

Grundy County Conservation Connection

October 2014 – December 2014

Volume 7 Issue 2

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

Women In Agriculture River Style

What an exciting conference we had at Hannibal! Monday kicked off with vendors and special guest “Unsinkable” Molly Brown at the opening session. The ladies had many workshops to choose from: Identifying & Managing Vegetable Diseases, Financial Statement Fundamentals, Who Gets Grandma’s Yellow Pie Plate, Raised Bed Gardening, Laughter “Just for the Health of It”, Using Apps to Manage the Farm, and Do You Have Clutter. The banquet opened up with special guests “Tom & Becky”. Dr. Jerry Crownover was the guest speaker at the Banquet and the hospitality room and silent auction was open after the banquet.

The exciting tours on Tuesday took the ladies on an adventure to the Rockcliffe Mansion, URSA Farmers Cooperative and BASF-The Chemical Company. Ladies enjoyed a wonderful luncheon at The Old Stone House Inn.

Wednesday began with a presentation by the Women, Food & Agriculture Network (WFAN), visiting with partners presentation and guest speaker Chris Chinn “Putting a Face on Agriculture”.

The torch was passed to the NW area for the 2015 Women in Agriculture State Conference. Anita Dunham, Chair of the NW Planning Committee, briefly spoke to the ladies on the location and date of the conference. As well, save the date magnets were provided in the goodies bags.

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Women In Ag
State Conference
September 21-23, 2015
The Elms Hotel & Spa
Excelsior Springs, MO
 **facebook.com/WomenInAgriculture**

State WIA Pictures



The NW Regional Envirothon Competition will be held on Thursday, November 6, 2014 at Hartell Conservation Area

The NW Regional Envirothon has been striving to create awareness and promote a wonderful program called the Envirothon. The 7 Regions that make up the Missouri State Envirothon is reaching out to increase the environmental educational opportunities available to today's youth and help mold tomorrow's leaders. The Envirothon is a natural resource education program for high school students, grades 9-12. Each Envirothon team, consisting of 5 students, are challenged to use critical thinking & problem solving skills, as well have a hands on activity to test their knowledge in five environmental eco-stations: Soils, Aquatics, Forestry, Wildlife & Current Environmental Issue. In addition to these site specific written tests, an oral component is in place where students present their solution to the problem given to them concerning the current issue topic for the year. The top 3 scoring teams of each of the 7 Regions will advance to State Competition. The majority of students who participate in the Envirothon are seeking fields of interest in the Sciences, Agriculture and Conservation, Natural resources and Environmental areas.

The Northwest Region encompasses the following 17 Counties: Atchison, Holt, Nodaway, Andrew, Buchanan, Worth, Gentry, DeKalb, Clinton, Harrison, Daviess, Caldwell, Ray, Mercer, Grundy, Livingston and Carroll.



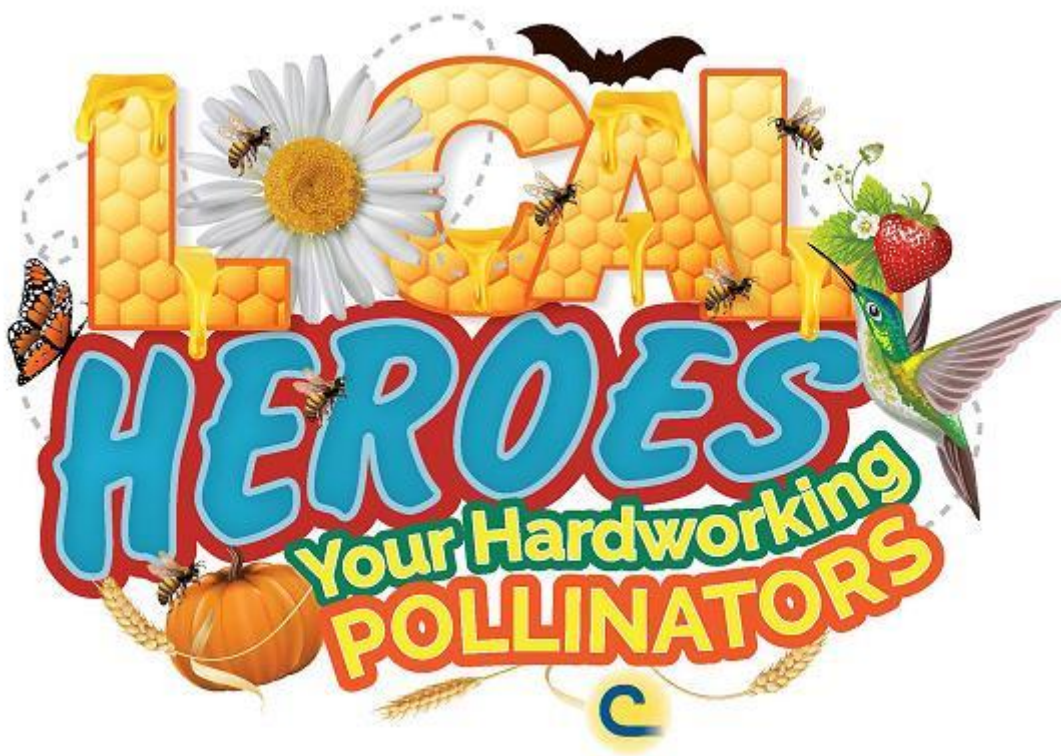
Learn more about the Regional, State & National Envirothon Competitions by visiting the websites below:

