

# Conservation Conversations

January 2009 - Issue No. Seven

*Energy and Environment Cabinet  
Department for Natural Resources  
Division of Conservation*

## From the President's Desk



Jeff Rice, KACD President

First, let me take this opportunity to thank each conservation district, watershed conservancy district and supervisor for your confidence in electing me as the new state association president during our annual convention. I look forward to working with the other officers Mr. Dan Ellison, vice president, Mr. David Rowlett, secretary-treasurer, and Mr. Kevin Jeffries, NACD director. I would like to welcome the two new KACD Directors, Mr. Shane Wells from Butler County and Mr. John Chism from Clark County. I look forward to serving and working together to accomplish good things for the conservation partnership here in Kentucky. I would also like to extend a warm welcome to Mr. Thomas Perrin who is now our new state conservationist for Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

In sharing a few of my thoughts for this newsletter, I would like to encourage all of us to work together to strengthen the unique conservation district delivery system which has been so successful over the years. Often times we forget the hard work of those that have served before us to build this strong partnership. We should dedicate ourselves to the task of continuing the important day to day work to ensure these services are available to the citizens of the commonwealth. The partnership has faced many challenges in the past and will in the future. The conservation program plays a significant role in each of our communities and contributes to making our state a better place to live.

One area of emphasis for me will be to encourage conservation districts to utilize the energy of our young people by involving them in our conservation programs at the local level by establishing or strengthening our Junior Conservation District Boards. They can be a great asset to our senior boards by taking on projects, implementing local programs, mentoring other students about conservation and developing a great understanding of the value of our conservation.

In the coming year we will face challenges with funding at the federal, state and local levels in addition to another round of office closures where we will need to ensure a point of contact for the delivery of our conservation programs in each of these counties. I am committed to continuing our efforts to support each local conservation district in their task to serve the citizens in their communities in the wise use and

protection of our natural resources. The strength of our conservation partnership lies in having strong conservation programs in each of our 120 counties and dedicated supervisors and staff to carry out that program. I assure you that as president I will work with the board of directors to keep this in our priorities and in our decision making process. Even though we are facing difficult times in our personal lives as well as in our professional careers, it only serves to join us together, to be stronger and to look for the benefits that serve all of us and not just as individuals.

I want to thank the hard working staff of the Division of Conservation and thank them for allowing me this opportunity to share a few of my thoughts in this newsletter. I hope you will always feel free to contact me personally with your comments and concerns.

Respectfully,

Jeff Rice

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## Casey County Conservation District Assists Central Kentucky Agriculture Exposition Center Submitted By Kimberly Bartley

It's the beauty of Casey County with its rolling hills, tranquil streams and the Knobs as a memorable back drop that sets this facility apart from all others. This is how the dream of this facility all began in 2002. When community agricultural officials started talking about the need for a facility for livestock shows and the county fair, the conservation district knew they could lend a helping hand.

Just south of Liberty, Kentucky on a 160-acre site that before had been a blank river bottom are concession stands, restroom and shower facilities, a covered open-air arena, meeting space, two stall barns, an outdoor show ring with box seating, RV park, camping area, picnic shelters and a walking trail that also are available for general recreational use. From livestock shows to the county fair and motor sports, you'll find that the Central KY Agriculture Exposition Center is an ideal setting for events of any size.

One of the first projects constructed was a two-mile walking trail that circled the entire site. The trees throughout the trail were labeled for educational purposes. Pat Williams, conservation district technician, assisted with the grant writing process, and with the help of several grants through Cumberland Rural Conservation and Development Council (RC&D), enough funds were acquired to finish the projects.

