



Grundy County Conservation Connection

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

46 Years of the Grundy County Soil & Water Conservation District & Customer Appreciation Day

By HeatherK

For 46 years the Grundy County Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors and Staff have recognized the landowners, contractors and patrons with an annual customer appreciation day luncheon. It was an honor to have Dale Herring in attendance. Dale was one of the first members of the Board of Supervisors of Grundy County.

The amazing décor that hung in the wonderful Barton Campus Farm Lager Laboratory was created by the 1st & 2nd grade class of Miss Murphy and the 3rd grade class of Miss Hashman at Spickard. Thank you to the students and teachers for their hard work and participation in the annual luncheon and Stewardship Week!

John Rice, Board Treasurer, gave the blessing for the wonderful meal that was provided by PW Catering of Humphreys. Around noon John Rice and Kendall Foster presented the 2013 Cooperator of The Year Award to Ronnie & Lynda McLaughlin. A plaque and embroidered coats were presented to the McLaughlin's as appreciation for their continued efforts in soil and water conservation. The event was made even more special with the attendance of the McLaughlin's four daughters and son-in-law.

After the Board Meeting Kevin Stover, David Dudley and Bob Chenoweth began the drawing for equipment rental.

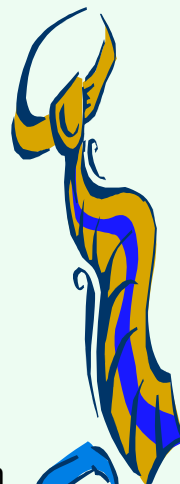
One day free equipment rental winners were:

- Ken Bower – Harrow
- Kay Andersen – Mulcher
- Randall Young – 6yd Scraper
- Lee Stroud – Brush Cutter
- Steve Urich – Drill
- Linda Urich – Tractor
- Chris Andersen – Box Scraper
- Helen Stroud - Cultipacker

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ACAD from page 1



2013 Cooperator of the Year

By HeatherK



Ronnie & Lynda McLaughlin own and operate a row crop and cattle operation southeast of Laredo. They have farmed in the Laredo community for over 40 years. Lynda works at Chula Farmer's Cooperative. They have 4 daughters who have married and returned to the Laredo area to raise the McLaughlin's 10 grandchildren.

The McLaughlin's have participated in conservation programs through the years. Those include terraces, water/sediment basins and cover crops.

Ronnie and Lynda will continue to use conservation methods in row crop and cattle operations.

The McLaughlin's would like to thank the staffs of the Grundy County Soil & Water conservation District, NRCS, FSA and their programs for their help through the years and their consideration for this award.

Grazing School Offered in 2013

The Natural Resources Conservation Service and University of Missouri Extension will present seminars on managing livestock grazing and forages in June and September 2013. The "schools" will be offered at Savannah, June 25th and 26th, Chillicothe September 13th and 14th, and near Weston, September 25th and 26th.

The Weston session is scheduled for a Friday evening, all day Saturday, into Saturday evening. This session offers the opportunity for producers who have other obligations during the week to exchange ideas with other people interested in managed grazing.

The Savannah and Chillicothe sessions are weekday schools running from 8:00 to 4:30 both days.

The sessions offers the chance to exchange information on topics such as: The art and science of grazing management, evaluation of farm resources, economics of grazing management, livestock nutrition, grazing system layout and design, pasture growth, forages, soil fertility, fence and water systems, winter feeding of stockpiled forages, and no winter feeding.

The "tuition" will be \$100 to \$130 per person with an additional fee for late registration. The tuition covers the costs the seminars including mileage reimbursement, meals, refreshments, on-farm tour equipment, fence and water system demonstration, materials and the following references: Missouri Grazing Manual, Forages and Weeds of Pastures, and a grazing stick. You also receive these free publications: Electric Fencing for Serious Graziers, and Watering Systems for Serious Graziers.

Registration at each event is limited to 30 people. Contact your local NRCS office or Curtis Walker with the Natural Resources Conservation Service at 816-232-6555 extension 139 or at curt.walker@mo.usda.gov.

