



# Conservation Conversations

Division of Conservation  
Department of Natural Resources  
Energy and Environment Cabinet

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## Meet Kentucky's new State Conservationist Karen Woodrich

Thank you for the opportunity to not only introduce myself, but to recognize all the great conservation work that is going on across the Commonwealth of Kentucky. In my first few weeks here, I have already been shown the great working relationship and trust that the Kentucky conservation partnership is built upon.

As your new NRCS state conservationist and am looking forward to learning more about Kentucky and the great resources it has to offer! I am seeking out opportunities to get to the field and visit with folks to see the successes of the Kentucky Conservation Partnership. The results of this group are well-known outside of Kentucky and the secret to its success is one that is coveted nationwide. I am honored to be a part of this partnership.

As shown throughout history, our local conservation districts are some of the most critical groups in building good relationships and bringing local folks together for a common cause: to address our resource concerns. In 1935, the Soil Conservation Service was formed, and it was closely followed by the Standard State Conservation District Law in 1937. Kentucky soon followed suit in 1941 with the formation of the first district in Kentucky – hard to believe we have been working together for 70 years!

Since our inception, NRCS has known that we cannot address all the resource concerns alone – we cannot do justice to the land by ourselves. We need strong conservation partners like you to be able to provide the best technical assistance to our customers. Kentucky landowners and operators depend on us to utilize all "tools in the toolbox." We have many initiatives that we can bring to the table to address priority resource concerns, like improving water quality and reducing soil erosion.



Together, our employees work hand in hand, many times in the same offices, toward similar goals. We certainly share the workload in innovative ways through agreements with many partners that complement our goals and missions. If I count correctly, we have at least 30 folks working with our staff as a result.

Through a new NRCS initiative (Mississippi River Basin Healthy Watersheds Initiative), landowners along the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers are installing practices that will prevent, control and trap nutrient runoff from agricultural land. The Division of Conservation was awarded three projects to improve water quality throughout the basin via this initiative. During the first year of this multi-year initiative, over 5,000 acres were enrolled.

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), Healthy Forests Reserve Program (HFRP) and Wildlife

Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) are just a few of the NRCS programs that we have used or would like to use in conjunction with the Kentucky Soil Erosion and Water Quality Cost Share Program.

Kentucky NRCS was fortunate to have 16 projects in nine counties funded under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). Under the watershed portion, we had the opportunity to partner with the local watershed districts to renew dams around the state that may have exceeded their life expectancy. With the purchase of floodplain easements we were able to eliminate continual flooding problems in lowlands and return some areas to wildlife habitats.

I hope that in the future this working relationship will only continue to grow stronger. We all have challenges ahead of us, and NRCS is no different. We need to think outside the box to maintain our technical focus. We need to use all our programs wisely and work toward streamlining our processes.

My vision is to move our folks back into solid conservation planning, sharpening our technical skills while maintaining high quality program management. Much of my vision surrounds improved communication with partners and landowners. We have so many options today – we need to work together to arrange all the pieces of the puzzle in order to see the big picture – getting conservation on the ground.

Thank you for this great opportunity, and I anticipate success in the future from all of us working together "Helping People Help the Land."

## Clay County High School's Anikawi Nature Trail

Clay County High School has a nature trail and outdoor classroom thanks to the hard work of several teachers and the Clay County Conservation District, along with several other local groups.

Students have been responsible for much of the labor on the trail, which meanders over 90 acres through several aquatic and nonaquatic habitats. The students have built a log cabin and planted and labeled trees along the trail. The trail, named Anikawi, which means Clan of the Deer in Cherokee, also has an herb garden, raised and decked wildlife observatory, wetland areas, a Native American village, wildlife food plots, tobacco fields and multiple flower gardens.

Over the years thousands of students,

parents and community leaders have visited the nature trail. Jocelyn Wolfe, science teacher and Clay County Conservation District supervisor, noted that the students did most of the work, while they displayed skills such as working together, planning, measuring, researching, application of classroom work, drawing, illustrating and crafting items such as walking canes from tobacco sticks. Wolfe said, "The students learned about history, but above all students were instilled with pride by the work they did and the abilities handed down by many generations of hardworking ancestors."