The conservation district felt it could assist in promoting the natural resources of the area through education, so it assisted the local FFA in constructing one of the pavilions that will be used for educational activities. It also gave technical advice on everything from drainage issues to the problems that would occur with the disposal of large amounts of animal waste after the shows were over and stalls were cleaned. Chairman Lonnie Mullins feels that this project was very worthwhile and has been a complete success. "Not only this community but the whole state of Kentucky will benefit greatly from the agricultural value, fellowship and revenue that is generated through livestock shows alone." The facility continues to be booked for everything from the Relay for Life to the 4-H horse camp, to the National Cutting Horse Show. The meeting room that was built by the Casey County Pork Producers has also been booked solid with wedding receptions, meetings and banquets. The facility has already started booking events that will be held in conjunction with the World Equestrian Games to be held in Lexington during 2010.

Something unique for this facility is the conservation of taxpayer money and giving back to the community by using local inmates to do maintenance, event setup, and any talent they have to keep the facility up and running. The prison itself raises an 18-acre garden on the property that supplies the food for all of the prisoners housed in the Casey County Jail.

Chairman Mullins says that when this project began, the community was not very aware of the conservation district or the services it provides so now city and county officials as well as the general public know more about what it does. "It takes a lot of hard work to put something like this together and this goes to show that conservation can be a part of everything." To contact the Central KY Agriculture Exposition Center call 606-787-4740.

## Harlan County Conservation District Holds Annual Appliance Buy Back

Submitted By David Keltner

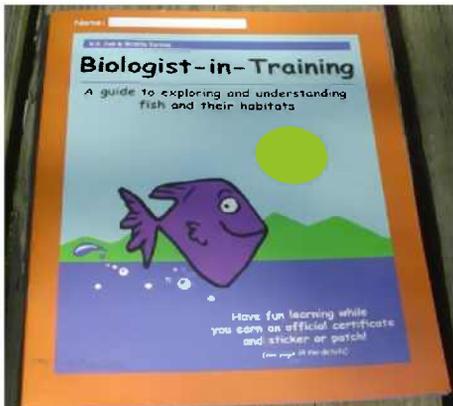
The Harlan County Conservation District held the annual appliance buy back project on Aug. 14 and 15. The project is a joint effort between the district and the Harlan County Fiscal Court. Each year the project is held at the local recycling center and one other location in the county. This year the second location was in the city of Evarts. During the two day event 883 appliances were purchased at \$7 each. The metal was being crushed and removed while the project was going on and it was very encouraging to see the tractor and trailers pulling the crushed metal out of Harlan County with the knowledge that those old appliances will no longer litter our roadsides and stream-banks. The Harlan County Conservation District is very appreciative of the Harlan County Fiscal Court for their assistance with this project and to the Kentucky Division of Conservation for providing an environmental grant to fund this much needed project.



Harlan Co. Solid Waste Administrator Lakis Mavinidis and Conservation District Supervisors Murphy Green and Will Clem

## Jefferson County Biologist-in-Training Program

Submitted By Kelly Shouse and Cheryl Bersaglia



The Biologist-in-Training (BiT) program is an experiential environmental education program that promotes National Fish Hatcheries as unique outdoor classrooms. The program centers on fostering direct interactions with fish and aquatic environments and is tailored to the area to meet the needs and education level of the audience. It may be accomplished at any National Fish Hatchery in the southeast, but also anywhere that water flows.

The Jefferson County Conservation District's Biologist-in-Training program, coordinated by Cheryl Bersaglia, is based on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife BiT program. It's a 4-5 hour, **free** program offered to all grade levels, Girl and Boy Scouts, homeschoolers or any other interested group, with a maximum of 125 students in the Jefferson County area. Ms. Bersaglia has been conducting programs for Jefferson County youth at Otter Creek Park.

Through participation in the BiT program, students will become involved fully in the experience of exploring and observing fish, other aquatic creatures and aquatic environments.

For the past two years, the conservation district has been using grant funds from the Louisville Metropolitan Sewer District to pay for transportation to get the kids to and from the park, however, those grant funds have been expended. They are currently looking for sponsors to fund buses.

