



ELECTIONS

It is almost time to start thinking about elections. Beginning in FY22, all districts were placed on the same election cycle with areas 2 and 4 having elections. This year areas 1 and 3 will be on the ballot. Election procedures can be located in the District Operations Manual section V. The important dates to remember are located in the table below.

FY 2024 SWCD Election Procedures

Publicize Nomination Period	Nov 1 – Nov 30
Nomination Period	Nov 1 – Nov 30
Nominees Determined	December
Publicize Election	Jan 19– Feb 22
Voting Period	Feb 1 – Feb 20
Last Day to Receive Ballots	February 22
Ballots Counted by Judges	Feb 23- Feb 28
Election Certification	March

NO-TILL DRILL GRANT

During the 2023 legislative session, a provision was included to the programs budget “For a grant program to county soil and water districts to create a match program of \$7,500 per county, designated to buy or replace no-till drills.” The grant program is limited to a total of \$75,000 for the entire state. This means that in order to provide districts with a fair opportunity at the grant funds, an application process has been created. The most important provision to this grant opportunity is that grant funds be used **ONLY** on no-till drills, other equipment does not qualify. Applications are due to the program office by COB on August 30, 2023.

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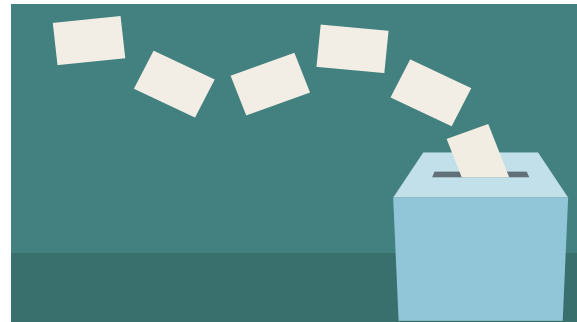
NO-TILL DRILL GRANT

End of FY23 Impact and What is in the Future

DISTRICT SPOTLIGHT

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UPCOMING EVENTS





END OF FY23

Impact and What is in the Future

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources' Soil and Water Conservation Program provided \$40 million to Missouri landowners in fiscal year 2023. The program funded nearly 6,000 projects designed to save soil and protect water quality across Missouri. Funding for the program is made possible through the Parks, Soil and Water Sales Tax. The Soil and Water Conservation Program's annual budget appropriation for cost-share projects will be increasing to \$50 million for the 2024 fiscal year

beginning July 1. Since the first passage of the Parks, Soils and Water Sales Tax in 1988, Missouri has prevented more than 192 million tons of soil erosion while also improving the state's water quality and keeping farmland productive.

The state cost share year is the same as the state fiscal year which runs from July 1 to June 30. Because of the amount of time needed to manage the programs budget, the program office is preparing the next year's budget more than a year in advance. This means that while FY 24 will begin on July 1, 2023 program management has already been working on the budget for FY 25 well before July 1, 2023.

Initial cost-share allocations are based on how much money the district paid out in the previous fiscal year. For specific details on the amount your district will receive at initial allocation time, please refer back to the FY24 Cost-Share Allocation letter your district received at the end of December, or contact your district coordinator if you cannot locate the original copy.

Each month beginning after August 1st every district that reached 90% of their total initial allocation (Obligated divided by the total initial allocation of the resource concern times 100) is eligible to accept a supplemental allocation of \$100,000 in a particular resource concern up to \$600,000 annually. It is important to remember that supplemental allocations are not a guarantee so districts should not count on supplemental allocations as they are driven by statewide obligations and can be cancelled at any time.

In the event that it is after January and there are no more supplemental allocations available, it might be a good time for the district to utilize the advanced allocation. Districts can complete the advanced allocation form on the intranet and request 10% of their initial allocation for the next FY after for a single resource concern. It is important to note that if a landowner is awarded a contract using the advanced allocation they cannot receive payment until after July 1 for any practice completed.

DISTRICT SPOTLIGHT

Nodaway County

Each newsletter the program office would like to highlight one of the Soil and Water Districts in the state. Nodaway County SWCD, located in Maryville. Will be our first spotlight. During FY 23 the district was able to pay out 162 contracts totaling \$1,427,539.50 with no roll overs!

1. Are there any events that you all hosted or were involved in that you would like to point out? I.e. Field day, school visits, Mozingo, etc.

The Soil and Water Commissioners graciously provided Nodaway County with \$200,000 specifically for conservation practices to assist in improving the water quality in Mozingo Lake, the sole provider for drinking water to roughly 10,000 Maryville citizens, plus additional individuals in surrounding areas in FY21. COVID impacted our ability to spend funds, so we only obligated \$12,116.50 in FY21. In FY22 we were able to spend \$43,715.77 and for FY23 we spent \$44,660.13. We have \$22,037.38 contracted so far in FY24 for a total of \$122,529.78 spent to date. More funds would have been exhausted sooner, however, Mozingo received enough attention to receive federal funding through an MRBI program, which has spent upwards of \$1.5 million dollars to date on conservation practices within the watershed. We want to thank the Commission for providing the \$200,000 for conservation practices!



On average Nodaway County provides producers with \$1 million dollars in terraces, \$150,000 in cover crops, \$150,000 in structures and \$15,000 in seedings. Producers are limited to receiving funding for engineering practices (structures and terraces) until the third fiscal year after receiving funds. Producers are also limited to either 133 acres for a one or two species mix or 100 acres for a three or more species mix. This allows us to provide funds to more producers and different producers each year. We utilize a lottery system for our structures and terraces. We just recently decided to change our terrace process to a lottery system make our office more efficient and effective. We have a week long cover crop sign up period the last week of July annually. Any producer that contacts us that week is guaranteed a contract. If producers contact us the following week(s) they are added to a wait list and if budgeted funds haven't been exhausted, then we obligate funds to producers on the wait list. Feel free to reach out to Colton Coffelt if you have questions about our processes.

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2. Did the district support any other organizations ie. 4-H, FFA, other local organizations?

We support the Nodaway County 4-H/FFA Livestock Show, Annual Farm City Banquet, NACD & MASWCD.

3. Do you have a rental equipment program? What kinds of equipment, amount it went out?

We have a 15' No-Till Drill, 10' Brillion Seeder, Large Scraper, Small Scraper & Mulcher. All together we had about 40 rentals for the year.

4. Who is on your staff? Any things you want to highlight on staff?

- Colton Coffelt – District Manager—7 Years
- Ben Luna—Shared FOSA Employee—6 Years
- Miranda Tyler Redford—District Technician—3 Years
- Austin Colwell—District Technician—3 Years
- Cooper Nally—NACD District Technician—2 Months

All of our staff work hard to fairly obligate our \$1 million plus each year, all while making sure quality work is sent out.

Special thanks to Ky Hill, NRCS Technician (former SWCD Technician) for all of the help and training he has, and continues, to provide!

5. Do you have any photos that you could include? i.e. staff photo, field photos



Structure built in Mozingo Watershed with Commission Cost Share Funds; Mozingo Lake in the Background



Another Structure Built in Mozingo Watershed with Commission Cost Share Funds

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<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100068803736919>



UPCOMING EVENTS

- Area Meetings will be held the last week of August. Keep an eye on your email for further details.
- Training Conference November 27-29 Margaretville
- Commission Meeting 8/16/2023 MO State Fair