



Franklin County Conservation District Newsletter



VOL. 30 NO. 4

WINTER 2016

Grazing School was held in Franklin County



In October 2016, the Franklin County Soil & Water Conservation District along with Natural Resources Conservation Service and University of Missouri Extension conducted a management intensive grazing school. 29 individuals received certification and now meet the State requirement of grazing school attendance to qualify for cost share assistance.

Management intensive grazing (also known as rotational grazing management) is a system where grazing is managed for both the benefit of the livestock and forage. Livestock graze in each pasture long enough to harvest the forage, but are removed before too much leaf area is consumed. This routine rotating schedule will in time pay off with less hay to be fed in the winter months and availability of water/forage in a drought situation. A basic system may have 4 or 5 pastures,

while a more management intensive system will have 8 to 10 pastures.



The State Cost Share Program will help ease the cost of installing water wells, waterline, fence, fence chargers/solar chargers, livestock waterers, lime, legume seeding and newly approved the grazing school attendance cost. If you would like more information on cost share assistance, contact the Soil & Water Conservation District office.

**SECTION
OMITTED**

MISSOURI SOIL & WATER DISTRICT COMMISSION APPROVES COST SHARE CHANGES

DSL-1 Permanent Vegetative Cover Establishment:

The practice, in the case of conversion from woodland to pasture, the land must have been in crop or pasture/hayland for 3 years prior to contract approval.

DSP-3 Grazing Management Practices:

A one-time grazing school incentive of \$75 for a landowner that implements a grazing system practice.

DWC-1 Water Impoundment Reservoir:

The practice maximum was increased from \$10,000 to \$15,000 per structure.

N312 Animal Waste Management System:

An incentive payment of \$2,000 for a comprehensive nutrient management plan (CNMP) completed by a technical service provider after the animal waste management building is completed.



2017 POSTER CONTEST



Productive soils are the foundation of any healthy ecosystem. As the world's population grows and demand for food production increases, it's essential that we work together to protect and enhance our soils.

- * Healthy soils are important for growing healthy plants.
- * Healthy plants are important for healthy food.
- * Healthy foods are important for healthy people and animals.

Soil is at the bottom of the food chain, yet it is the cornerstone of life on earth!



SAVE THE DATE

**Annual Meeting
March 16, 2017**

**Knights of
Columbus Hall
Union, MO**

USDA NRCS Accepting Applications

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is accepting applications for enrollment in the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) and Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP).

CSP is for producers who are already established conservation stewards, helping them to deliver multiple conservation benefits on working lands, including improved water and soil quality and enhanced wildlife habitat. CSP is the largest private lands conservation



program in Missouri and in the nation. Missouri landowners have enrolled 1.6 million acres into CSP. NRCS has made several updates to CSP this year to help producers better evaluate their conservation options and the benefits to their operations and natural resources. Missouri farmers and ranchers can apply through February 3, 2017.

ACEP is part of a national effort to help landowners restore wetlands and protect key agricultural lands and grasslands from conversion to non-agricultural uses through easements. Depending on the location, landowners receive between \$3,210 and \$5,000 per acre in exchange for permanent easements to protect wetlands. They can also choose a 30-year-easement option at a reduced rate. Landowners must apply by January 6, 2017, to be eligible for the current allotment of funding.

For more information or to apply, stop by the NRCS office in Union.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Daniel Brunjes, Chairman
Mike Stumpe, Vice Chairman
Bernard Laune, Treasurer
Matthew Herring, Secretary
John Helling, Member

1004 Vondera Ave. • Union, MO 63084
636-583-2303

The Franklin County Conservation District was organized in 1944 with a primary objective to solve soil and water conservation problems. The District, upon request, aids in planning and applying appropriate land use and conservation treatment measures.

OFFICE STAFF PERSONNEL

Lori Nowak, District Clerk, FCSWCD
Stephen Sparks, District Technician, FCSWCD

Renee Cook, District Conservationist, NRCS
Rhonda Davault, Lead Resource Conservationist, NRCS
Kervin Bryant, Soil Conservationist, NRCS
Teresa Morris, Soil Conservationist, NRCS
Jerry Busch, Area Soil Technician, NRCS

Lia Heppermann, Private Land Conservationist, MDC
Ryan Diener, Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist

Voters Renew Missouri's Parks, Soils and Water Sales Tax through 2026

(source: Missouri Department of Natural Resources November 2016 newsletter Soil And Water Resources)

In November, Missouri citizens renewed Missouri's Parks, Soils and Water Sales Tax through 2026. The tax is divided equally to fund the Missouri Soil and Water Conservation Program and Missouri State Parks. The Parks, Soils and Water Sales Tax is placed on the ballot every 10 years to reaffirm voter support of the park system and soil and water conservation efforts. The Parks, Soils and Water Sales Tax was first approved by voters in 1984. More than two-thirds of Missouri voters renewed the tax in 1988 and 1996; 70.8 percent voted in favor in 2006 and 80.1 percent approved the sales tax most recently in 2016.

