

# MARIES COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

## Newsletter

VOLUME 28, ISSUE 2

JANUARY 2019

### Maries County SWCD Now Owns The First Soil & Water District Building In The State

Under the reorganization of USDA in 1995, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) that was housed in Maries County was required to move to the Osage County USDA office in Linn. While many of the districts in the closed offices moved with their partners to their new locations, the Maries County district board chose to remain in Vienna. In November of 2018, they can now boast that they are the first soil and water conservation district in Missouri to own its own building.

District Specialist Sandy Stratman said that when she first started working for the district, the office was located in what many know as the Chambers Building. Once NRCS made the decision to move to Linn, she approached the district board to stay in the Vienna which would better serve the land-owners of the county with the district's cost-share program. However staying in the current location was not possible. After two moves to different sites

in Vienna, the district worked with Cellus and Evelyn Stratman to fund the building of the office at 105 Parkway in 2008. The district was able to work out a lease to own agreement and with additional payments made each year from rental fees earned by the district's no-till drills, the final payment was made.

Stratman said that many factors went into making it a reality. The district first had to gain permission from the Department of Natural Resources and the Soil & Water Districts Commission to start the project as funds for many of the district programs and administrative funds come directly from their portion of the Parks, Soils and Water Sales tax. She also wrote grants and many letters

asking for donations for the construction. She said that the building project and donations of labor and materials would not have been possible with the help of the following: The Maries County Bank, Louis & Julia Coover Foundation, Thomas R. Coffey Trust, Wal-Mart Distribution Center, Three Rivers' Helping Hands Foundation, Les Volmert, Maries County Commission, Cory Neier Construction, Stricklan Bobcat & Concrete, Ruben Wieberg Trenching & Backhoe, Lowe's of Jefferson City, Agri Drain Corporation and the Cellus and Evelyn Stratman Family.

A celebration will be held at the 2019 Annual Meeting in March.



## You Are Cordially Invited...

*Please join us for the 41st Annual Meeting and Dinner of the Maries County Soil & Water Conservation District on March 26th at 6:00 PM. It will be held at the Visitation Knights of Columbus Hall, Highway 63 and 6th Street in Vienna. The evening will include the awarding of the prizes for the district's Photo, Poster and Essay Contests.*

*We hope you plan on joining us!!!*

*RSVPs are required by March 15th by calling 573-422-3342.*

#### District Board of Supervisors

Jan Skouby, Chair  
Rodney Southard, Vice-Chairman  
Justin Fagre, Treasurer  
Pat Snodgrass, Secretary  
Glen Rowden, Member

#### District Personnel

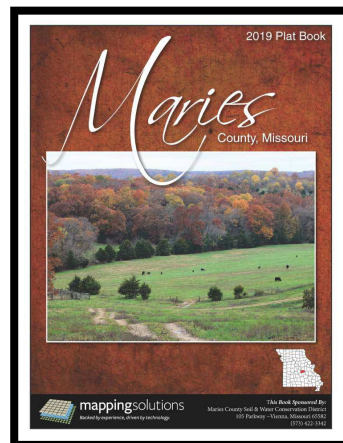
Sandy Stratman, District Specialist  
Amy Neier, District Specialist  
April Dudenhoeffer, Shared Technician

#### Assisting The District

Gary Applegate, District Conservationist  
Mark Brandt, Resource Conservationist  
Ed Gillmore, Soil Conservationist  
Megan Rudroff, Soil Conservationist  
D. J. Schroeder, Soil Conservation Tech  
Seth Barrioz, Private Lands Conservationist  
Aaron Holsapple, Resource Forester  
Adam Jones, Wildlife Biologist  
Scott Williams, Fisheries Biologist