Anyone wishing to arrange a program or sponsor transportation for a group to attend may contact Cheryl Bersaglia at [cheryl.bersaglia@ky.nacdnet.net](mailto:cheryl.bersaglia@ky.nacdnet.net) or call 502-499-1900.

## Model Laboratory High School Places in 2008 Canon Envirothon Submitted By Kimberly Richardson

Model Laboratory High School in Richmond made Kentucky proud during the 2008 Canon Envirothon. The team placed 11<sup>th</sup> out of the 45 teams and nine provinces that competed in one of North America's largest environmental education competitions.



The five-member team consisted of Rebecca Shelton, Ibrahim Jadoon, Caleb Fligor, Meghann Hart and Mary Ellen Wimberly. The advisors were Susan Neumann and Adrian Nix. The team was tested on their knowledge of soils and land use, aquatics, forestry, wildlife and a current environmental issue. This year's environmental topic concerned recreational impacts on natural resources. The group had to prepare for a tough oral presentation on this topic. The Model team had to apply the knowledge that they had been gaining since the Kentucky Envirothon in May. The Model team was sequestered for nearly eight hours as they prepared solutions for a real world scenario. This part of the competition carried the most points.

The 2008 Canon Envirothon was held at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, AZ. Training sessions included some beautiful spots in the area such as the Flagstaff Arboretum and the South Rim of the Grand Canyon.

The Canon Envirothon competition began in 1997. Since then, Canon U.S.A. has been an annual sponsor. Each year more than 500,000 high school students in North America compete on the local level in written tests and oral presentations. Their knowledge is tested under the supervision of foresters, soil scientists, wildlife specialists and other natural resource professionals.

The 2009 competition will be held at the University of North Carolina in Asheville.

## Envirothon Dates for 2009



### Envirothon workshop:

Tuesday, March 24, 2009 - Kentucky State University Experimental Farm, Franklin County.

### Regional competitions:

West: April 18, 2009 - Pennyrile State Forest

East: April 25, 2009 - Morehead State University Farm, Rowan County

### Kentucky Envirothon:

May 21-22, 2009 (Thursday & Friday) - Kentucky Leadership Center near Nancy, KY.

Students will be tested on five subjects. These are soils, forestry, wildlife, water, and the Current Issue for 2009 is "2009 Biodiversity in a Changing World".

The overall winning team will represent Kentucky in 2009 Canon Envirothon Aug. 2 - Aug. 8 at the University of North Carolina, Asheville. The top FFA team will represent Kentucky in the National FFA Environmental/Natural Resource Career Development Event.

### Registration Deadlines and Fees:

The fee for teams registering by Feb. 28, 2009, will be \$50.

The fee for teams registering March 1 thru March 27, 2009 will be \$75.

March 27, 2009 is the last day team registration will be accepted.

Team rosters must be turned in on the day of the regional competition.

Schools may have more than one team.

Please make checks payable to KACD.

For more information or a registration form, visit [www.conservation.ky.gov/educations/](http://www.conservation.ky.gov/educations/).



## Students prepare for the Jim Claypool Art and Writing Contest

### Jackson County Environmental Field Day Submitted By David Keltner

The Jackson County Conservation District sponsored an environmental field day for approximately 150 fifth grade students in Jackson County. The purpose was to heighten interest in this year's art and writing contests. This year the annual field day was held on Sept. 23 at McKee Elementary. Displays covering amphibians and reptiles, ATV safety, hunting safety with bow or rifle, bears and forest fire prevention filled the McKee Elementary playground area. Stations were manned by other agency personnel such as Kentucky Division of Forestry, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife, the U.S. Forest Service, Jackson County Farm Bureau, U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency and Natural Resources Conservation Service personnel and several Jackson County Conservation District supervisors and administrative secretary.