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

<http://www.moenvirothon.org/>

<http://www.envirothon.org/>

2015 Poster Contest & Stewardship Week Theme Revealed



In 1955, the National Association of Conservation Districts began a national program to encourage Americans to focus on stewardship. Stewardship Week is officially celebrated from the last Sunday in April to the first Sunday in May. It is one of the world's largest conservation-related observances.

The program relies on locally-led conservation districts sharing and promoting stewardship and conservation activities. Districts provide conservation and stewardship field days, programs, workshops and additional outreach efforts throughout their community to educate citizens about the need to care for our resources. Many district activities extend beyond the one week observance to include an entire year of outreach.

The Stewardship concept involves personal and social responsibility, including a duty to learn about and improve natural resources as we use them wisely, leaving a rich legacy for future generations.

One definition of Stewardship is "the individual's responsibility to manage his life and property with proper regard to the rights of others." E. William Anderson suggests stewardship "is essentially a synonym for conservation."

Stewardship Week helps to remind us all of the power each person has to conserve natural resources and improve the world. When everyone works together with their local conservation district, that power continuously grows. We have seen these good deeds multiply across the nation's network of conservation districts and the results are spectacular!

When the land does well for its owner, and the owner does well by his land—when both end up better by reason of their partnership—then we have conservation. - Aldo Leopold

Stewardship week each year is always the last Sunday in April to the first Sunday in May.

2014 Photo Contest

The theme for the 2014 Photo Contest is: ***Farm Life in Grundy County***

The photo contest is open to all ages of photographers who reside in Grundy County. Photo entries will be accepted now until December 15th. First & Second place will be notified December 31st and will be recognized in March 2015 at the annual luncheon. First place will receive \$50 and second place will receive \$25. Both photographs will be showcased on the District Website, District Newsletter and/or additional publications. As well both photographs will be displayed in March at the annual luncheon.

For rules & guidelines on the 2014 photo contest please visit the district website at:

<http://www.swcd.mo.gov/grundy/2014PhotoContest.htm> or call Heather at 660-359-2006 x101.



2014 Photo Contest

Farm Life in Grundy County

Photo Contest is open to all ages in Grundy County. Photos must be taken of Farm Life in Grundy County. Crops, Equipment, Animals, Family, Bonfires, Barns, Fence, Nature, etc. Entries will be accepted until December 15th. The winner will be notified December 31st. First Place will receive \$50 and Second Place will receive \$25. Both individuals will be recognized in March 2015 during the Annual Customer Appreciation Day and receive their cash prize and photos will be showcased on the District Website and District Newsletter.

Cover Crops Pilot Practice

By Kevin Stover

The Grundy County Soil and Water Conservation District is announcing the addition of a Cover Crops Pilot Practice to the list of available conservation practices for the 2015 Fiscal Year. The purpose of the practice is provide landowners and operators and incentive to encourage the adoption of cover crops for reducing soil erosion, improved water quality and soil health.

The Cover Crop Pilot program will apply to no-tilled cropland where row crops are grown and a cover crop system is not currently being implemented.

In the initial phase, the incentive will be for \$30.00/acre for up to 20 acres. Funding is limited and only available to landowners or operators who meet and agree to all requirements and guidelines. The practice does require a pre-installment survey and ranking and funding for the 2015 fiscal year is limited.

For more information on the Cover Crop Pilot Program or any other conservation cost-share practice feel free to stop by our office or give us a call at 660-359-2006 Ext. #117.

FY2015 Cost-Share Report as of August 13, 2014

REGULAR COST-SHARE ALLOCATIONS/PRACTICES FY2013			
PRACTICE TYPE	# OF PRACTICES	\$'S OBLIGATED TO DATE	
VEGETATIVE COVER			
TERRACE SYSTEMS	1	\$	723.84
PONDS			
BASINS			
STREAMBANK STABILIZATION			
GRAZING MANAGEMENT			
TOTAL \$'S OBLIGATED TO DATE		\$	723.84
Report Obligated		\$	723.84
MoSWIMS Allocation		\$	270,491.00
Unobligated Funds		\$	269,767.16

MO Woods App

Get advice on your forest with MO Woods App

By Brian Schweiss, MDC

Hey, landowners, grab your smartphones. There is a new app ready for landowners with woods and forests.