#### **IMPORTANT DATES**

- 01/18 Prescribed Burn Workshop, Vienna Fire House. See back page for more information.
- 01/21 **Office Closed**—Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- 02/12 Stockman's School, Sacred Heart Parish School, Rich Fountain
- 02/18 **Office Closed**—Presidents Day
- 02/28 Pond Management Workshop, Youth Building, Vienna City Park
- 03/11 **Office Closed**—Forage & Beef Conference at KC Hall, Cuba
- 03/12 Stockman's School, Sacred Heart Parish School, Rich Fountain
- 03/15 RSVP Deadline for Annual Meeting
- 03/26 Maries County SWCD Annual Meeting at KC Hall, Vienna **Must RSVP**



*The NEW 2019 Plat Books and Maps are due to be delivered in January. Call or stop by the office to check on availability.*

## Stockman's School Held Monthly At Rich Fountain

The Maries and Osage County Soil & Water Conservation Districts and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service are hosting a series of workshops covering a wide variety of topics pertinent to livestock producers. These meetings are being held on the second Tuesday of each month and ending with a field day in April. You are encouraged to attend all the meetings but it is not mandatory.

There is no charge for the workshops but please RSVP to Cindy DeOrnellis at the Osage County SWCD office (573) 897-3797 Ext. 3

**LOCATION:** Sacred Heart Parish School, 4277 Highway U, Rich Fountain

**CHECK IN:** 5:45

**DINNER:** 6:00

**PROGRAM:** 6:15 - 8:00

**January 8** - Veterinary Needs - calving, vaccinating, VFD

**February 12** - Marketing - what buyers want, market trends

**March 12** - Grazing Systems - benefits, design considerations

**April 9** - Field Day at a Local Farming Operation

If you require reasonable accommodations, please notify us one week prior to the workshop you will be attending.

## District Poster & Essay Contest Theme is "Life in the Soil: Dig Deeper"

The Maries County Soil and Water Conservation District is once again conducting their annual poster and essay contests to acquaint students with the conservation of our natural resources. This year's theme for both contests is **"Life in the Soil: Dig Deeper"**. Posters and essays should highlight that soil is a dirty topic, but everyone needs to learn more about it! Soil is the foundation for many of the items we use in our daily life, such as food, clothing, clean water, homes and more. Healthy soil equals healthy food, which equals a healthy you. Don't treat your soil like dirt!

*Contests Deadline is  
March 1st.*

Any student living in Maries County and/or enrolled in the 3rd through 6th grades of any Maries County school or home-schooled in Maries County may participate in the **Poster Contest**. Posters should be on poster board measuring 14" x 22" and capable of supporting its weight when leaned against the wall. Only one individual may work on a poster. The name of the student, teacher, school, grade and age must be listed on the back of the

poster. Students are not required to be in an art class to enter a poster. Poster board and the complete rules are available at the district office.

Each individual grade countywide will be judged together. From each grade, three posters will be chosen to win cash awards. Grade level prizes will be: 1st place - \$15, 2nd place - \$10 and 3rd place - \$5. From

these winners one entry will be declared the grand prize county winner and receive an additional cash award of \$50. The first place poster from each grade will be sent to state competition. All grade winners will be notified and invited to the District's Annual Meeting

in March to receive their awards and to find out what prize they have one.

The district's **Essay Contest** is open to any student living in Maries County and/or enrolled in the 7th through 12 grades of any Maries County Junior or High School. Essays should be 400 to 500 words in length. It should be double spaced typed or legibly handwritten. Sources of information must be listed. A separate sheet of paper with the

student's name, address, grade, name of school and teacher's name should be stapled to the back of the essay. A student may also enter their essay directly to the district office. Only one essay per student is permitted.

The entries will be judged in three groups: 7th and 8th; 9th and 10th; and 11th and 12th. Awards will be given to the top three essays in each group. 1st prize will be \$50. 2nd prize will be \$25. 3rd prize will be \$15.

All contests will end on March 1, 2019. The posters and essays are due in the Soil and Water by the close of business on that date. The office is located at 105 Parkway in Vienna. If there are any questions, you may call the district office at (573) 422-3342.