**Chris Carpenter, a biologist with the U.S. Forest Service gave the students hands-on experience with amphibians and reptiles during the Field Day at McKee Elementary. Above, he shows a corn snake to San Gap students.**

### Calloway County Holds Tree Workshop Submitted By Deborah Hinton



The Calloway County Conservation District held a tree workshop at the Calloway County Middle School on Oct. 17, 2008, to promote interest in the art and writing contest. Pictured are members of the Murray State University Agriculture Sorority, teaching the importance of tree products to the middle school students.



## Butler County is 2006-2007 Outstanding Conservation District Submitted By Shanna Drake

The Butler County Conservation District was recently honored with the Outstanding Conservation District Award for Western Kentucky. The award is considered one of the highest honors given to a conservation district because it is judged on programs and activities conducted throughout the year. This award was given at the Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts' annual convention. Supervisors present to receive the award were Shane Wells, Forest Taylor, Boyd Penrod and Russell Givens.

The district sponsors numerous educational programs each year, which aided them in receiving the award. They are one of the primary sponsors of the Butler County Progressive Agriculture Safety Day. This event is an opportunity to teach approximately 150 grade school students the necessity of safety at home and on the farm. Other programs sponsored annually include a tree seedling giveaway, outdoor classrooms, environmental education grants to teachers and soil judging.

Since 2002 the district has dispersed nearly \$132,000 to landowners and operators with funds from the Phase 1 Tobacco Settlement Fund. In 2002 and 2003 the district paid \$74,447.75 for 58 cattle handling facilities. From 2006 to 2008, 19 commodity storage payments were made totaling \$42,750. Most recently the district received funds for the Kentucky Agriculture Relief Effort (KARE) Program. This is an opportunity to pass along \$82,631 to qualified individuals.

The last time the district took top honors was in 1986 when they received the Goodyear Award.



## Butler County Supervisor New Area 2 Director Submitted By Shanna Drake and Ryan Pendley

At the Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts' (KACD) annual convention in July, Shane Wells became the new KACD Area 2 Director. Shane replaced Obie VanCleave of Logan County who had completed his terms.

Shane is the current chairman of the Butler County Conservation District Board of Supervisors where he has served for 15 years. Shane lives in the Provo community with his wife Felicia and daughters, Mattie and Lydia, where he tends a total of 1,050 acres. He raises 240 acres of corn, 290 acres of soybeans and he has 48 acres enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). He also has 225 acres of pasture, 80 acres of hay and 90 head of cattle.

Shane is a member of the Butler County Farm Bureau Board of Directors, and moderator of the Monticello Baptist Church.



## Campbell County Dedicates First Natural Area Submitted By Linda Hunter

The Hawthorne Crossing Conservation Area was dedicated Friday, Oct. 3, 2008, by the Campbell County Conservation District, the Campbell Conservancy and the Campbell County Fiscal Court. The 140-acre property on Licking Pike near Alexandria is bordered by the Licking River and Ripple Creek, both of which give a unique character to the land. Two knolls, often disappearing in the morning mist, provide outstanding views of the river valley.

The name Hawthorne Crossing Conservation Area was chosen to honor the history of this land. In earlier days, the shallow riffle in the Licking River near the community of Hawthorne allowed travelers an easy crossing into present-day Kenton County. The community of Hawthorne has since disappeared, although its name still appears on county maps.

Hawthorne Crossing Conservation Area was recently acquired through the combined efforts of the Campbell County Conservation District, the Campbell Conservancy and the Campbell County Fiscal Court. The property came to the attention of the Campbell Conservancy when it was listed for sale in 2006. The conservancy pursued private funding to purchase the property, but ultimately turned to the Campbell County Conservation District for assistance. Being a governmental unit of the state, the conservation district was eligible to apply for, and received, a grant through the Kentucky Heritage Land Conservation Fund (KHLCF). In August 2008, the conservation district purchased 135 acres of land. The Campbell Conservancy, with assistance from the Campbell County Fiscal Court, acquired an additional five acres.

