

Conservation Conversations

May 2008 - Issue No. Six

*Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet
Department for Natural Resources
Division of Conservation*

From the Director's Desk

Welcome to the spring edition of the Conservation Conversations newsletter. I bet you would agree with me that it is always a welcome relief to get another long, gloomy winter behind us and be able to embrace the warm sun and the added hours of sunlight. I am always amazed to watch the new growth in the spring, the budding of the trees, the beautiful blooms and the lush green grass. It makes you wonder how so many plants survived the long hot drought of last summer and the cold and ice of this past winter. I think we should look at this as a reminder that we must have faith in the future and faith in what we are doing, and that despite the odds, we will continue to persevere.

Speaking of perseverance, the legislators have been in town for the 2008 session of the General Assembly, which ended April 12, 2008. And as much as I would like to say that it ended with good news and expanded resources for conservation, quite the opposite can be said. The budget dominated most of the session and was passed with many funding cuts that will impact education, health care, infrastructure needs and other areas, including conservation. The Division of Conservation has been ordered to make drastic cuts in its operating budget in the new fiscal year. Being a small division within state government, funding cuts such as those we are now facing will greatly influence how we service the needs of conservation districts, our customers and, in general, how we operate the Division of Conservation. Without getting into too much detail, I want you to be aware that we will work harder than ever to assure that conservation districts and landowners will continue to get the services they need. I will also say that you are likely to see major changes in the way we operate the division in the future, and in some instances, it could be very different from the traditional way of the past.

There are still a lot of unknowns at this time with the budget and with the reorganization of the Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet, which could land the Department for Natural Resources and the Division of Conservation into a new Energy and Environmental Cabinet. I assure you that we will be keeping you informed of any developments or changes as they may occur.

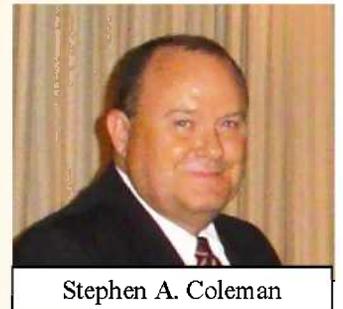
I would like to end by saying thanks to all of you for your continued hard work and dedication to the conservation movement and to challenge you to continue to work hard and have faith so that we will also see new growth, as this season of challenge passes for all of us. Also, I would like to thank the leadership of our conservation district partnership at the state level, and in particular, President Kevin Jeffries, Vice President Jeff Rice and Secretary/Treasurer Greg Abston. It is hard to believe we are drawing to an end of their second two-year terms. Thanks to Kevin for his dedicated leadership of the state association over his many years of service to KACD, and we look forward to working with the new leadership of state association to be elected at the 2008 KACD Convention.

I would like to thank everyone who furnished articles and photos for use in this newsletter. In closing, feel free to contact me or any of the division staff if you have any questions or need any assistance.

Sincerely,

Stephen A. Coleman

Stephen A. Coleman, Director
Kentucky Division of Conservation



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Harlan County Sponsors Cleanup and Supports Local Scouts By Curtis M. Kirk

In mid-October, local Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts were busy with a two-day Harlan County cleanup effort, to help improve the county's appearance and learn the meaning of responsibility.

Cub Scout Pack 149, Den 7, participates in the cleanup effort at least twice a year in different areas of the county, according to their den leader, David Howard. Howard, who is also chairman of the Harlan County Conservation District said, "It gives the kids something useful to do for the county, and it helps keep the area clean at the same time." His troop started at Dressen Park and cleaned the area along the U.S. 421 bypass down to Hardee's.



David Howard is shown with his troop members and other leaders participating in the cleanup project.
(Photo by Susie Mavindis)

Scout Master Aletha Farley of Scout Troop 323 agreed that the cleanup was wonderful for the children. Farley's troop, chartered by the Mary Helen United Methodist Church, started its cleanup at the Lenarue entrance and worked its way up to the church.

Both leaders said they also appreciated the efforts and determination of their Scout parents in helping with the project.

Each participating troop was awarded \$100 and a pizza lunch at Camp Blanton Boy Scout Camp. Bags and gloves along with helping hands were provided by the Harlan Co. Recycling Center. At the end of the project all litter was picked up by the recycling center. Approximately 85 bags of litter, along with numerous tires and large items, were collected by the 10 troops of participating scouts.