### New Briefs

#### Grazing Schools

Osage County will be hosting the 2019 Tri-County Grazing School at the Fire House near Bonnots Mill on May 2 and 3. The school is a requirement to receive State Cost-Share Assistance for any of the Grazing Management

Programs. The school is limited to 30 participants.

Other schools in the region will be held near Rolla on April 17 and 18 and at the Wurdack Research Center near Cook Station on September 26 & 27. If you are interested in these schools or to get more information on other schools in the state, please contact us at 573-422-3342.

#### Staff Receives Recognition

Amy Neier and Sandy Stratman were both presented with Length of Service awards at the Missouri Soil & Water Conservation Districts Annual Training Conference held at Tan-Tar-A. Neier has been with the district for 10 years and Stratman for 30 years.

**Congratulations Ladies!!!**

## Forage & Beef Conference Set For March 11th At Knights Of Columbus Hall, Cuba - I-44 East – Hwy. UU Exit

12:00 - Registration/Trade Show

12:30 - Mitigation of Infected Fescue – Dr. Will McClain, Missouri State University

1:15 - Strategies to Optimize Pregnancy Rate in Beef Heifers and Cows – Dr. Michael Smith, University Missouri Columbia

2:00 - Break

2:30 - Basics of Novel Fescue VS. Endophyte Free Fescue – Dr. Will McClain, Missouri State University

3:15 - Break

3:45 - Producer Panel – Grazing Alternative Forages

Megan Rudroff

Harry Cope

Joshua Morris

5:00 - Break

5:15 - Using Native Warm-season Grasses for Forage Production in Missouri - Dr. Pat Keyser -University of Tennessee

*Dr. Pat Keyser is a Professor and Director for the Center for Native Grasslands Management. In that role, Dr. Keyser provides regional and national leadership in the development and implementation of comprehensive research and outreach programs focused on a broad range of issues pertinent to the management of native grasslands. This includes work on use of native grasses in forage production systems for livestock, biofuels production, the integration of forage and biofuels, answering specific management questions for native grasses, restoration of natural grassland communities such as woodlands and savannahs, and wildlife responses to native grasslands management.*

6:30 - Dinner

**RSVP by February 25th to Crawford County Soil & Water Conservation District at 1-800-364-8732 Ext. 3 or 573-364-6202 Ext. 3.**



## Photos Now Being Accepted For Contest

It's that time of the year again to look back or take pictures for this year's Photo Contest. This is the fifteenth year for the event. Photographs must be taken in Maries County, Missouri and should be entered in the appropriate category and division.

The contest is divided into two Divisions: Youth (up to and including high school seniors) and Adult (any adult residing or owning land in Maries County). Each photo can only be judged in one of the following Categories: Trees/Plants/Landscapes; Wildlife; or Farming in Maries County.

Entries should follow these guidelines when entering:

- ♦ The contest is open to amateur photographers. Each participant may enter up to, but no more than five photographs. All photos must be taken in Maries County, Missouri. Photos will not be returned.
- ♦ Black-and-white prints and color prints are both acceptable. Photos cannot be accepted via email and must be no larger than 8x10 and they are not to be framed and/or matted.

- ♦ The following information must be attached to the back of each photo. **A.** Photographer's name, address and phone number; **B.** Division (Youth or Adult) and Category (Trees/Plants/Landscapes, Wildlife or Farming in Maries County); **C.** Title of photograph; **D.** Subject Names (if people are in the photo); **E.** Location; **F.** Year photo was taken.

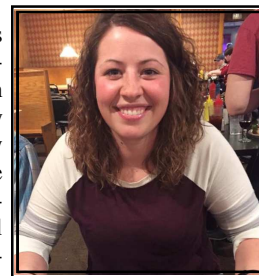
All Entries become the property of the Maries County SWCD, and Maries County SWCD reserves the non-exclusive right to use all photographs in publications, on the district's webpage, on display and/or for promotional purposes. Previous entries will not be judged for the 2019 contest.