According to Dennis Walter, chairman of the Campbell County Conservation District, the acquisition was made possible only through the hard work and cooperation of many people. "We had been working closely with the conservancy for several years when this opportunity arose," said Walter. "This partnership will continue into the future to see that the land is managed in accordance with the requirements of the KHLCF, for the benefit of future citizens." Walter added, "Through the grant, and assistance from other federal, state and local entities, we will be restoring habitat with tree and native grass plantings and eradication of invasive, exotic plant species."

"This property is unique in that it has beautiful frontage along the Licking River and two knolls that offer views that are unsurpassed in this area," noted David Peck, chairman of the Campbell Conservancy. "There is also a wide variety of terrain that will permit a leisurely stroll or a challenging hike," said Peck. "We want people to come and enjoy this land and gain a greater appreciation for Campbell County's natural resources." The property will be open for public use in the future, providing an access point for canoes and kayaks as well as trails for hiking and nature study. There are also several historically significant sites on the property including a log cabin that offer the opportunity for future restoration work.

Campbell Judge/Executive Steve Pendery noted the importance of this property to the county. "We see our parks, our agricultural land, and all of our green infrastructure as a Campbell County trademark and a cornerstone of our community. Hawthorne Crossing Conservation Area is an important step in enlarging our preservation of green space for future generations."

W. Horace Brown, a member of the KHLCF board noted that heritage land projects are funded through the sale of nature license plates, some state environmental fines and un-mined mineral taxes. "Each nature license plate sold generates \$10 toward the fund," he said. "Purchased from willing sellers, these lands will be preserved in their natural state for present and future generations." The KHLCF concentrates on areas that are valuable as habitat for wildlife and wild plants, especially species in greatest conservation need. Land purchased through the fund may be open to the public for recreation and education and are protected through a conservation easement held by the commonwealth of Kentucky. To date, the KHLCF has helped protect 31,658 acres of land in 55 counties of the commonwealth. To learn more about the KHLCF, visit <http://www.dnr.ky.gov/heritageland/>

For more information about Hawthorne Crossing Conservation Area, contact the Campbell County Conservation District or the Campbell Conservancy at 859-635-9587.



## Lyon County Third-Graders Learn About Erosion and Conservation

Submitted By Connie Gray

The third grade class from Lyon County Elementary School experienced life on a farm during their recent visit to Mr. Rod Murphy's farm for an environmental field trip. The day was coordinated by the Lyon County Conservation District along with the Lyon County third grade teachers. On Oct. 1, 2008, over 60 students and teachers learned the importance of implementing best management practices for controlling soil erosion and improving water quality.

Throughout the morning hours the students rotated around six stations learning about the environment and natural resource conservation.

Don Lam and James Armstrong of the Kentucky Division of Forestry helped the students identify trees, their different uses and their importance in our everyday life.

Susan Fox, agriculture agent for the Lyon County Extension Service, showed the children how to test the water's PH and Carbon Dioxide levels and explained the importance of knowing the levels and what the outcome would be if the levels were too high or too low.

The children also learned about water quality from Leland Steely, Kentucky Division of Water. Mr. Steely used a ground water model to demonstrate how aquifers hold water in the ground and how we impact the ground water.

Justin Mooney, district soil conservation technician for Webster County, explained the importance of protecting our soil from erosion. Using an apple, Justin demonstrated how much soil is available for our use and why we need to protect it.

The students also learned about soil from Rudy Forsythe, resource soil scientist for the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. Using a soil probe, Rudy took a core sample from the ground and showed the students the different layers of soils.

Kim Brown, education coordinator for the Lyon County Conservation District, helped the children understand the challenges of natural resource

conservation in farming by playing a game and explained the uses of pumpkins and how those uses have changed over the years.

During the afternoon hours the students were divided up into two groups. Farm owner Rod Murphy took one group on a hayride to enjoy a closer look at the grain bins and tobacco barn while the others were learning about forest fires and habitats by playing games. They also got a close up look at some farm animals provided by Dominique Wood, Lyon County district secretary. Dominique told the children where each animal originated and its purpose.