The cleanup, sponsored by the Harlan County Conservation District, took place on Oct. 15 and again the following Saturday in several other areas of the county.



Ben Lewis and Drew Burnett, members of Cub Scout Pack 149, take a break from their hard work.
(Photo by Susie Mavindis)

Another popular program in Harlan County is the used appliance buy-back program also sponsored by the Harlan County Conservation District. Susie Mavindis, a Harlan County Conservation District employee, stated "Our appliance buy-back program was unreal this time. We took in 1,683 appliances in two days which have been crushed and sent to the recycler and are out of Harlan County for good. They no longer present a threat to our environment."



(Photo by Susie Mavindis)

The Harlan County Conservation District has set good examples of ways they can clean up their county while educating and teaching responsibilities to their youth and letting them further set the example for others.

(Information was taken from an article by Ann Robinson, Staff Writer for the Harlan Daily News, Oct. 15, 2007, and Susie Mavindis, Harlan County Conservation District)

Partnerships for Environmental Education By David Keltner

Environmental education is a major focus of conservation districts across the state. Since 1991, the Harlan County Conservation District has been providing environmental education grants to teachers in Harlan County for local students to attend the Environmental Education Center at Pine Mountain Settlement School. Pine Mountain Settlement School is recognized as one of the outstanding environmental education centers within the state of Kentucky. Recognizing local students were not taking advantage of this opportunity, the Harlan County Conservation District Board voted to sponsor fourth and fifth grade students to attend the school. "These grants provided by the local district have been extremely important in helping our students participate in this very worthwhile education program. As you know, budgets are tight and getting tighter. The grants make it possible for our schools to attend. The environmental education center offers classes to people of all ages; however, I think it is important that our students have this experience to help teach and encourage them to be good stewards of our land today and in the future," said Jeff Phillips, public relations/community educator for the Harlan County Public Schools.

Since 1972, Pine Mountain Settlement School has offered classes in environmental education to people of all ages. The four goals of the environmental education center are to present environmental education as an integral part of all subjects; to provide an accurate interpretation of the natural environment and mountain culture through hands-on experiences and the use of historical materials; to offer opportunities to study and understand the special nature of the Appalachian region; and to promote responsible stewardship of natural lands and waterways.

Pine Mountain Settlement School is located in northern Harlan County in southeastern Kentucky. The school's campus encompasses nearly 800 acres on the north side of Pine Mountain. The 348-acre James E. Bickford State Nature Preserve, on school property, is home to many rare plants and animals. Anita Tolliver, Harlan County Public Schools, said, "It's wonderful, and in our own backyard."

Pine Mountain Settlement School is also a National Historic Landmark. The school's rich history began in 1913 as a boarding school for mountain children, a community center, and a medical settlement. The boarding school continued until 1949, when Pine Mountain began to operate as a nonresidential school. After the county school system constructed a new school to serve the Pine Mountain community, the settlement school turned its education focus to environmental education. "The program at Pine Mountain Settlement School provides hands-on experience on environmental education in subjects promoting responsible stewardship of natural resources in a cultural environment," said Julia Cain, a fourth-grade teacher from Rosspoint Elementary School.

The district is appreciative of the partnership with Pine Mountain Settlement School in this effort to provide environmental education to our local students.



Harlan County Conservation District Receives Earth Day Award By Curtis M. Kirk

The Environmental Quality Commission presented the 2008 Earth Day Awards on April 18, 2008.

According to a recent press release – The Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet Secretary, Robert Vance, and the Kentucky Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) recognized individuals and groups who have made significant contributions to the environment.

“The groups and individuals recognized today demonstrate outstanding environmental leadership and stewardship. By recognizing their efforts, we hope to motivate others to follow their lead,” Vance said during an Earth Week ceremony at Berry Hill Mansion in Frankfort. “I also want to recognize the positive work of the Environmental Quality Commission and its critical role of creating dialogue regarding environmental issues.”

One of the 2008 Earth Day Award recipients was the Harlan County Conservation District. The district was recognized for its appliance buyback program that rid the county of more than 3,000 old appliances. The conservation district was also recognized for sponsoring litter cleanup activities with the Boy Scouts and for making environmental education grants available to classes that spend a day at Pine Mountain Settlement School for environmental education.

