



SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT OF PERRY COUNTY

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

AREA 1
Jeff Haertling, Perryville

AREA 2
Aaron Verseman, Perryville

AREA 3
Willis Koenig, Perryville

AREA 4
Ralph Reisenbichler, Perryville

SECRETARY
Frank Wideman

**Meetings the Second
Wednesday Morning
of Each Month**

1003 North Main
547-4077
Extension 3



OUR SOIL ★ OUR STRENGTH

NEWSLETTER

Perryville, MO 63775
February 2015
Vol. 47, No. 1

DISTRICT STAFF

Karen Lukefahr,
District Manager
LaVern Taylor,
District Technician

NRCS STAFF

James Hunt,
District Conservationist
Dana Seibel,
Resource Conservationist
Scott Crumpecker
Soil Conservationist

Helping People Help the Land
An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

For information on programs, sign-up deadlines and more, check out the
Perry SWCD Website at <http://www.swcd.mo.gov/perry/index.html> and the Missouri NRCS Website at <http://www.mo.nrcs.usda.gov/>

PERRY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT WILL SPONSOR ANNUAL MEETING

The Perry Soil and Water Conservation District's annual meeting will be held on March 26th starting at 6:30 p.m. at the American Legion Hall in Perryville. The Board of Supervisors wishes to extend an invitation to all landowners and producers in Perry County to come and enjoy the delicious chicken dinner.

The Conservation Farmer of the Year Award will be presented to a deserving farm family. Winners of the coloring and poster contest will be awarded as in the past years. An election will be held in conjunction with this meeting.

This meeting is how we would like to thank you, the landowners of the district, for making a strong soil and water conservation program possible in Perry County.

Hope to see you on the 26th!

Reservations for the meeting need to be returned by March 23rd. Please send the attached to the Perry SWCD office or call Karen at 547-4077, ext 3.

Name _____

Number planning to attend _____

Perry SWCD Office
1003 North Main St.
Perryville, MO 63775

Funds Available for Sinkhole Cleanout and More

The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) is in year two of a three year US Fish and Wildlife Grant to implement Best Management Practices in the Perry County Karst Watershed.

Approved practices include but are not limited to: sinkhole cleanouts, sinkhole buffer establishment, streambank tree establishment, fencing, and alternative livestock watering. Landowners will be required to maintain a practice for 10 years. Practices will be cost shared at a rate of 90%. Landowners can receive up to a maximum payment of \$6,000/year. However, landowners may apply for cost-share in multiple years. In addition, practices converting or taking lands out of production will be awarded \$500/acre. Cost-shared practice signups will be on a first come first serve basis.

Contracts need to be signed no later than June 1st.

Last year these funds were used to remove 140 tons of refuse from 5 sinkholes in Perry County. In addition another 5 acres of sinkholes were protected by installing a fence to exclude cattle from these sensitive habitats.

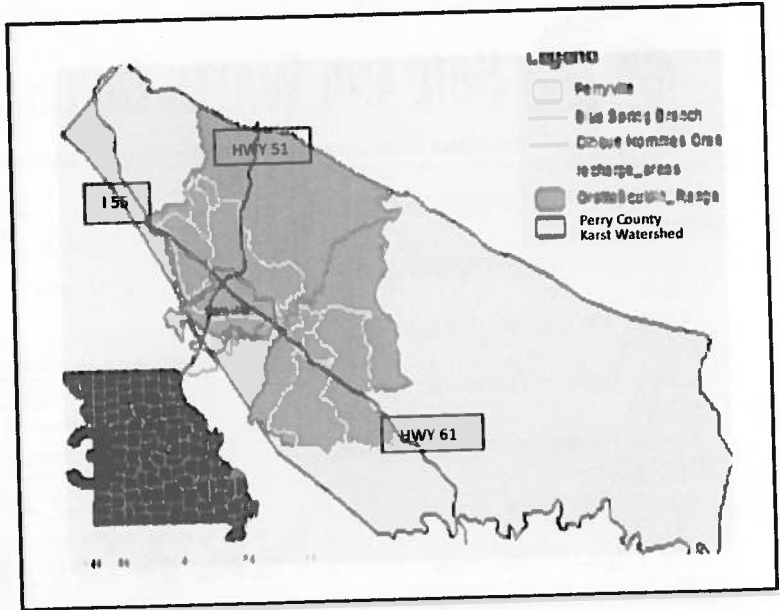
Photo pre-cleanout



Photo post-cleanout



For more information, contact Jason Crites, MDC Fisheries Management Biologist at 573-290-5858 ext. 4435.