Others assisting during the day were Thela Blythe, soil conservation technician; Connie Gray, Kentucky Division of Conservation; Lyon County Conservation District supervisors Brian Dunning, Rod Murphy and Kenneth Cotton; Lyon County Conservation District youth board members Chelsie Coleman, Alex Bugg, Grace Wurtman, Layne Duff, Hope Bridges and Allison West.

The Lyon County Conservation District would like to thank all those that made the day a success by helping to educate the local youth about conserving our natural resources.



## Hickman County FFA Receives GPS Units Submitted By Deborah Hinton

The Hickman County Conservation District assisted the Hickman County FFA with purchasing nine global positioning (GPS) units to be used in their agriculture classes. Teachers are finding new ways to incorporate handheld GPS units into educational activities. Precision agriculture is the new way to farm, and GPS technology is a cornerstone. By being able to use a GPS, the students will develop the ability to improve agricultural production. Precision agriculture with the knowledge of GPS can improve field and or farm management from several perspectives: agronomical, technical, environmental, and economical. The Hickman County Conservation District feels it has made an investment in the next generation of Hickman County farmers being educated and informed on the newest technologies available.



## Clay County Honors Arbor Day Submitted By David Keltner

In April the Clay County Conservation District sponsored its annual tree give away in celebration of Arbor Day.

The district ordered 400 White Flowering Dogwoods from Vernon Barnes and Son Nursery in the amount of \$358.89. Jeff Moore and Crystal Stewart, district administrative staff, handed out the trees to people in the community and to area schools that were participating in the plant a tree for Arbor Day activity.

The district received very positive feedback from the community along with requests for Redbuds next year. The Clay Conservation District is looking forward to another great give away in 2009.



## Lyon County Conservation Youth Board Participates in World Water Monitoring Day Submitted By Connie Gray

More and more, students are leading the efforts to protect their local environment. Living in a world made smaller by technology, they have a better understanding of the interdependence of important natural resources in a larger, global setting. The Lyon County Conservation Youth Board participated in World Water Monitoring Day by testing the waters at the Kuttawa beach area on Monday, Sept. 22, 2008. Each month the youth board members test the waters and send the results to the Kentucky Division of Water. In observance of World Water Monitoring Day the students also conducted a habitat assessment at the test site.

Each year from Sept.18 to Oct.18 World Water Monitoring Day is observed. It presents an important opportunity for young people to become involved in safeguarding natural resources on a local, national and international level. While engaged in this annual event, students can learn more about the watersheds in which they live, how watersheds work and how protecting their watersheds can have beneficial impacts downstream.



## Annual Safety Day in Marshall County Submitted By Deborah Hinton

The Marshall County Conservation District sponsored its annual Safety Day on Sept. 26, 2008, for all fifth graders in Marshall County. The event was held at Mike Miller Park in Draffenville, Kentucky.

Stations were set up around the park, each informing the students of how to be safe around your home, on the water and around the farm.

A guest speaker who had had an arm amputated due to an ATV accident related his experience to the students emphasizing the importance of being safe.



## Annual Safety Day in Calloway County Submitted By Deborah Hinton

The Calloway County Conservation District held its annual Safety Day for middle and high School students from Calloway County and the Murray school systems on Oct. 21 - 22, 2008 at the Murray State Exposition Center.

At Safety Day the students learn how to be safe in everyday situations by participating in many hands on activities. The Safety Day has activities that relate to core content areas that the Middle School and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students are tested on.



## Annual Agriculture Day in Calloway County Submitted By Deborah Hinton

The Calloway County Conservation District held its annual agriculture day for local fifth-graders on Sept. 22 and 23 at the Murray State Exposition Center. Students from Calloway County elementary schools as well as students from Murray Elementary attended Agriculture Day. Students learned the importance of agriculture and the wise use of our natural resources. Pictured are Don Nance and Melissa Wynn from the Jackson Purchase Agriculture Credit Association and students learning how farm equipment is used in today's food production.