As can be seen in the stories on Pages 2 and 3 of this newsletter, Harlan County continues to put a lot of effort into protecting the environment and educating young people about the value of our natural resources.

Congratulations to Harlan County Conservation District for a job well done!



Area 8 Spring Meeting By Pam Williams

The Fleming County Conservation District hosted the 2008 area meeting on March 19, 2008, at the Twin Pins Bowling Alley Conference Room in Flemingsburg. District supervisors, district personnel, NRCS personnel and watershed conservancy board members from 16 of the 17 conservation districts and two watershed conservancy districts in Area 8 were represented at the meeting.

Fleming County Judge Executive Larry Foxworthy provided a warm welcome to everyone attending and commended the Fleming County Conservation District Board of Supervisors and staff on their many accomplishments in promoting and applying conservation programs in Fleming County. Steve Coleman, Division of Conservation director, and Mr. Mike Hubbs, NRCS state conservationist, provided the latest updates on funding, programs, legislation and the farm bill. Also on the agenda were the district success stories. These segments were added to the spring area meeting agendas in 2007 and have quickly become a meeting highlight showcasing the district's successful programs, accomplishments and outreach efforts.

This year, Magoffin and Fleming counties presented very impressive presentations on successful activities promoted in their counties. Magoffin County's presentation was presented by Chairman, Sanford Holbrook and focused on providing Magoffin County residents with a locally owned district office in Salyersville and the staff to implement countywide programs. The Magoffin County Board of Supervisors accepted this challenge, worked diligently toward that goal and ultimately prevailed ensuring that residents of

Magoffin County will have a local facility and staff available for promoting and implementing local, state and federal conservation programs.

Fleming County's presentation was made by Clean Water Action Plan (CWAP) coordinator Emily Anderson and centered on their cost share programs - federal and state, youth education, soil stewardship, Earth day activities, local scholarship program, tree seedling giveaway, agriculture districts, the town branch watershed project and their special 319-designated CWAP watershed program. The 319 project will be a national success story when complete. With the many programs that Fleming County Conservation District promotes it has the ability to provide a conservation menu for every conservationist in the county.

Area 8 elections were also conducted for KACD Director and Soil and Water Commissioner this year during the business session of the meeting. Sam Hughes from Rowan County was re-elected as KACD Director and Tom Dials from Martin County was re-elected as alternate KACD Director. Carl Fannin from Elliott County was nominated for Soil and Water Commissioner along with Tim Bates from Greenup County. Their names will be sent to the Governor's office for appointment.



All meeting participants are to be commended for their outstanding efforts in promoting sustainable stewardship within their counties.

Taylor County Happy Meals By Kimberly Bartley

Taylor County District Conservationist Kathy Hodges is frazzled to say the least after a class of 60 kindergarten students took over the classroom at Clay Hill Memorial Forest. Kathy has just taught the group how a McDonald's Happy Meal is made - and it's not directly in your local McDonalds.

It may be surprising to some that children really don't understand the concept of where their food comes from. You would be shocked at the number of kids that don't know nor have ever been on or around a farm. So, piece by piece from the fries, burger, pickle, ketchup and cheese, all the way down to the paper bag, Kathy explains that it all came from a farm and from the soil. To see the surprise on their faces when they find out that it all came from the soil is amazing. It makes you feel like you have touched them with knowledge that they will pass to their parents or their kids even when farms are few and far between.

Clay Hill Memorial Forrest is 150 acres that is owned and operated by Campbellsville University. It is a wonderful resource for the district and educators in several surrounding counties for hands-on education. The center has an arboretum, indoor and outdoor classrooms and trails throughout that offer many educational opportunities.

The Taylor County Conservation District helps sponsor many educational programs throughout the year and even puts on teacher workshops so they can make it part of their classroom. Hodges just finished up with her latest success "Painting with Soil" that she taught in many schools and workshops. She thinks that programs like these are needed in the state to bring back the fundamentals of life and instill it in our children. They don't need to forget that without soil there is no life.

To find out about any of the programs mentioned, to contact the Taylor County Conservation District.



It's Time for Art & Writing Award Banquets Once Again By Kimberly Bartley

It's hard to believe another year has come and gone and it's time once again for all of the conservation districts to hold their annual Art and Writing Awards banquet. For most districts this is the largest event of the year and a chance to showcase what has been going on in their county.