It was developed specifically to assist Missouri landowners in an initial evaluation of their woodlands for forest health, wildlife habitat and timber sale potential.

In the app there are links to other resources that may be of use too, such as: insect and disease issues for Missouri woods, wildlife habitat improvement options and timber sale guidance (from the Call Before You Cut website). Landowners now can email their results along with a picture of their woods and even request assistance from a forester.

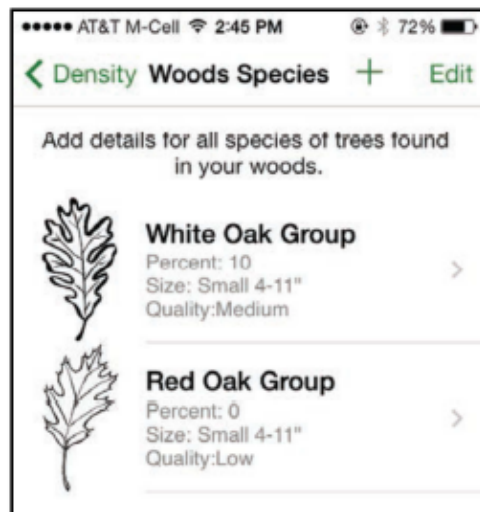
Both iPhone and Android users can download this app, as it is available in both app stores. Start by searching for "Missouri Forestkeepers" or "MO Woods." Once downloaded on your phone, head to the woods. The app will guide you through some steps to gather information. A series of pictures will help determine details about the woods.

One of the first questions asked is about forest density. The app requires a visual estimate of the density using low, medium and high as references. Next up is tree species identification. Identify the primary species in your forest that make up the main canopy of trees. Leaf pictures are provided to assist in identification.

For each species chosen, the app asks for an estimate of the percent present in the forest. It also asks for an average size of tree for each species. Three categories are there to give guidance on how to measure trees. Then, figure out the average quality of your trees in the species. Pictures are provided to serve as a guide.

Continue on to the next step and three different prescriptions will be given: one for timber sale potential, one for forest health, and one for wildlife value. Interested landowners can then send an email to request further assistance or to simply ask a question about their forest.

The MO Woods app is not a substitute for a forester. It is meant to be a starting point, and is written to capture statewide scenarios in broad categories. It will not identify specific market conditions or forest health issues. When in doubt, send an email to a local forester.



FY 2014 Statistics

Tons of Soil Saved

Practice Type	Tons of Soil Saved
Terrace Systems	4600
Ponds	0
Basins	300
Diversions	290
Vegetative Cover Establishment	0

This chart indicates tons of soil saved from practices that have been completed and claims turned in. It does not include practices started.

Acres Served

Practice Type	Acres Served
Terrace Systems	269.5
Ponds	0
Basins	20
Diversions	17
Vegetative Cover Establishment	0

This chart indicates acres served from practices that have been completed and claims turned in. It does not include practices started.

Feet of Terrace Installed	Cubic Yards of Earthwork
68,800	3,534

History of the Soil and Water Conservation Program

In the 1930s, as the Dust Bowl swept across the nation relocating an estimated 300 million tons of soil, Americans realized the devastating effects of soil erosion. Legislation began to take shape to better manage and conserve the nation's soil. Despite these actions, Missouri was still plagued with high erosion rates.

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 and water conservation efforts. Prior to the passage of the 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's erosion rate dropped more than any other state. It is estimated that more than 148 million tons of soil have been saved since the start of the sales tax, but millions of tons of soil still wash away every year on cultivated cropland in Missouri.

The majority of the soils side of this tax has been used to assist agricultural landowners through voluntary programs that are developed by the Soil and Water Districts Commission. They are administered by the Soil and Water Conservation Program through district boards in each of the 114 counties.

The cost-share program provides financial incentives to landowners for up to 75 percent of the cost for installation of soil conservation practices that prevent or control excessive erosion. Soil and water conservation districts provide technical support with the design, implementation and maintenance of practices.

By promoting good farming techniques that help keep soil on the fields and waters clean, each soil and water conservation district is conserving the productivity of Missouri's working lands.

Kids Corner – History of Veterans Day

World War I – known at the time as “The Great War” - officially ended when the Treaty of Versailles was signed on June 28, 1919, in the Palace of Versailles outside the town of Versailles, France. However, fighting ceased seven months earlier when an armistice, or temporary cessation of hostilities, between the Allied nations and Germany went into effect on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. For that reason, November 11, 1918, is generally regarded as the end of “the war to end all wars.”