## Grant Awarded to Protect Clarks River Watershed in Western Kentucky Submitted By Angie Wingfield

The Kentucky Division of Water has announced the award of a \$728,270 grant to the Jackson Purchase Resource Conservation and Development Foundation for improving water quality and preventing non-point source pollution in the Upper East Fork of Clarks River in Calloway, Marshall and McCracken counties.

The award includes a \$436,970 grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and \$291,300 in nonfederal matching funds.

“This grant will fund efforts to help control pollution from sediment, pesticides and other substances that run off the land when it rains.” said Robert D. Vance, secretary of the Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet. “Due to the agricultural nature of the region, the introduction of best management practices will have a significant impact on reducing nonpoint sources of pollution.”

Nonpoint source (NPS) pollution is the primary contributor to water pollution in Kentucky, accounting for approximately two-thirds of water quality impairments in Kentucky's streams and lakes. Unlike pollution from industrial and sewage treatment plants, NPS pollution is caused by rainfall or snowmelt moving over and through the ground. As the runoff moves, it picks up and carries pollutants, finally depositing them into lakes, rivers, wetlands, coastal waters and even underground aquifers.



Pictured above, from left, are: Larry Gilbert, Calloway County Conservation Board; Jim Roe, Kentucky Division of Water; Angie Wingfield, Kentucky Division of Conservation; State Rep. Melvin Henley; Kevin Murphy, RC&D Foundation; Murray Mayor Tom Rushing; and Calloway County Judge-Executive Larry Elkins.



## Laurel County Conservation District Starts Cost Share Program

Submitted By David Keltner

The Laurel County Conservation District began a local district cost share program in 2005 to assist landowners with the installation of conservation practices. The need for the program arose when several landowners requested assistance with pastures that needed to be seeded to improve ground cover and also to promote rotational grazing. Many landowners also requested assistance with their tobacco fields that were then out of production due to the tobacco buy-out program. Because of the county's geography, many of the regulations under the state and federal programs didn't benefit or promote wise use of the natural resources.

In an effort to promote rotational grazing, the district started a cost share program paying 50 percent with a maximum contribution of \$500 per practice. Currently, the cost share program pays 50 percent with a maximum contribution of \$1000 per practice. The purpose of the program is to reduce erosion, degradation and pollution of soil and water resources caused by agricultural operations. All practices must be maintained for a minimum of five years. Applicants may only receive one practice per fiscal year and are encouraged to file their agricultural water quality plan with the conservation district. Landowners have one year from the approval date to complete the practice.

Conservation practices eligible for cost share assistance:

- (1) Seeding practices. The district cost shares on seed (non fescue varieties), lime and fertilizer (based on soil test results) and seed bed preparation.
- (2) Pipeline and tank/spring development installation to promote rotational grazing. Cost share components include pipeline, tank, geotextile, stone and site preparation. Cost share is not authorized for tanks to be placed in barn lots, barns or waste storage facilities.
- (3) Heavy use areas/limiting access to ponds to reduce runoff potential and water degradation. Cost share components include geotextile, stone, filter strip, fencing, and site grading.
- (4) Livestock exclusion fencing to prevent access to ponds and streams.

To date cost share assistance has been provided for 22 seeding practices, 19 pipeline and tank practices and 17 heavy use areas for a total of \$33,050.23 in cost share dollars to landowners.

The conservation district board and staff feel that this program fills a need not only for the landowner but also promotes the reduction of soil and water degradation within our county.



## New Kentucky Agriculture Water Quality Act Web Tool

Submitted By Amanda Gumbert and Elizabeth Block

The Agriculture Water Quality Act was passed by the Kentucky State Legislature in 1994. It states that landowners with 10 or more acres in agricultural or silvicultural (forestry) production must develop a water quality plan. This plan documents best management practices being followed to protect water resources.