Most of the time I would focus on one district; then I thought that wasn't very fair because they all work so hard to make a difference. So I thought I would just give a big "Thank You" to them all. A lot of heart and soul goes into an event like this and it's time to give a pat on the back to all of those district employees putting in long hours trying to prepare and then having the daunting task of cleaning up after it's all said and done.

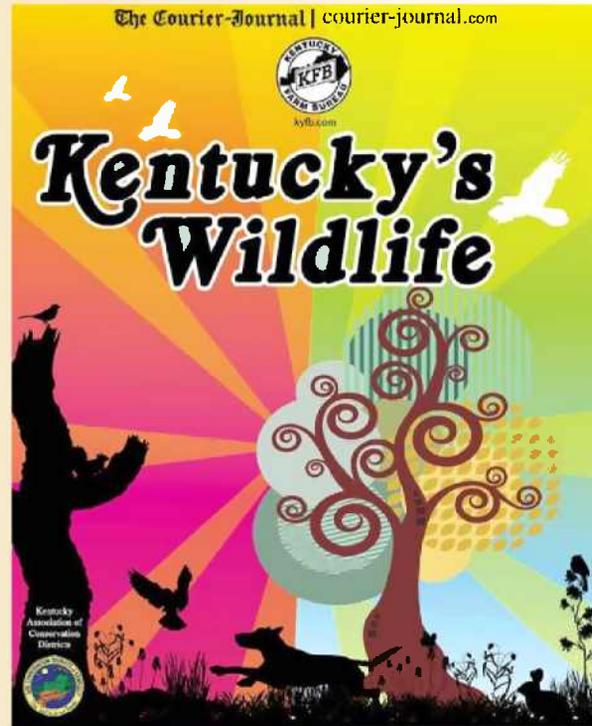
While some districts have seen a decrease in participation, I find that most of my counties have seen an increase. I would say that it is partly due to KERA standards and the districts being very persistent. This program is just a little extra incentive for the teachers to make this a mandatory assignment. The Districts work hard to get the school systems interested from going to the classrooms to giving the teachers and principals a free meal. Many districts also take this opportunity to tell the community what they do and recognize their master conservationists. There are very few chances to bring more than 100 people together during the year just focus on the district. This also presents a wonderful opportunity to invite the fiscal court, mayor, and everyone that helps you in the community throughout the year. Lets face it, we are all facing challenging times and it makes a difference when the fiscal court can see the good things you do.

While most districts in my area have banquets there are a few that present the awards at the school awards day held at the end of the school year. If your participation decreases, this is a good way to recognize the students in front of their teachers, peers and parents without spending

a lot of money on a meal. If you need ideas, ask your neighbor in the next county over how they make their program so successful. They are usually an excellent resource for new ideas.

So, although the Courier Journal is in the process of withdrawing their support for this program, this is a wonderful opportunity for the districts to step up and keep this program going as it has for nearly 40 years. It is priceless to see the smiling face of a child that is getting recognized for a good job. In the end it is all for a good cause. Our students are the future and what shape will they be in with no knowledge of conservation?

So, "Kudos" to all of the districts that still participate and give out awards – no matter how you do it, you are making a difference in educating our youth about a world that needs protecting.



District Employees Collect Toys for Salvation Army By Debra Hinton

The district employees in the Purchase Area plus Livingston County in western Kentucky collected toys for the Salvation Army's Christmas 2007 toy drive. The employees brought their toys to the winter employees' meeting that was held on Dec. 12, 2007, in Paducah. This was the first year for doing the toy drive and everyone seemed to enjoy doing this event. Debbie Hinton, field representative for the Kentucky Division of Conservation, would like to thank all those that participated in the project. The western Kentucky district employees would like to challenge all other district employees to participate in a similar project for 2008.



From left front: District Employees Betty Workman, Hickman County; Annelle Goodwin, Fulton County; Debbie Hinton, Division of Conservation; Jennifer Swain, McCracken County; Tatia Bradshaw, Fulton County; Johnetta Taylor, Livingston County; Cindy Cossey, Calloway County; Karen Provow, Carlisle County; Michelle York, Marshall County; Brenda Irvan, Marshall County.

