

In early colonial times, pumpkins were used

as an ingredient for the crust of pies, not the filling.

The name "pumpkin" originated from "pepon", the Greek word for "large melon."

Pumpkins contain potassium and Vitamin A.

This excerpt was found at [http://www.agday.org/education/fun\\_facts.php](http://www.agday.org/education/fun_facts.php)



## Kid's Corner – Fun Food Facts

### How many turkeys do Americans eat at Thanksgiving?

Americans gobble up 45 million turkeys each year on Thanksgiving - about one for every seven people.

**Pumpkins are fruits, not vegetables!** The average pumpkin weighs between 10 and 30 pounds. The winner of the 2003 biggest pumpkin contest weighed 1,140 pounds.

**Which vegetable do Americans eat the most?** Potatoes! The average person in the United States eats 140 pounds of potatoes every year. Bet you didn't realize that the potato was the first vegetable to be grown in space!

*"A 1,140 pound PUMPKIN!"*

These facts were found at [http://content.fsa.usda.gov/fsakids/food\\_facts.htm](http://content.fsa.usda.gov/fsakids/food_facts.htm)

## Kid's Corner – Chocolate Chunk Cookies

### Ingredients (makes 16)

- ½ cup - (1 stick) Butter
- ½ cup Sugar
- ½ cup Brown Sugar (packed)
- 1 Egg
- ½ tsp Vanilla Extract
- ¾ cup All Purpose Flour
- ½ tsp Salt
- ½ tsp Baking Powder
- ½ tsp Baking Soda
- ½ cup Rolled Oats
- 1 ¼ cups Chocolate Chunks

### Directions

- Preheat oven to 350°F.
- Combine butter, sugar and brown sugar in a large bowl. Beat mixture until creamy. Add egg and vanilla; stir & set aside.
- Combine flour, salt, baking powder and baking soda into a small bowl. Stir the flour mixture into the butter mixture. Stir in the rolled oats and chocolate chunks.
- Spoon tablespoonfuls of the

dough, about 2 inches apart, onto the prepared (lightly greased) baking sheets. Bake cookies until lightly browned, 8-10 minutes.

### YUMO...Enjoy!

#### Great Ideas

**Use semisweet, milk or white chocolate in place of chocolate chunks. Substitute raisins for a healthier treat.**

**Turn these chocolatey cookies into ice-cream sandwiches. Just spoon some ice cream between 2 cookies and enjoy!**



## Farmland Foods hosts WWMD

World Water Monitoring Day™ is an international education and outreach program that builds public awareness and involvement in protecting water resources around the world by engaging citizens to conduct basic monitoring of their local water bodies.

An easy-to-use test kit enables everyone from children to adults to sample local water bodies

for a core set of water quality parameters including temperature, acidity (pH), clarity (turbidity) and dissolved oxygen (DO). Results are shared with participating communities around the globe through the WWMD Web site.

This excerpt was taken from: [http://www.worldwatermonitoringday.com/About/About\\_Main.html](http://www.worldwatermonitoringday.com/About/About_Main.html)

Farmland Foods Environmental Team consisting of Mike Keith, Ken Dunlap and Josh McCabe worked with local students on temperature, acidity (pH), clarity (turbidity) and dissolved oxygen (DO) testing of a local body of water. Students were divided into three groups which allowed students to personally run at least one analysis. After the completion of water analysis students, teachers and the Environmental team shared pizza, chips, and soda.



**FARMLAND FOODS ENVIRONMENTAL TEAM HOSTS WORLD WATER MONITORING DAY AT LOCAL ELEMENTARY.**

USDA Service Center  
Grundy County Soil & Water  
Conservation District  
3415 Oklahoma Avenue  
Trenton, MO 64683

Phone 660-359-2006 x3  
Fax 660-359-3249  
E-mail Questions or Comments  
[Heather.Keith@swcd.mo.gov](mailto:Heather.Keith@swcd.mo.gov)



**District Staff**

**Marggie Scott**  
Watershed Manager

**Heather Keith** – District  
Program Specialist &  
Web Maintainer

**Kevin Stover** – District  
Technician I

**NRCS Staff**

**Scott McClure**  
District Conservationist

**Corey Walker**  
Soil Conservationist

**MDC Staff**

**Scott Roy** - Private  
Lands Conservationist

**County Board Members**

**Kendall Foster** – Chairman

**Mike Trump** – Vice-Chairman

**John Rice** – Treasurer

**Tim Baker** – Secretary

**Paul Johnson** - Member

**Mission Statement**

The purpose of the Grundy County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) is to construct and carry out a complete soil and water conservation program on all lands within Grundy County, Missouri. The district supervisors will work with all individuals, organizations and agencies interested in saving, maintaining and improving soil and water resources within the district.

2008 Upcoming Events

**Holiday Closings**

October 13<sup>th</sup>

Columbus Day

November 11<sup>th</sup>

Veteran's Day

November 27<sup>th</sup>

Thanksgiving Day

December 25<sup>th</sup>

Christmas Day

January 1<sup>st</sup>

New Year's Day

**SWCD Board Meetings**

October 20<sup>th</sup> – 9:00 am

November 17<sup>th</sup> – 9:00 am

December 15<sup>th</sup> – 11:30 am

Board Meetings are  
held at the  
USDA Service Center  
3415 Oklahoma Avenue

All meetings are open to  
the public with the  
exception of executive  
sessions. If you wish to  
be on the agenda please  
notify the District prior  
to the meeting.

Happy Holidays to you  
from the Staff!



We're on the Web!  
[www.swcd.mo.gov/grundy](http://www.swcd.mo.gov/grundy)

RECEIVE GRUNDY  
COUNTY SWCD  
QUARTERLY  
NEWSLETTERS  
ELECTRONICALLY.  
  
SIGN UP @  
[Heather.Keith@swcd.mo.gov](mailto:Heather.Keith@swcd.mo.gov)  
  
KEY WORDS –  
SIGN ME UP!

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**Grundy County SWCD**  
3415 Oklahoma Ave.  
Trenton, MO 64683