



Grundy County Conservation Connection

<http://www.swcd.mo.gov/grundy>

July 2010 – September 2010

Volume 3 Issue 1

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Women In Agriculture
- 1 County Poster Winners
- 2 Seeding Notes
- 3 Poster Pics
- 4 Conservation Photo Contest
- 5 Conservation Series by Encarta
- 6 Conservation Series by Encarta
- 7 Kids Corner/Recipe
- 8 Equipment Notes
- 9 Equipment Notes

Women In Agriculture Set for Branson

By HeatherK

Mark you calendars for Monday, September 13th thru Wednesday, September 15th for the 16th Annual Women In Agriculture Conference @ Branson.

This year's theme...Growing in Harmony.

You can find the registration brochure on our website at <http://www.swcd.mo.gov/grundy/documents/WIA2010-Branson.pdf>

For the Monday agenda there will be a trade show/exhibit area and you will have a choice of 3 workshops to choose from. The workshops available are: 1:30-2:15 Trust Me? (Dean Young, financial planner with Heim Young & Associates, explain basics of trusts and criteria to consider before establishment), Discover Nature Women: Introduction to Archery (Come learn the basics of archery. Designed for women wanting to learn the fundamentals covering safety, parts of the bow, different types, stances and techniques to get you on target), and F.A.S.T. Recordkeeping (Learn farm management skills for today's farm women), 2:30-3:15 Trust Me?, "A Branson Memento" (Christa Pickle with Scrapbooks Forever will help you create a chipboard mini-album with a Branson theme, preregistration &

Please see *Women In Ag set for Branson* on page 2

County Poster Winners Announced

By HeatherK

Our County winners for 4th grade are Wyatt Neal; SM Rissler 1st place, Samantha Mihalovich; SM Rissler 2nd place and Jonathon Stimpson; Grundy R-5 3rd place. County winners for 5th grade are Mercedes Elliott; TMS 1st place, Ruby Whitt; Laredo R-7 2nd place and Sarah Haynes; TMS 3rd place. County winners for 6th grade are Sadie Roy; TMS 1st place, Haley Johnson; Grundy R-5 2nd place and Kail McCarter; TMS 3rd place.

Wyatt Neal, Mercedes Elliott and Sadie Roy will advance to State Competition.

Please see *County Poster Winners* on page 3

*Neal, Elliott & Roy
advance to State
Competition!*

Seeding Notes

By Kevin Stover

Seeding and Cost-Share

Seeding Note: Don't forget that between the dates of June 1st and July 31st that the seeding rate on any critical area seeding must be increased by an additional 50% if using cool season grasses. Fertilizer, lime, and mulch are to be applied as per specification.

Conservation Practice Cost-Share sign-up: The Grundy County SWCD has a continuous sign-up for Conservation Practice Cost-Share funds. For a listing of available conservation practices and or for funds availability please visit our website or simply stop by our office.

Women In Ag Set for Branson from page 1

additional cost applies), and Trouble with a Capital 'T' (Review threats to the agriculture community and how you can become a "harder target"), 3:30-4:15 At Your Service (USDA Service Center representatives give a brief overview of state and federal programs available), "A Branson Memento", and Spice It Up (Growing, preserving and using organic herbs).

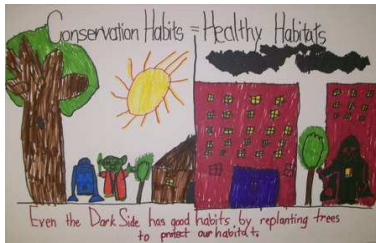
As well, you can purchase a ticket to attend the Dixie Stampede Dinner & Show for Monday evening.

Tuesday will be a walking tour of the College of The Ozarks and have an awards luncheon at the Keeter Center.

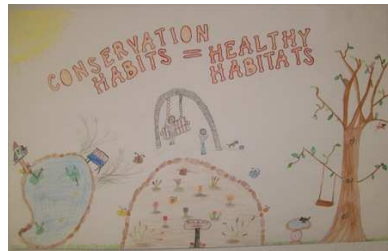
Wednesday morning Barbara Zimmerman with St. John's Medical Center will speak on women's health. Topics include: Silver Sneakers, Fueling the Fire, Close Encounters of the Biting Kind, Many Hats and ending with the Closing luncheon.

Enjoy the Hospitality Room and Silent Auction too!