Forestry Camp Leadership Program By Amanda Gumbert

If you know a high school student entering their junior or senior year, consider having them be a part of the Kentucky Forest Leadership Program. For more than 50 years students have attended this week-long event dedicated to exploring the many facets of forestry and related fields. If they're interested in hands-on learning about forestry and natural resource management while developing their leadership skills, this is the program for them. It will be the one week of summer break they won't forget. This year the program will be held June 2 – 6, 2008, at the University of Kentucky Leadership Center in Jabez (near Somerset).

Learning by Doing

This program's hands-on approach to learning is sure to get students excited about forestry. By truly "getting their hands dirty," they'll get to know the depths, surprises and excitement of one of Kentucky's most plentiful natural resources - forests.

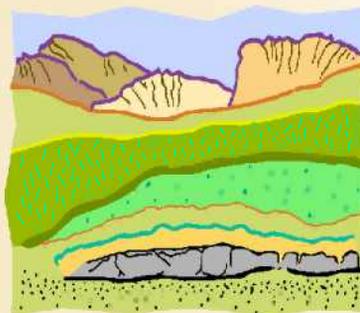
The week-long experience concentrates on forest management and related subjects. Throughout the week, students will see a variety of different careers in related fields beyond forestry, including civil engineering, soil science, wildlife habitat assessment, water quality, and wood products.

How They Will Spend the Week*

Students can expect to be busy during the leadership program. The full schedule of activities for the week includes activities relating to:

- Forest measurements
- Entomology
- Fire management
- Identification of plants through the development of a keying process
- Surveying
- Soil science
- Wildlife habitat assessment
- Water quality evaluation
- Wood products

**Note: This is not a recreational summer camp.*



Story Continued on Next Page





Forestry Camp Leadership Program Continued

Admission Requirements

Students should have a strong desire to learn throughout the intensive daily schedule that has been designed. Also, they must be willing to work as team members in helping to complete the environmental management plan.

To be admitted to this program, students must be entering their junior or senior year in high school and have a genuine interest in any of the aspects of natural resource management. Also, they must have a C or higher grade average and cannot be a previous attendee.

A Word to Teachers and Guidance Counselors

While high school students have the curiosity to become scientists, many never have the opportunity to develop those interests. You may know students who would qualify for this program and would have a sincere interest in participating. Please pass this information along to them. It could make all the difference in their future.

How to Apply

Enrollment is limited to 25 students. Up to two applications per county will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis. Complete an application (available online at <http://www.ca.uky.edu/forestryextension/KentuckyForestLP.php>) and submit a letter of recommendation from a high school guidance counselor or principal along with a nonrefundable check or money order for \$50 to:

Kentucky Forest Leadership Program
Douglas McLaren
Department of Forestry
University of Kentucky
Lexington, KY 40546-0073

The total fee for the Kentucky Forest Leadership Program is \$225 (including the \$50 non-refundable application fee). This amount covers all programming costs and room and board. You may be eligible for a scholarship. For more information concerning scholarships, contact Mark Davis of the Kentucky Division of Conservation at (502) 573-3080.

Every year during the first week of May 2008 we begin to notify by mail those who have been accepted and send maps and lists of materials necessary for the program. Students are responsible for their own transportation to and from the Kentucky Leadership Center.

For More Information Contact:

Douglas McLaren, Extension Forester
Phone: (859) 257-2703
Fax: (859) 323-1031
E-mail: dmclaren@uky.edu

Or go to the Cooperative Extension Service, Department of Forestry web site:
<http://www.ca.uky.edu/forestryextension/KentuckyForestLP.php>





Seeing is Believing By Amanda Gumbert

A new well video is available through the University of Kentucky. The video informs well owners on how to maintain existing water wells and reminds viewers the importance of water testing. This 15-minute video is a cooperative effort of the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service and the Kentucky Geological Survey. To order a copy of the video, contact Carrie Howard at the UK Agriculture Video Library at 859-257-7233. DVD copies are \$15, VHS copies are \$10.

Better Water Quality Can Lead to Greener Farms By Amanda Gumbert



As the nation focuses on protecting the environment, agricultural producers can be at the forefront of the movement by running environmentally friendly and economically savvy operations, which include having an effective water quality plan.

There are a lot of things as individuals, farmers and land managers that can be done to protect the environment. Most of these practices ultimately result in improved water quality.

The majority of the state, with the exception of the far-reaching portions of western Kentucky, uses surface water as its primary source of drinking water. This water has to go through an extreme amount of treatment before it is safe for human consumption. Improved water quality could help cut costs at treatment facilities because cleaner water will not need as many treatments before it can be consumed.