"The renewal of this key funding source is a reflection of the hard work that staff in the Soil and Water Conservation Program and Missouri State Parks do on behalf of Missourians," said Harry Bozoian, director of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. "It shows that Missourians care about the fields we farm, the water we drink, and the natural and cultural beauty that we preserve. I thank all of the members of the public, the local Soil and Water Conservation Districts and our partners for their work to ensure that Missouri's legacy of healthy waters and soil conservation continues for future generations."

Of Missouri's 44.6 million acres of land, 14.8 million are considered cropland. With almost half of Missouri's cropland soil classified as highly erodible, controlling and minimizing erosion is a significant challenge for Missouri's farmers. Since 1984, Missouri's Soil and Water Conservation Program, working through the local soil and water conservation districts, has saved more than 179 million tons of soil from eroding and has provided over \$694 million to Missouri's agricultural landowners to voluntarily implement more than 229,000 conservation practices using revenues for the Parks, Soils and Water Sales Tax.

Local county soil and water conservation district boards, staff and conservation partners provide assistance to farmers and agricultural landowners to voluntarily implement locally approved soil and water conservation practices. Fifty different soil and water conservation practices are available to address the following: grazing, woodland erosion, irrigation, animal waste, nutrient and pest application to crops and pastures, protection of sensitive areas such as streams and sinkholes, and to prevent sheet, rill and gully erosion.

Contact the Franklin County Soil & Water Conservation District to inquire about the conservation practices available and to see if you qualify for assistance.



Funding from the Parks, Soils and Water Sales Tax can help Missouri landowners install a cover crop conservation practice, such as this one. Cover crops are one of 50 conservation practices available.

For Rent

7 foot NO-TILL DRILL

MFA Agri Service
35 N. Commercial Ave.
St. Clair, MO 63077

To Schedule Rental
Call 636-629-2822



New Haven Farm & Feed
9659 Highway 100
New Haven, MO 63068

To Schedule Rental
Call 573-237-3831

HAPPY
HOLIDAYS!

From: Dan, Mike, Bernard, Matt, John, Lori and Stephen

SECTION
OMITTED

Area III – Wilson Farm



Our Area III Outstanding Farmer Award goes to Wilson Farm owned by Kenneth & Dianna Wilson. The farm has been in the family since the 50's and in 1986, Kenneth bought the farm from his family located in Sullivan.

The farm consists of 280 acres, dominated by forest. Kenneth has roughly 70 acres of crop land that he rents out and a corn/soybean rotation is produced. There are roughly 60 acres of pasture that is cut for hay and grazed by a cow/calf operation.

Kenneth applied for State Cost-Share to help control erosion by installing a waterway and turning a crop field back into pasture. Kenneth also installed ponds and terraces on his own.

Kenneth has two children and four grandchildren; they're not really involved, but do like to come out and play.

Congratulations to Wilson Farm and keep up the good work to improve your natural resources!



FRANKLIN COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT
1004 Vondera Avenue
Union, Missouri 63084-3132
636-583-2303
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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U.S. Postage
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Union, MO 63084



COMING EVENTS

Monday, December 26, 2016
USDA Service Center closed
Christmas Day Holiday

Monday, January 2, 2017
USDA Service Center closed
New Year's Day Holiday

Tuesday, January 10, 2017
SWCD Regular Board Meeting
10:00 a.m., USDA Service Center

Monday, January 16, 2017
USDA Service Center closed
Martin Luther King Holiday

Tuesday, February 14, 2017
SWCD Regular Board Meeting
8:00 a.m., USDA Service Center

Monday, February 20, 2017
USDA Service Center closed
President's Day Holiday

Call to confirm meeting date and times. All regular meetings are open to the public.



Quarterly Quote

*"The soil is the great connector of our lives,
the source and destination of all."*

– Wendell Berry, *The Unsettling of America*, 1977

THANK YOU

The District Board appreciates the cooperation of the businesses that advertise in our newsletter and hope that our readers patronize these advertisers. The Board especially appreciates the financial assistance of the Franklin County Commission. Thanks also to our partners in conservation: NRCS, FSA, DNR, University Extension, MDC, Quail Forever. Assistance from the Soil and Water Conservation District is available to all county residents regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, gender identity, reprisal, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation or individual's income. State Cost-Share funds are available for agriculture landowners that have active erosion and are approved to complete practices that solve the erosion problem and for practices that protect our water quality.