Give us your opinion

As District Equipment Manager, I am always listening to the requests of the land owners as they stop by the office to fill out paperwork or to pick up our current rental equipment. Now is the time for you to put it down on paper and let us know what you, the landowners and tax-payers of Grundy County, would like to see added or upgraded to the District's rental equipment fleet.

Simply give us a call 660-359-2006 ext 117 or stop by our office and give me your thoughts and ideas on what should be the newest addition to our soil conservation efforts. Or if you would like to email your suggestion, please send it to kevin.stover@swcd.mo.gov. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Kevin Stover

District Technician II

TIMBER SELLERS QUIZ

by R. Scott Brundage

You haven't been home from work long when the phone rings or there is a knock on the door. A man identifies himself as a timber buyer/logger who is working nearby and has noticed that you have some nice timber. Since you were not at home, he has taken the liberty of walking your woods. He asks, "Would you accept \$10,000 for your timber?" "Ten thousand dollars! Heck, I didn't think it was worth anything," you say to yourself. Ten thousand dollars right out of the blue, free, what a lucky day!

Before you get too excited, slow down and ask yourself a few questions. Be completely honest, and if you answer any of these questions with, "I don't know," the deal is likely to bring less money than is potentially possible, plus it could ruin your valuable timber for future sales. Remember, only one "I don't know" answer means you should look for a professional forester who can assure you control of selling a potentially valuable resource.

Q. 1. How many trees will be cut?

Don't know ____ 20 ____ 200 ____ 2000 ____

Q. 2. How many board feet will be cut?

Don't know ____ What is a board foot? ____ 10,000 ____ 100,000 ____

Q. 3. How much is my timber really worth?

Don't know ____ \$10,000 ____ More than \$10,000 ____

Q. 4. How and when will I get paid for the timber?

Don't know ____ Before timber is cut ____ As timber is cut ____ After timber is cut ____ Maybe never ____

Q. 5. Will they remove the lower-valued hickory, elm, honey locust, etc., or will they only take the higher valued oaks, walnut, and silver maple?

Don't know ____ Everything marketable ____ High quality only ____

Q. 6. He said they would not ruin the woods by only cutting trees 15 inches and larger. Fifteen inches measured where?

Don't know ____ Ground level ____ Breast high ____ Top of butt log ____

Q. 7. If the logger or one of his crew members is injured or killed, who is responsible?

Don't know ____ My liability insurance ____ His insurance company ____

Q. 8. Does the logger and crew have insurance? Are they covered by Workman's Compensation?

Don't know ____ They supplied written proof of insurance ____ No insurance ____

Q. 9. Who fixes the rutted roads, farm lanes, ruined fences or pulls tree tops back out of the crop fields, pastures and/or creeks?

Don't know ____ Logger does after sale ____ Security deposit to cover such damages ____

Q. 10. If the logger says he will do all of the above, will he let me hold a security or damage deposit to insure my property will not sustain excessive damage?

Don't know ____ No written arrangements ____

Q. 11. How long will they be on my land? (And have a right to cut timber.)

Don't know ____ 1 month ____ 1 year ____ Assumed it would be immediately ____

Q. 12. Is the money I receive from my timber sale taxable?
 Don't know _____ Yes _____ No _____ Maybe _____

Assuming you answered "I don't know" to one or more questions, you should find the following information very valuable. It outlines the reasons that the services of a consulting forester can be a real bargain.

You won't have an unbiased answer to Questions 1-5 unless the timber is "marked" by a forester. This means each saleable tree (mature, overmature, damaged/defective) is measured and tallied for diameter and merchantable log lengths by species and grade and paint-marked on two sides of the trunk and the stump. By doing this paint-marking, the forester controls the sale and you only sell the trees which have reason to be harvested, as opposed to the logger taking what he wants and often leaving all the poorer quality trees. After marking the trees to be sold, the forester tallies the board-foot volume in the marked trees by species and grade. With this information the forester can make a very accurate evaluation of sale value. The marked timber is usually then sold by sealed bids to the highest bidder. There are many good timber buyers/loggers who are interested in buying timber at a fair market value and performing a good job of logging. By knowing the value of your saleable timber and having a good Timber Sale Contract, chances are good that your timber sale will be a positive experience.