A new tool has been developed to help landowners complete their plans. The web tool is available at [www.ca.uky.edu/awqa](http://www.ca.uky.edu/awqa). After arriving at the home page, click on "How to Enter Information" link. This provides quick instructions on how to enter information. Next, click on the link "Begin Entering Information." This will bring up a page with a "New Farm" link and "Resume Entry" link on the left side of the screen. Most landowners need to click on the "New Farm" link. After answering the yes and no questions, click "Continue." Enter in the information needed, then click submit. This goes back to a familiar page with the topic "Crops," "Farmstead," "Forestry," "Livestock," "Pesticides and Fertilizers," and "Streams and Other Bodies of Water" located on the left side of the page. Proceed by clicking and answering questions on each topic. When all sections have been completed, click on "A List of Answers and BMPs" link to receive a list of results. To view each one of the BMPs, click on the category on the left side of the screen. These each go more in depth on each topic. To print your complete plan, click on "Print AWQ Plan." To print your certification, click on "Print Certification."

For further assistance please contact Amanda Gumbert at [amanda.gumbert@uky.edu](mailto:amanda.gumbert@uky.edu). More information, fact sheets and publications are available at <http://www.ca.uky.edu/enri/PUBS/index.htm>



## Lincoln County Loses Long-Serving Supervisor Submitted By Kimberly Bartley

The Lincoln County Conservation District was saddened by the sudden death of Mr. Harry Goggin on July 2, 2008. Mr. Goggin was a very active farmer in the Hubble community of Lincoln County. Harry was the third generation of the Goggin family that served on the Lincoln County Conservation Board and he was very proud of his family's contribution. Harry began serving as a supervisor in 1997 and continued until his untimely death. The Goggin family has a combined service time of 56 years to the district.

Harry had the opportunity to know and work with many supervisors, farmers and landowners from across the state. He worked for Warner Fertilizer Company and also managed to operate his beef and tobacco farming operation. He was an active member of the Cattleman's Association and the Young Farmers Organization. He influenced many lives and has left us with the determination to continue with our conservation mission. We will remember Harry's big, big smile and sense of humor but most of all we will remember him for his many contributions to our farming community and as a dedicated board member and friend to each of us. He will be greatly missed in Lincoln County.

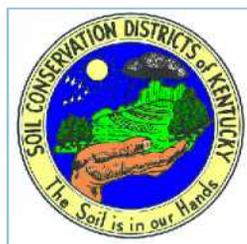


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## 2009 Conservation District Quarterly Calendar

January

- Jan. 5-Equipment Loan Payments due to District
- Jan. 8-KACD Legislative Wild Game Dinner in Frankfort
- Jan. 10-Joint meeting of KACD Board of Directors and Soil and Water Conservation Commission in Frankfort
- Jan. 10-Equipment Loan Payments and Reports due to DOC
- Jan. 15-State Cost Share Monthly Status Report due to DOC
- Young Farmers Conservation Contest Judging

February

- Feb. 1-4 NACD National Convention, New Orleans
- Spring Area Meetings
- Feb. 5-Equipment Loan Payments due to District
- Feb. 10-Equipment Loan Payments and Reports due to DOC
- Feb. 15-State Cost Share Monthly Status Report due to DOC
- Feb. 15-\$50 Envirothon Registration Due to DOC



March

- Spring Area Conservation Meetings
- KACD Congressional Breakfast in Washington
- March 10-KACD Board of Directors Meeting
- March 16-Soil and Water Conservation Commission Meeting
- March 21-\$75 Late Registration Fee for Envirothon Due to DOC
- March 31-Auxiliary Scholarship Applications Must be Postmarked
- March. 5-Equipment Loan Payments due to District
- March. 10-Equipment Loan Payments and Reports due to DOC
- March. 15-State Cost Share Monthly Status Report due to DOC