County Poster Winners from page 1



4th Grade 1st
Wyatt Neal
State Qualifier



4th Grade 2nd
Samantha Mihalovich



4th Grade 3rd
Jonathon Stimpson



5th Grade 1st
Mercedes Elliott
State Qualifier



5th Grade 2nd
Ruby Whitt



5th Grade 3rd
Sarah Haynes



6th Grade 1st
Sadie Roy
State Qualifier



6th Grade 2nd
Haley Johnson



6th Grade 3rd
Kail McCarter

Conservation Photo Contest

RECOGNIZING THE BEAUTY OF CONSERVATION IN GRUNDY COUNTY



The Grundy County SWCD is launching *Recognizing the Beauty of Conservation in Grundy County* with the 2010 Conservation Photo Contest. Entries may be submitted from one of the following subject categories: Conservation Practices, Education, Plant life, Wildlife, or Landscapes. Only digital photography will be accepted.

Additional information and entry forms may be obtained by contacting our office. Entries must be received by the 15th of the month to be considered for the following month's contest.

Winners will have the opportunity for their photographs to be posted as a monthly winner on our District website as well as in our quarterly newsletter. All monthly winners will be entered into the District's annual photo contest and be announced at our Annual Customer Appreciation Day Luncheon in March 2011.

Conservation Series by Encarta.msn.com

INTRODUCTION

CURRENT TYPES OF CONSERVATION ISSUES

There are a variety of basic conservation methods used to protect global natural resources. Although each resource has a unique set of conservation problems and solutions, all resources are interconnected in a complex and little-understood web. Scientists have learned that damaging one thread of the web may weaken the entire structure. It is important that this connectivity be addressed in the search for solutions to resource shortages. It would be impractical to work toward the conservation of soil, for instance, without considering the needs and effects of nearby water and vegetation resources (see [Environment](#)).

BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

[Biodiversity](#), or biological diversity, denotes the number and variety of different organisms and ecosystems in a certain area. Preserving biodiversity is essential for ecosystems to respond flexibly to damage or change. For example, a single-species corn crop may be quickly destroyed by a certain insect or disease, but if several different species of corn are planted in the field, some of them may resist the insect or disease and survive. The same principle applies to natural areas, which adapt to natural environmental changes such as wildfire, drought, or disease because of the biodiversity that has evolved in the area over thousands, or even millions, of years. For example, many forests, such as those that burned in the 1988 fires in [Yellowstone National Park](#) in Wyoming, are able to quickly regenerate because many of the plants that thrive there have adapted to fire. Some trees, such as

lodgepole pine, may even require fire to aid in reproduction. These trees produce cones that are opened by extreme heat. The fire opens the cones and the seeds are then released into the soil.

Humans benefit greatly from the many medicines, crops, and other products that biodiversity provides. As many as 40 percent of our modern pharmaceutical medicines are derived from plants or animals. For instance, a small plant from Madagascar, the rosy periwinkle, produces substances that are effective in fighting two deadly cancers, [Hodgkin's disease](#) and [leukemia](#).

Unfortunately, human activities have greatly reduced biodiversity around the world. The 20th century encompasses one of the greatest waves of [extinction](#), or elimination of species, to occur on the planet. The greatest threat to biodiversity is loss of habitat as humans develop land for agriculture, grazing livestock, industry, and habitation. The most drastic damage has occurred in the tropical rain forests, which cover less than seven percent of the Earth's surface but contain well over half of the planet's biodiversity. Only 8 percent of the rain forests in Madagascar, home of the rosy periwinkle, remain intact.

Several nations have laws protecting [endangered species](#). An international treaty, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), went into effect in 1975 and outlawed trade of endangered animals and animal parts. In the United States, the Endangered Species Act (ESA) was enacted in 1973 to protect endangered or threatened species and their habitats. A new scientific field, conservation biology, studies ways to stop the destruction of biodiversity and restore natural habitats.

FOREST CONSERVATION

[Forests](#) provide many social, economic, and environmental benefits. In addition to timber and paper products, forests provide wildlife habitat and recreational opportunities, prevent soil erosion and flooding, help provide clean air and water, and contain tremendous biodiversity. Forests are also an important defense against global climate change. Through the process of [photosynthesis](#), forests produce life-giving oxygen and consume huge amounts of [carbon dioxide](#), the atmospheric chemical most responsible for [global warming](#). By decreasing the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, forests may reduce the effects of global warming.

However, huge areas of the richest forests in the world have been cleared for wood fuel, timber products, agriculture, and livestock. These forests are rapidly disappearing. The tropical rain forests of the Brazilian Amazon River basin were cut down at an estimated rate of 14 million hectares (35 million acres) each year—an area about the size of the state of Wisconsin—in the 1990s. The countries with the most tropical forests tend to be developing and overpopulated nations in the southern hemisphere. Due to poor economies, people resort to clearing the forest and planting crops in order to survive. While there have been effective efforts to stop deforestation directly through boycotts of multinational corporations responsible for exploitative logging, the most effective conservation policies in these countries have been efforts to relieve poverty and expand access to education and health care.