Especially important is Question 4. Always get your full payment prior to allowing any harvesting. It is almost never a good idea to sell on shares or percentage, which is always a cut now, pay later situation. Always know the true and fair value of your timber prior to selling. If you don't like trouble or problems, this may be the best free advice you will ever get.

Question 6 is very tricky. Most landowners think this means 15 inches diameter measured at breast height (4 1/2 feet above ground) or d.b.h. The logger may mean 15 inches measured at ground level. Since all trees flare out at ground level, the lower the cut, the smaller diameter tree he can/will legally harvest. I have seen woodlots practically clear cut when loggers have cut the smaller trees at ground level where the stump is largest. Remember, a minimum diameter limit cut is very rarely used by professional foresters because it usually results in "high grading" or cutting only the best timber you have. A low (example 15") diameter limit may also rob you of future high quality (and high value) veneer trees.

Question 7 and 8 can be covered by a Certificate of Insurance from the logger or by a good Timber Sale Contract. A forester will have a good contract protecting both the seller and buyer. Selling timber on shares using only the logger's contract or a verbal agreement can put you, the landowner, at great financial and liability risk.

Questions 9 through 11 will be covered in a good Timber Sale Contract. A security or damage deposit is often used to insure access roads, fences, cropfields and pastures are left in original condition after the logging is complete. If the logger completes the work properly as most will when a good Timber Sale Contract is used, the security/damage deposit is refunded to the logger after the logging job is complete.

Question 12 refers to an often overlooked situation. Since producing timber is a long-term proposition, IRS allows timber volumes to be "depleted" as timber is harvested from the property. The amount calculated to be the value of the timber when you purchased the property is known as the "**Timber Cost Basis.**" A professional consulting forester can establish through an inventory procedure, your personal "timber cost basis." You are then entitled to subtract the value of any timber sales sold from the timber cost basis until it is entirely depleted. You may have heard the term "depletion allowance" used to describe this calculation. The net result is that you will probably owe no federal income taxes on the timber sale proceeds as long as there is a positive balance in the depletion account. Only a professional, consulting forester should assist you in establishing your cost basis because, if you are audited, it is very important to have had the **Timber Cost Basis** established by a qualified professional. Taking the above steps can prevent significant tax liabilities.

Remember, a forester is working for you to obtain the best dollar value for your saleable timber and put your timberland in a healthier, more valuable condition. A consulting forester (charges for his/her services) can answer all of the above questions for you while a public agency forester (free service) can answer certain questions, and under certain circumstances, the landowner may have a six to eighteen month wait for the actual marking to take place. Consulting foresters can work with you throughout the process of selling timber and realization of the many favorable income tax treatments. The dollar value of their services is likely to exceed many times the amount of their fees. Free forestry assistance through a public agency does not include tax assistance or many of the specific services offered by a consulting forester.

If you took the quiz, please look at your answers again! Do you still feel comfortable taking the first offer for your timber? If you really want to pursue the sale of timber, you now know where to go for assistance, and you are informed so that you can ask the right questions. For your own satisfaction, it is just good business to be informed.

Editor's note:

Scott Brundage is a Consulting Forester and president of the Missouri Consulting Foresters Association, P.O. Box 7596, Columbia MO 65205-7596. MCFA website: www.missouriforesters.com. In 1962, he purchased the first of his seven Tree Farms which included a large Christmas Tree operation.

FSA News

CRP Mid-Contract Management Reminder

If you enrolled land in CRP that became effective October 1, 2003 or after, certain contracts are required to complete a series of mid-contract management practices on the acreage. These practices include: strip disking, prescribed burning or chemical applications.

There is a certain time period during each year that the management practice must be performed depending on the established cover. These practices were contained in your conservation plan that you completed with NRCS at the time your acreage was enrolled in CRP. Cost-share is available for all three practices and you must report completion of the practice to your FSA office by 09/30/2013. There should be absolutely **no disturbance** between May 1st and July 15th, due to primary nesting season.