THE MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION PRESENTS A

Landowner Workshop

Enhance wildlife habitat, forests and ponds on your land.

Perryville Higher Education Center, Perryville, MO
March 14, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. (Register at 8 a.m.)

Choose from 9 different one-hour presentations on topics that pertain to private land management. Sessions are designed to offer landowners plenty of how-to suggestions.

Lunch will be provided and class size is limited, so pre-registration is required by Feb. 27.

Topics include:

- Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)
- Soil Conservation
- Timber Management
- Invasive Plants
- Perry Community Planning
- Grotto Sculpin Incentives
- Glade & Woodland Management
- Cost share & Incentive Programs
- Crop & Pasture Land Management

Call 573-290-5730 for more information and to pre-register by Feb. 27.

mdc.mo.gov

Reward (\$) For Your Conservation Efforts

Conservation Stewardship Program Deadline February 27

You have until February 27 to apply for funding this year through Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP). CSP is available for operators of crop, pasture and/or forest land uses. Do you have healthy pastures? Have you had a managed timber harvest? Do you use no-till or minimum tillage, incorporate high residue crops in your rotation or take soils test? Do you leave grassed buffers between your cropland and streams or ponds? Apply to see if you are eligible for five years of flat-rate payments per acre on crop, pasture or forest land that you operate.

As part of the CSP application process, applicants will work with NRCS to complete a resource inventory of their land, which will help determine the conservation performance for existing and new conservation activities. The applicant's conservation performance will be used to determine eligibility, ranking and payments.

To apply or for more information, contact the local NRCS office at 1003 N Main, Perryville (573-547-4077, ext 3) or visit the Missouri NRCS website: www.mo.nrcs.usda.gov.

Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)

Conservation funds have been made available through RCPP to 5 Missouri Projects. One such project covers 11 counties, one of which is Perry County.

Perry County landowners and producers in the Karst Watershed are eligible to apply for funding for practices that improve water quality on crop and pasture acres. Such practices include: cover crops, implementing no-till, erosion-control structures, and many more. Additionally, landowners and producers county-wide are eligible to apply for funds to manage and restore glades and woodlands. Payments rates may be up to 75% of county costs, possibly with an additional 15% match from the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC).

For more information or to apply, contact the local NRCS office at 1003 N Main, Perryville (573-547-4077, ext 3). Deadline for 2015 funds has yet to be announced, but will most likely be the end of March.

What is HEL Compliance and Why Should You Care?

Do you have crop insurance? Do you receive farm program benefits? Do you participate in USDA farm programs? Then you need to know what HEL Compliance means.

To be eligible for a USDA program benefit when producing an annual agricultural commodity, USDA program participants must follow an acceptable crop rotation on fields that are considered highly erodible lands (HEL). Highly Erodible Land is crop ground that is not flat (like creek/river bottoms). Annual sheet and rill soil erosion (calculated using your crop rotation, passes over the field with any equipment, soil type/slope/slope length of each field) must be at or below two times the soil's tolerable limit (T) for erosion, or at T or less if cropland is converted from native vegetation (clearing trees for cropping).

Additionally, ephemeral gully erosion must be controlled in all HEL fields in order to remain eligible for USDA program benefits. Ephemeral gullies are concentrated flow channels formed when rills converge to form shallow channels. They are alternately filled with soil by tillage operations and re-formed in the same general location by subsequent runoff events.

Randomly selected tracts are selected annually for HEL Compliance Spot Checks. Crop history is reviewed and field visits are made to determine crop residue amounts left after planting and to check for presence of ephemeral gullies. If you are found out of compliance, you would become ineligible for government-funded crop insurance subsidies and all other USDA farm program benefits on ALL land that your crop.

Contact the NRCS office at 1003 N Main, Perryville if you would like to discuss HEL Compliance or determine if your current cropping rotations/method are acceptable.

Election for the Board of Supervisors

An election will be held on March 26, 2015

Polling places - NRCS Office

1003 North Main St
Perryville, MO 63775

From 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

American Legion

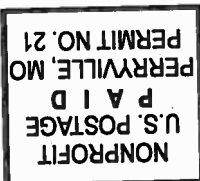
98 Grand Ave.

Perryville, MO 63775

From 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

AREA I **Jeffrey Haertling**
 Marion Brown

AREA III **Willis Koenig**
 Donna Telle



PERRY COUNTY
SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT
1003 North Main St.
Perryville, MO 63775
(RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED)