Judges will select one county winner in each of the three categories in each division. Winning photos will be displayed at the Maries County SWCD 2019 Annual Meeting in March. Winners will receive \$25 and a framed print of their winning photo from the district. Honorable Mentions will receive certificates.

*All entries must be postmarked or delivered to the office by March 1, 2019.*

## New Employee

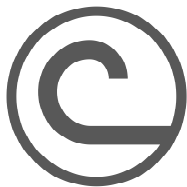
Hi, my name is April Dudenhofer. I grew up in Linn, MO and my family has a turkey farm. We also have a cow/calf operation, and a saw mill where we can provide the bedding



for the turkey barns. In 2015 I graduated from College of the Ozarks with a double major in Agribusiness/Animal Science. After I graduated, I worked for Niman Ranch, a breed-to-wean hog farm. In 2017, I decided to move back home where I began working at a dairy farm. While there, I experienced several self accomplishments as well as herd accomplishments. There were also times of difficulty, but I leaned to push on. I truly enjoy being apart of agriculture in all its diversity. In 2018 I transitioned to working in a veterinarian clinic where I worked with farmers and learned a lot about vaccines, antibiotics and handling livestock.

I am excited for this new venture working with landowners and operators in Cole, Osage, Maries, and Gasconade Counties.





**Maries County Soil & Water  
Conservation District**

105 Parkway  
Vienna, MO 65582

(573) 422-3342 Fax (573) 422-3590

Office Hours: 7:30 am to 4:00 pm

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

**Non-Profit Org.**

**U.S. Postage PAID**

**Vienna, MO**

**Permit No. 8**

Newsletter made possible by the 1/10 of 1% sales tax for parks, soils & water.

The Missouri Department of Conservation and the United States Department of  
Agriculture invites you to a free workshop



**Prescribed Burn Workshop for Landowners**  
**Friday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019**  
**9 AM – 3 PM @**

**Vienna Volunteer Fire Protection District**  
**308 N Mill St**  
**Vienna, MO 65582**

**Workshop Topics:**

- \*Proper methods and techniques used for implementing control burns.
- \*Burn equipment, how it is used and availability.
- \*Developing burn plans.

**Demonstration Burn: (If weather conditions are suitable)**

A demo burn will follow classroom session on a nearby glade at Spring Creek Gap Conservation area.

**Brown bag lunch will be provided for registered participants.**

**Register by January 15, 2019**

**For Reservations:**

Seth Barrioz (573) 897-3797 ext. 116 (MDC Private Land Conservationist)

**Directions:** From Jefferson City, take Hwy 63 South to Vienna, MO.  
While heading south you will turn left onto 8<sup>th</sup> Street.  
Take 8<sup>th</sup> Street to North Mill Street.  
The Fire Station is on the corner.



United States Department of Agriculture



## Pond Management Workshop

**Thursday, February 28, 2019**  
**6:30pm – 9:00pm**

**Youth Building behind the ball  
field on Ball Park Road at the  
Vienna, MO City Park.**

Do you have questions about building a new pond or an existing pond on your property? If so, this workshop is for you. The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC), Maries County Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) will be hosting a Pond Management Workshop on Thursday, February 28, 2019 from 6:30 – 9:00 p.m. at no charge.

The workshop will cover a wide variety of topics including, pond site selection, pond construction, pond stocking, fisheries management, aquatic vegetation management, pond watershed management and nuisance wildlife. Professionals from MDC, NRCS and SWCD will give presentations and will be available to answer questions.

Free snacks and refreshments provided.

**Register for this free workshop by  
contacting the Missouri Department of  
Conservation at (573) 796-0286.  
Registration deadline is February 25,  
2019. Space is limited.**

**Discover nature programs...**

- Help Missourians discover and explore nature
- Provide expert instruction and hands-on activities
- Are available statewide