



December 2013

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Special Points of Interest

- Regular Board Meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month
- Conservation District Board of Supervisors :
Georgi Dawson, Chairman
Calvin Boyd, Vice Chairman
Matt Cantrell, Treasurer
Ted Alexander, Member
Sam Baler, Member

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OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE
BARBER COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

CONSERVATION DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING

JANUARY

18

SATURDAY

The 64th Annual Meeting of the Barber County Conservation District will be held at the Community Building in Kiowa, KS on Saturday evening, January 18, 2014. Dinner, catered by Yur Place of Hardtner, will be served at 6:30 P.M. followed by the business meeting and election of two supervisors.

On behalf of the Barber County Bankers Association, Mark Watts of the Peoples Bank, will be presenting the Bankers Awards for Soil Conservation. This award is presented in recognition of those who have made outstanding progress in the development and implementation of a complete soil conservation plan according to land capability.

Prizes and awards will be presented to winners of the 2013 Conservation Poster Contest and all poster entries will be on display.

District highlights and accomplishments will be noted, and full disclosure of district funds will be made to the public.

Everyone is invited to attend the meeting by making reservations through the conservation office at (620) 886-5311 by January 10, 2014. Come join us and learn how the Conservation District can serve you.

No-Till On The Plains Winter Conference

No-till farmers won't want to miss the 2014 No-till on the Plains Winter Conference, featuring the theme 'Back to the Basics: Managing Water and Nutrients,' Jan. 28-29 at the Bicentennial Center in Salina, Kansas.

"We are excited for the 2014 Winter Conference to cover a wide variety of topics that will help experienced no-tillers, as well as farmers new to no-till," said Josh Lloyd, president of No-till on the Plains and a farmer from Longford, Kansas. "The conference program will help producers understand basic concepts and principles of moving to a no-till system, plus help those long-term no-tillers who are continuing to tweak and manage their program to maximize efficiency and profit."

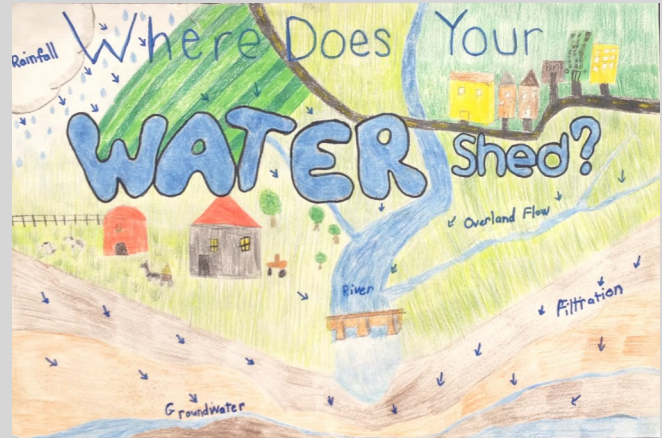
Funds are available through the Conservation District for Barber County landowners interested in attending the conference. Landowners must be first time attendees to the No-Till on the Plains Winter Conference to be eligible for reimbursement of their registration fees to the conference. Applications will be taken on a first-come first-served basis until the funds are expended. Contact the Conservation District for more information.

Barber County Conservation Posters Win State Honors

Attention to detail, creativity, and an accurate understanding of the theme were winning efforts recognized by judges of the 2013 Conservation Poster Contest for two Barber County students. Gracie Burenheide, a student at the Sharon Learning Center, took first place at the state level with her entry. Madison Pilkington, 5th grade student at Medicine Lodge Primary School, placed 2nd in state for her grade division. Congratulations, girls! We are very proud to have Barber County represented by these two outstanding posters.



GRACIE BURENHEIDE
1ST PLACE, DISTRICT—1ST PLACE, STATE
SHARON LEARNING CENTER



MADISON PILKINGTON
1ST PLACE, DISTRICT—2ND PLACE, STATE
MEDICINE LODGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

“WHERE DOES YOUR WATER SHED?”

Although the theme for the 2013 Conservation Poster Contest was a difficult concept, 228 Barber County students met the challenge and proved their understanding of a watershed through art. Congratulations to all those who participated in the contest and a big thank you to their teachers and parents for encouragement and instruction. Following are the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners in each age group.

K—1

DIYA PATEL
BREANNA REEVES
TYTEN COURSON

2ND—3RD

ALEXA ETHRIDGE
JASMINE RICKE
CAUY SCRIPSICK

4TH—6TH

MADISON PILKINGTON
CARSON CARGILL
ALAYNI CROMBIE

7TH—9TH

GRACIE BURENHEIDE
CADE LONKER
SAMANTHA ROMINE

10TH—12TH

RICKEY BLACK
LARAMIE HOWARD
CHRISTOPHER ADAMS

Applications for Conservation Stewardship Program Due January 17

Popular Farm Bill Conservation Program Seeks Producer Participation

Salina, Kansas, December 5, 2013—The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) will be conducting a sign up for the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) for new enrollments for federal fiscal year (FY) 2014. Starting today through January 17, 2014, producers interested in participating in the program can submit applications to NRCS.

“Through the Conservation Stewardship Program, farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners are going the extra mile to conserve our nation’s resources,” NRCS Chief Jason Weller said. “Through their conservation actions, they are ensuring that their operations are more productive and sustainable over the long run.”

The CSP is an important Farm Bill conservation program that helps established conservation stewards with taking their level of natural resource management to the next level to improve both their agricultural production and provide valuable conservation benefits such as cleaner and more abundant water, as well as healthier soils and better wildlife habitat.

The program emphasizes conservation performance —producers earn higher payments for higher performance. In CSP, many of the enhancements improve soil quality, which helps land become more resilient to extreme weather.

Some popular enhancements used by farmers and ranchers include:

- Using new nozzles that reduce the drift of pesticides, lowering input costs, and making sure pesticides are used where they are most needed.
- Modifying water facilities to prevent animals from being trapped.
- Rotating feeding areas and monitoring key grazing areas to improve grazing management.

Eligible landowners and operators in Kansas can enroll in CSP through January 17, 2014, to be eligible during FY 2014. While local NRCS offices accept the CSP applications year round, NRCS evaluates applications during announced ranking periods. To be eligible for this year’s enrollment, producers must have their applications submitted to the NRCS by the January 17, 2014, closing date.

A CSP self-screening checklist is available to help producers determine if the program is suitable for their operation. The checklist highlights basic information about the CSP eligibility requirements, stewardship threshold requirements, and payment types.

For the checklist and additional information, visit the CSP Web site <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/csp/> or visit your local U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) NRCS office at 800 W 3rd Avenue, Medicine Lodge, KS.

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