Food plots should also be completed by 09/30/2013.

If you have any questions concerning these management practices contact your local FSA office. Penalties for non-compliance will be applied.

Below are the Mid Contract Management (MCM) dates.

Cool Season Grass-Burning	March 15-April 30
Cool Season Grass - Spraying	March 15 - April 30 OR October 1 - December 1
Warm Season Grass - Burning	July 16 - March 15
Warm Season Grass - Spraying	July 16 - September 15
Disc- Cool Season or Warm Season	July 16 - March 15

CRP Acreage Eligibility Requirements for Re-Enrollment

If you are considering enrolling or re-enrolling acreage into the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) General Sign-up, the acreage **MUST** be free of trees, ditches, and gullies. It must be capable of being farmed with conventional equipment prior to making a bid into the program. Producers are encouraged to take time now to prepare for future CRP sign-ups.

Producers wanting to clear existing trees and brush from CRP contract acreage should request permission from their local COC **prior** to beginning the process. Spot treatment of CRP acreage should not occur during the primary nesting period of May 1 to July 15.

Note: There is not a scheduled General CRP sign-up at this time.

FSA News

2013 DCP Sign-Up

Enrollment for the 2013 Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) & the Average Crop Revenue Election Program (ACRE) began February 19, 2013. All producers planting on DCP base acres must be identified on the DCP/ACRE contract and receive a proportionate share of DCP/ACRE payment for the farm. Please call and schedule an appointment.

2011 Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE)

Sign-up for the 2011 SURE program is on-going and ends June 7, 2013. To qualify for a SURE payment, the producer's operation must be located in a county, or a contiguous county, that was declared a disaster for 2011 and have at least a 10 percent production loss that affects one crop of economic significance. To meet program eligibility requirements, producers must have obtained a policy or plan of insurance for all insurable crops through the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation and obtained Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage on non-insurable crops, if available, from FSA.

Ownership Changes

If you have purchased/sold a farm please contact our office with the information and bring in recorded deeds showing the land transactions. Doing this in a timely manner will help things run smooth during program enrollment and payment times. Reviewing program implications with your local FSA staff before completing a sale of farmland is always a prudent precaution.

Envirothon News

Missouri State Envirothon Competition is set for Thursday, May 2, 2013. Please visit the State website at <http://www.moenvirothon.org/> for more information.

The following article is an excerpt from



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

The NACD eResource

Weekly News Briefs from NACD

Outdoorsman Josh Seehorn has officially begun his trek across the United States to raise awareness and financial support for Envirothon, North America's largest high school environmental education competition.

Josh's trip kicked off last week in Point Reyes, Calif. Since then, he has crossed the Golden Gate bridge in San Francisco before taking a ferry to Oakland.

Josh is traveling along the [Discovery Trail](#). For the latest news from his trip, follow Josh on Twitter at [@theoutdoorjosh](#) or "like" the North American Envirothon facebook page. For more information, visit outdoorjosh.com.

If you would like to make a donation to Envirothon, click on the Envirothon logo on the bottom right of the [NACD homepage](#).

Kids Corner – Celebrate Dad – A Brief History of Grilling

The history of grilling begins shortly after the domestication of fire, some 500,000 years ago. The backyard ritual of grilling as we know it, though, is much more recent. Until well into the 1940s, grilling mostly happened at campsites and picnics. After World War II, as the middle class began to move to the suburbs, backyard grilling caught on, becoming all the rage by the 1950s.

In suburban Chicago, George Stephen, a metalworker by trade and a tinkerer by habit, had grown frustrated with the flat, open brazier-style grills common at the time. Once he inherited controlling interest in the Weber Bros. Metal Spinning Co, a company best-known as a maker of harbor buoys, he decided the buoy needed some modification. He cut it along its equator, added a grate, used the top as a lid and cut vents for controlling temperature. The Weber grill was born and backyard cooking has never been the same.