The Anikawi Nature Trail has been featured by the Lexington Herald-Leader several times, filmed by Ken-

tucky Educational Television, spotlighted in the Jackson County Rural Electric Cooperative magazine and won many state awards. A representative from the PEW Foundation in San Diego, Calif., came to the campus and included the nature trail in a research project the foundation conducted. The school received a grant from the Cumberland Valley Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) and was featured in a documentary taken to Washington D.C.

The Clay County Conservation District, along with other organizations, has assisted with the maintenance of the nature trail over the past several years and is proud to be a financial sponsor of the Anikawi Nature Trail.

## Calloway County's Reality Store

Reality Store is a collaborative effort between Calloway County and Murray Independent School District's seventh and tenth grades, Leadership Murray, the Chamber of Commerce, Murray State University and the Cooperative Extension Service 4-H Program. This community event addresses financial matters with Calloway County's youth. The Calloway County Conservation District participates in this outstanding program each year by developing and working a communication booth at the Reality Store. Students come by this

booth to purchase communication-based plans (phone service, internet service, cable television, newspapers and/or cell phone service). Students are assigned a role when they enter the Reality Store, including their marital status, education level, career and salary. From there they visit the various booths and make decisions about their lives. Examples of other booths at the store include federal taxes, bank, housing, transportation, insurance, grocery, utilities, child care, entertainment, furniture, emergencies, property taxes,

health and beauty, medical and dental, supplemental income, chance, contributions and clothing.

The Reality Store is an exciting and educational event for the youth and will prepare them for the CATS Test on Practical Living. The Reality Store also hopes that the event will have a positive difference in the decision making process of the youth who receive this training and experience.

## Madison County Conservation District Co-Sponsors Free Soil Testing Program

The Madison County Conservation District continued their support last fall for the free soil testing program in Madison County. Each year during the months of September through November landowners have the opportunity to test agricultural and horticultural land free of charge. This is a great way to encourage producers who normally would not pay the \$6 per sample charge for the service. The only guidelines for

the program are the samples must be from agricultural or horticultural land, and there is a 10-sample limit per person. During the three-month period in 2010 a total of 670 samples were taken. This is an increase of 76 samples from the previous program year. The Madison County Conservation District plans to continue supporting this annual program because they understand the

benefits of soil testing and are focused on educating others of the rewards.



# Kentucky Recognized at National Association of Conservation District Annual Meeting

Conservation leaders from across the nation met Jan. 30-Feb. 2, 2011 for the 65th National Association of Conservation Districts Annual Meeting. The theme for this year's conference was "From the Roots Up" in reference to locally led conservation movements across the United States. Attendees to the conference, which included a group from Kentucky, learned about other conservation districts and state agencies and met with partners from other agencies such as the United States Department of Agriculture and environmental protection agencies. The Kentucky delegation was also there to receive awards for outstanding individuals and their efforts within the KACD family.

## NACD Friend of Conservation

**Marvin Lee Bryant Jr., Williamsburg, Kentucky**

Bryant was recognized for his cooperative work with a dozen or more agencies, stewardship, research, education and outreach. He uses a wide array of natural resources management techniques and has greatly improved land that was once barren. His contributions have benefited Whitley County's wildlife habitat and provided other landowners with a better understanding of the protection of our natural resources.



Pat Henderson (left) receives the Distinguished Service Award at the National NACD meeting in Nashville from NACD President Steve Robinson.

## NACD Distinguished Service Award

**Pat Henderson, NACD Executive Board Member, Breckinridge County Conservation District Supervisor**

Henderson was recognized for his leadership and contributions to the conservation partnership on local, state and national levels. He fought for funding and stability for conservation districts, served on his local conservation board for 30 years, held every office within the Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts and chaired committees on the national level. Henderson was recently inducted into the NACD Southeast Region Hall of Fame. As a respected leader, he continues to inspire with his wealth of expertise, knowledge and passion for locally led conservation efforts.

## NACD Outstanding Conservation District Board Member

**James Lacy, supervisor, Wolfe County Conservation District**

Lacy was honored for past accomplishments, including his involvement with district employees in planning national and regional meetings and serving on national committees. He was also recognized as Board Supervisor of the Year by the National Conservation District Employee Association. He has served on the Wolfe County Board for more than 30 years.