The Kentucky Legislature passed the Agriculture Water Quality Act in 1994, and it was implemented in 2001. The act requires all landowners who own 10 or more acres of land that is used for agriculture or silviculture operations to develop a water quality plan. A water quality plan is necessary to protect the environment and participate in state and federal cost share programs.

Developing a water quality plan may seem like a lengthy, complicated task, but it is not as difficult as some may think. Most of the items included in the plan are common sense practices and will save farmers money in future years. Many farmers already are using good water quality practices, such as rotational grazing.

A water quality plan is about looking at what a farmer is currently doing and making necessary changes that will result in environmental benefits. These often lead to economical benefits too.

Farmers consider best management practices, such as installing filter strips, utilizing grassed waterways and creating stream buffers, when creating a water quality plan. These practices can decrease the amount of pollution entering ponds, streams and other water bodies.

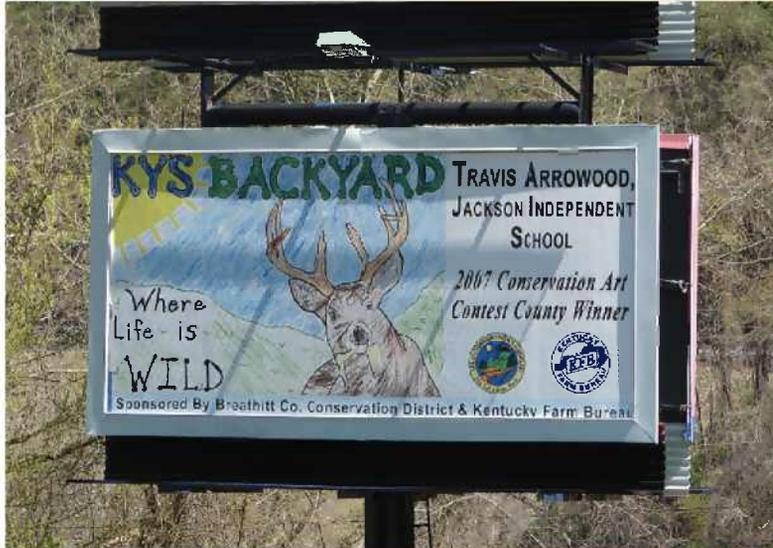
More information on best management practices is available on the UK Environmental and Natural Resources Issues Web site at <http://www.ca.uky.edu/enri/pubs/index.htm>.

To get help developing a water quality plan, speak with a county agriculture and natural resources cooperative extension agent or contact your local conservation district.

(Information was taken from an article by Katie Pratt, editorial officer for Agriculture Communications Services, University of Kentucky)



Breathitt County Recognizes Art Winner in New Way By Anthony Mullins



In an effort to increase participation in the annual art contest, the Breathitt County Conservation District decided to recognize its county art winner in an exciting new way. Debra Marshall, administrative secretary with the conservation district, proposed placing a billboard at the two entrances of the city limits. The district worked with the local Farm Bureau for a co-sponsor on the billboard. The district board has gotten many comments on the billboard, and it also is very exciting for the award winner. In 2008 the district hopes to increase participation and involve as many youth as possible in this outstanding contest.

Districts on the Move By Kim Richardson

Due to NRCS cut backs and closures, many districts are having to find their own office space. Bath County recently completed the first ever Infrastructure Loan through the Equipment Revolving Loan program. The conservation district purchased the office that it had been occupying for several years. There are several tenants in the building including NRCS and FSA.

Estill County is another district that is having to find its own space. It recently bought a brick building located on Richmond Road in Irvine. The space was formally occupied by a gun store; so many renovations will have to occur. The district is looking to move around July 2008 once all the renovations are final. The conservation district was able to finance their building through KACo.

The Scott County Conservation District has had to endure many issues since FSA moved out of its office a few months ago. With increasing rent and landowner issues, the district was very happy to know it would have a future home in a renovated fire house on Penn Avenue in Georgetown. The conservation district's successful partnership with the fiscal court allowed it to sign a lease and make renovations to complete its new home.

As we have seen through the years, conservation districts have been very successful at overcoming any challenge presented before them. I would like to congratulate each of these districts and the many others across the state for working hard to get what they need for their landowners and the partnership with the USDA.