If man has been grilling since the Stone Age, he had to wait a good long time before he got his first taste of 'barbecue.' Just how long is a matter of debate, but the word's etymology has been traced via the Spanish ('barbacoa') to a similar word used by the Arawak people of the Caribbean to denote a wooden structure on which they roasted meat. (The Arawak's other contribution to the English language is the word 'cannibal'.) Only the sense of a wooden framework survived the word's transition to English; the context was lost. So, in the 17th century, you might use a 'barbecue' as shelving, or you might sleep on a 'barbecue' — but you definitely weren't cooking with one.

Like so many of the most recognizably "American" of foods and foodways — hot dogs, Thanksgiving dinners, even milk on breakfast cereals — barbecue goes back to 18th-century colonial America, specifically the settlements along the Southeastern seaboard. The direct descendant of that original American barbecue is Eastern Carolina-style pit barbecue, which traditionally starts with the whole hog and, after as many as fourteen hours over coals, culminates in a glorious mess of pulled pork doused with vinegar sauce and eaten on a hamburger bun, with coleslaw on the side.

As the settlers spread westward, regional variations developed, leaving us today with four distinct styles of barbecue.

Carolina-style has split into Eastern, Western and South Carolina-style, with variations largely in the sauce: South Carolina uses a mustard sauce; Western Carolina uses a sweeter vinegar-and-tomato sauce.

Memphis barbecue is probably what most of us think of when we think of BBQ — pork ribs with a sticky sweet-and-sour tomato-based mopping sauce.

Texas, being cattle country, has always opted for beef, usually brisket, dry-rubbed and smoked over mesquite with a tomato-based sauce served on the side, almost as an afterthought.

Kansas City lies at the crossroads of BBQ nation. Fittingly you'll find a little bit of everything there — beef and pork, ribs and shoulder, etc. What brings it all together is the sauce: sweet-hot, tomato-based KC barbecue sauce is a classic in its own right, and the model for most supermarket BBQ sauces.

This excerpt was found at <http://www.foodnetwork.com/home/a-brief-history-of-grilling/index.html>

Kids Corner – Recipe COCA-COLA BARBEQUE SAUCE

Recipe courtesy Steven Raichlen, author of The Barbecue Bible and Barbecue Bible Sauces, Rubs, and Marinades (Workman Publishing)

Ingredients

- 1 cup Coca-Cola
- 1 cup ketchup
- 1/4 cup Worcestershire sauce
- 1 teaspoon liquid smoke
- 1/4 cup A-1 steak sauce
- 1/2 teaspoon onion powder
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper

Directions

Combine the ingredients in a heavy saucepan and gradually bring to a boil over medium heat. Reduce the heat slightly to obtain a gentle simmer. Simmer the sauce until reduced by 1/4, 6 to 8 minutes. Transfer the sauce to clean jars and let cool to room temperature, then refrigerate until serving. The sauce will keep for several months, refrigerated.

Use as you would any sauce, noting the strong affinity this sauce has for chicken, ribs, and pork.

This recipe was found at <http://www.foodnetwork.com/recipes/food-fantasy/coca-cola-barbeque-sauce-recipe/index.html#dialog>

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 against its customers. If you believe you experienced discrimination when obtaining services from USDA, participating in a USDA program, or participating in a program that receives financial assistance from USDA, you may file a complaint with USDA. Information about how to file a discrimination complaint is available from the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights. USDA prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex (including gender identity and expression), marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, political beliefs, genetic information, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) To file a complaint of discrimination, complete, sign and mail a program discrimination complaint form, available at any USDA office location or online at www.ascr.usda.gov, or write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call toll free (866) 632-9992 (voice) to obtain additional information, the appropriate office or to request documents. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay service at (800) 877-8339 or (800) 845-6136 (in Spanish). USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD)."

2013 Upcoming Events

Holiday Closings

May

27th – Memorial Day

SWCD Board Meetings

April 15th – 9:00am

May 20th – 9:00am

June 17th – 9:00am

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

EVENTS

April 18

**Mercer County SWCD
Open House**

May 2nd

**Missouri State
Envirothon**

(Location to be revealed
April 18th @
www.moenvirothon.org)



Grundy County SWCD
3415 Oklahoma Avenue
Trenton, Mo 64683

***Happy Holidays to you
from the Staff!***