Soldiers of the 353rd Infantry near a church at Stenay, Meuse in France, wait for the end of hostilities. This photo was taken at 10:58 a.m., on November 11, 1918, two minutes before the armistice ending World War I went into effect. In November 1919, President Wilson proclaimed November 11 as the first commemoration of Armistice Day with the following words: "To us in America, the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country's service and with gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of the nations..." The original concept for the celebration was for a day observed with parades and public meetings and a brief suspension of business beginning at 11:00 a.m.

The United States Congress officially recognized the end of World War I when it passed a concurrent resolution on June 4, 1926, with these words:

Whereas the 11th of November 1918, marked the cessation of the most destructive, sanguinary, and far reaching war in human annals and the resumption by the people of the United States of peaceful relations with other nations, which we hope may never again be severed, and

Whereas it is fitting that the recurring anniversary of this date should be commemorated with thanksgiving and prayer and exercises designed to perpetuate peace through good will and mutual understanding between nations; and

Whereas the legislatures of twenty-seven of our States have already declared November 11 to be a legal holiday: Therefore be it Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), that the President of the United States is requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the officials to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings on November 11 and inviting the people of the United States to observe the day in schools and churches, or other suitable places, with appropriate ceremonies of friendly relations with all other peoples.

An Act (52 Stat. 351; 5 U. S. Code, Sec. 87a) approved May 13, 1938, made the 11th of November in each year a legal holiday—a day to be dedicated to the cause of world peace and to be thereafter celebrated and known as "Armistice Day." Armistice Day was primarily a day set aside to honor veterans of World War I, but in 1954, after World War II had required the greatest mobilization of soldiers, sailors, Marines and airmen in the Nation's history; after American forces had fought aggression in Korea, the 83rd Congress, at the urging of the veterans service organizations, amended the Act of 1938 by striking out the word "Armistice" and inserting in its place the word "Veterans." With the approval of this legislation (Public Law 380) on June 1, 1954, November 11th became a day to honor American veterans

Kids Corner – History of Veterans Day

of all wars.

Later that same year, on October 8th, President Dwight D. Eisenhower issued the [first "Veterans Day Proclamation"](#) which stated: "In order to insure proper and widespread observance of this anniversary, all veterans, all veterans' organizations, and the entire citizenry will wish to join hands in the common purpose. Toward this end, I am designating the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs as Chairman of a Veterans Day National Committee, which shall include such other persons as the Chairman may select, and which will coordinate at the national level necessary planning for the observance. I am also requesting the heads of all departments and agencies of the Executive branch of the Government to assist the National Committee in every way possible."



President Eisenhower signing HR7786, changing Armistice Day to Veterans Day. From left: Alvin J. King, Wayne Richards, Arthur J. Connell, John T. Nation, Edward Rees, Richard L. Trombla, Howard W. Watts

On that same day, President Eisenhower sent [a letter to the Honorable Harvey V. Higley, Administrator of Veterans' Affairs \(VA\)](#), designating him as Chairman of the Veterans Day National Committee. In 1958, the White House advised VA's General Counsel that the 1954 designation of the VA Administrator as Chairman of the Veterans Day National Committee applied to all subsequent VA Administrators. Since March 1989 when VA was elevated to a cabinet level department, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs has served as the committee's chairman.

The Uniform Holiday Bill (Public Law 90-363 (82 Stat. 250)) was signed on June 28, 1968, and was intended to ensure three-day weekends for Federal employees by celebrating four national holidays on Mondays: Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day, Veterans Day, and Columbus Day. It was thought that these extended weekends would encourage travel, recreational and cultural activities and stimulate greater industrial and commercial production. Many states did not agree with this decision and continued to celebrate the holidays on their original dates.

The first Veterans Day under the new law was observed with much confusion on October 25, 1971. It was quite apparent that the commemoration of this day was a matter of historic and patriotic significance to a great number of our citizens, and so on September 20th, 1975, President Gerald R. Ford signed Public Law 94-97 (89 Stat. 479), which returned the annual observance of Veterans Day to its original date of November 11, beginning in 1978. This action supported the desires of the overwhelming majority of state legislatures, all major veterans service organizations and the American people.

Veterans Day continues to be observed on November 11, regardless of what day of the week on which it falls. The restoration of the observance of Veterans Day to November 11 not only preserves the historical significance of the date, but helps focus attention on the important purpose of Veterans Day: A celebration to honor America's veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good.

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, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD)."

2014 Upcoming Events

Holiday Closings**October**

13th – Columbus Day

November

11th – Veteran's Day

27th – Thanksgiving Day

December

25th – Christmas Day

EVENTS**November 6th**

NW Regional Envirothon
Hartell Conservation Area

December 10th – 12th

Soil & Water Training
Conference
Tan-Tar-A

SWCD Board Meetings

October 20th – 9:00am

November 17th – 9:00am

December – TBA

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

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



conserving
natural resources
for our future

Grundy County SWCD
3415 Oklahoma Avenue
Trenton, Mo 64683