I would like to send a big "Thank You" to the Bourbon County Conservation District for hosting the Area 6 meeting on March 20. They did a great job with the set-up and refreshments. We appreciate your help in making it a pleasant and informative meeting at Legion Hall.



Bath County Conservation District Office



Warren County Purchases Two New No-Till Drills By Shanna Drake

In April 2008 the Warren County Conservation District, with assistance from the Revolving Loan Program, purchased two, 10-foot Haybuster no-till drills. These drills are equipped with warm season grass box attachments that will be needed when the landowners in Warren County begin seeding the 13,000-plus acres that have been recently enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program. Jeremy Atkinson with the Warren County Conservation District says, "I believe these drills will help landowners put conservation on the ground more efficiently than any other source."

The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, better known as CREP, is a voluntary program that requires landowners to take land out of production agriculture, then replacing it with native warm season grasses. By enrolling in the 10 to 15 year program landowners are able to protect sinkholes and streams, improve water quality and reduce soil erosion. Preserving this land will ensure that future generations will be able to use it again in 10 to 15 years for the production of food and fiber. For more information about programs in Warren County go to <http://warrencd.org>.

Water Quality Improves in Marion Submitted by the Crittenden County Conservation District



The residents of Marion, Kentucky continue to experience drinking water free of atrazine thanks to the efforts of the Crittenden County Conservation District.

That wasn't so in 1999 when water tests for the city's water supply sources (the old City Lake and Lake George), indicated that atrazine levels were dangerously high. Officials reported levels of raw atrazine at 30 parts per billion (ppb), which greatly exceeded the EPA's maximum contaminant level of 3 ppb. Atrazine, a chemical component of herbicides, can be harmful to humans if specific quantities are consumed.

The conservation district became involved by establishing a committee to review information concerning possible sources of the contaminants, and to pursue avenues for lowering those levels. The committee included landowners within the City Lakes watershed area, representatives from the conservation district, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Marion's city administrator also played a key role in providing valuable information and test results needed during the research process.

With guidance from the committee, the Crittenden County Conservation District developed a plan to address the herbicide-driven concerns. The plan called for the establishment of a cost-share program for the 133 landowners within the City Lake/Lake George watershed area. In 2000, the district tapped into state cost share funds through the Kentucky Division of Conservation, which the local district channeled into their own City Lakes cost share program in January 2001.

The program offered incentive payments for those who would replace the use of herbicides containing atrazine with an alternative chemical for their crops. Incentive payments were also offered for enrolling cropland in the USDA's Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). In addition, landowners could receive cost share for filter strips, cropland conversion, grassed waterways and field borders.

Individuals with cropland within the City Lake/Lake George watershed area received funding through the program and the results have been impressive according to Crittenden County Conservation District Chairperson Beverly Herrin.

Monitoring reports show a decrease in the level of atrazine in the City Lakes water supply from 22 ppb in May 2000 to well below the 3 ppb maximum contaminant level by mid-2001, with most water tests showing less than 1 ppb. During each of the last seven years the levels continue to be well below the 3 ppb level established by EPA. The conservation district is pleased that the atrazine problem has been addressed utilizing \$7,500 per year for a total of \$52,500.

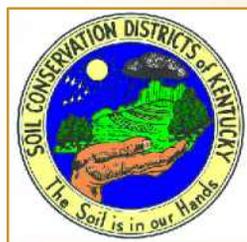
The district will spend another \$7,500 in 2008 to repeat the program for an eighth year. One constant in addition to the decline in atrazine levels has been the demand for the program. The district has consistently experienced more applicants than funds available. The district supervisors are pleased with the program, the participation, and most of all the atrazine-free drinking water for Marion residents. The results of this local effort prove that sometimes success can be measured one drop at a time.

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We're on the Web!
www.conservation.kentucky.gov



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WWW.KentuckyUnbridledSpirit.com

2008 Conservation District Quarterly Calendar

- May**
- KACD Board of Directors Meeting (13th at 9:30 a.m.)
 - Soil and Water Conservation Commission Meeting (19th at 9 a.m.)
 - KACD State Envirothon Contest (20 - 21)

- June**
- Kentucky Forestry Camp (2 - 6)

- July**
- KACD State Convention (20 - 22, Lexington)
 - KACD Board of Directors Meeting
 - Soil and Water Conservation Commission Meeting