In 2005 the [Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations](#) issued a major report, titled “Global Forest Resources Assessment 2005,” on the status of the world’s forests. Based on a five-year study, the report found that forested areas throughout the world were continuing to decline at a rate of about 7.3 million hectares (18 million acres) per year, an area equivalent in size to [Panama](#) or [Sierra Leone](#). However, the rate of decline had slowed in comparison with the period from 1990 to 2000, when the world lost about 8.9 million hectares (22 million acres) of forested area per year. Africa and South America continued to have the largest net loss of forests, while forest loss also continued in North and Central America and the [Pacific Islands](#). Only Europe and Asia showed a net gain in forested areas due to forest planting, landscape restoration, and expansion of natural forests. China, in particular, reported a large-scale afforestation effort. In 2005 the world’s total forest area was just under 4 billion hectares (10 billion acres).

In the United States and Canada, forests are threatened by extensive logging, called clear-cutting, which destroys plant and animal habitat and leaves the landscape bare and unproductive if not properly reforested. Small pockets of ancient forests from 200 to 1,200 years old still exist but are threatened by logging interests. Until the 1990s, the U.S. [Forest Service](#) was directed by Congress to maximize the harvest of timber in order to provide jobs. In the late 1980s and early 1990s, however, environmentalists sued the government for violating the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and heavy logging was deemed unsustainable. As a result, the timber harvest was reduced and foresters were directed to follow a more sustainable policy called ecosystem management. This policy required foresters to focus on conserving natural habitats rather than maximizing tree harvest. Despite this change, many ancient forests remain unprotected.

Next Newsletter the Conservation Series continues with:

- Soil Conservation
- Water Conservation
- Energy Conservation

Kid's Corner – Fun Food Facts

Pretty Peachy

- Peaches are a good source of Vitamin C.
- The United States provides about one-fourth (25%) of the world's total supply of fresh peaches.
- The peach is a member of the rose family and will have a sweet fragrance when ripe.
- Most peaches that are imported to the United States during winter months come from Chile.
- Peaches are the third most popular fruit grown in America.

This excerpt was found at: http://www.agday.org/education/fun_facts.php

Kid's Corner – Recipe

Sunset Mojito

Ingredients:

- 10 fresh mint leaves
- 2 packets SUN CRYSTALS All-Natural Sweetener
- ¼ Cup water
- 1 Tbs fresh lime juice
- 1 cup club soda, chilled

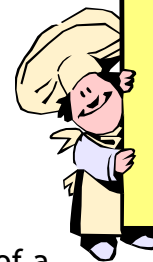
Directions

1. Place fresh mint and SUN CRYSTALS Sweetener in the bottom of a serving glass and muddle (or mash) for about one minute or until mint leaves are crushed and are aromatic.
2. Add lime juice and club soda. Stir until SUN CRYSTALS Sweetener has dissolved. Add ice, if desired. Serve immediately.

Nutritional Information:

Calories 15; Fat 0g; Sat Fat 0g; Cholesterol 0mg; Sodium 50mg;
Carbohydrate 4g; Fiber 0g; Protein 0g; Sugars 3g

Enjoy sweet sips of fresh mint flavor!



Thanks to
Sun Crystals
For a great recipe!

Share your recipes!

e-mail recipes to
Heather.Keith@swcd.mo.gov
please include your name!

Equipment Notes

By Kevin Stover



New to your SWCD office is the 140 horsepower John Deere 7430 premium tractor. This tractor is available to Grundy County landowners to assist in their conservation practices. It is versatile enough for almost all the equipment that the district has to offer. With both 540 and 1000rpm pto it is available for haying needs as well. This unit rents for *\$20 per hour with a \$100 per day minimum fee*. There is a \$500 security and damage deposit that must accompany a completed rental agreement. For additional information on this piece of equipment or any that is available through the **Grundy County SWCD please** call our office or simply stop by.

Equipment Notes

By Kevin Stover



Another new addition to the Grundy County SWCD equipment rental fleet is the Durabilt 10' heavy duty boxed scraper. This piece of equipment is designed for those light earth moving needs where long distance transport of fill material is not needed such as site finishing, small gully filling, and shallow cutting. A minimum of 40 horsepower and a single pair of hydraulic outlets is needed to operate this scraper. Rent this new boxed scraper for \$75.00 per day. A security and damage deposit of \$200 is due at the time of the signed rental agreement. For more information on this scraper call our office or stop by.

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.

Non-Discrimination Statement

"The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

2010 Upcoming Events

Holiday Closings**July 2010**

5th - Independence Day
(observed)

September 2010

6th - Labor Day

Events

8/3/10 - 8/7/10
North Central Missouri Fair

9/13/10 - 9/15/10

16th Annual Women In
Agriculture Conference at
Branson!

SWCD Board Meetings

July 19th - 9:00 am

August 16th - 9:00 am

September 20th - 9:00 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!**

**Grundy County SWCD**

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