## NACD Quality in District Official Training

### Kentucky Division of Conservation (KDOC)

Kentucky was one of 13 states recognized at the NACD Conference for its quality in district officials training. For many years, KDOC staff have worked tirelessly to give conservation district supervisors consistent and informative training. As volunteers in their counties, supervisors take on many administrative, fiscal and functional responsibilities. The supervisor training be-

gan in 1994 with a survey to all conservation district supervisors asking about training interests and needs in their local conservation districts. This led to the development of training that taught supervisors about leadership, the history of conservation and how things work on both the state and federal levels. Since 1994, many trainings have been conducted across the Commonwealth. Field representatives for the KDOC have worked very hard to provide consistent and informative trainings to the conservation district supervisors over the years. The KDOC was proud to be recognized by NACD for

their continuing efforts of district official training.

## NACD's Top Ten Award

The NACD Top Ten Award is given to the top 10 states that pay the most in dues to NACD.

Kentucky

routinely receives this award due to the fact that conservation districts respect the NACD's work and efforts on the national level as exemplified by Pat Henderson and James Lacy.



Pat Henderson and Steve Coleman (left to right) receiving the District Training Award from NACD President Steve Robinson



Dan Ellison and Jeff Rice (left to right) accept the Top Ten Award from NACD President Steve Robinson.

## 18<sup>th</sup> Farm Field Day Held for Fourth Graders at Sigmon Farm

The Rockcastle County Conservation District, along with the Rockcastle County Extension Service, held its 18<sup>th</sup> annual farm field day on Tuesday, Oct. 12 at the farm of Bill and Nancy Sigmon. The theme of this year's field day was From Farm to Plate: Where Your Food Comes From. Fourth-grade students from Brodhead, Mt. Vernon and Roundstone Elementary schools were treated to hay rides, entertaining messages from guest speakers about many different food items and where they come from, lunch and the chance to purchase a pumpkin from Sigmon Farm. At each stop on the hay ride, students were made aware of the importance of food items such as corn, nuts, pumpkins, livestock and the ingredients that are required to make salsa and were able to sample products that came from that food item. Another

stop gave the kids the opportunity to taste apple cider, have their picture made with a dairy cow provided by the health department, sample nutritious treats offered by the hospital, and taste real honey made by Eddie Wilson, who had a display that included a working beehive. As the students prepared to leave, they were treated to ice cream sandwiches and also given a bag filled with pencils, stickers, activity sheets, tattoos and brochures. Rockcastle County Healthy Communities sponsored the event by providing a grant to purchase the supplies needed to make the field day a success. The field day has been held at Sigmon Farm every year since it was started in 1992. The conservation district would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks and gratitude to Bill, Nancy and their children for their outstanding co-

operation and devotion to the field day. They have always been a true partner in the event, providing tractors and wagons to ride on and their farm for the field day. The district would also like to send out a special thanks to all those who helped make the day a huge success: Rockcastle County Healthy Communities; Zach Gentry of the Rockcastle County Conservation District; Hazel Jackson of the Family and Consumer Sciences Agency; Tom Mills, county extension agent; Bonnie Sigmon; Michael Froelich of the Division of Forestry; Eddie Wilson; Rockcastle County Health Department; Rockcastle County Hospital; all the many tractor drivers and farm guides; and Brodhead, Mt. Vernon and Roundstone Elementary schools for allowing their students to participate.

## Steve Coleman Recognized for his commitment to the Conservation Partnership

Retiring State Conservationist Tom Perrin presented KDOC Director Steve Coleman the State Conservationist Award at the National Partnership Leadership Training Conference in Louisville, Kentucky.

The State Conservationist Award is given to individuals who show leadership in building and expanding the Conservation Partnership.

In presenting the award, Perrin remarked, "Steve has used his wealth of expertise to reach out to other agencies with similar goals and pull all of those resources together to create a stronger,

knowledgeable group that can work to put conservation on the ground."

Coleman has worked for the KDOC for more than 36 years and has been director for 17 years.

He not only serves as a great contact for Kentucky's



*Steve Coleman (left) receives the State Conservationist Award from Tom Perrin.*

121 conservation districts, but he also serves the landowners and producers by working with state and national agricultural/environmental agencies.

The Conservation Partnership includes the Kentucky Soil and Water Conservation Commission, Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts, Kentucky Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Kentucky Division of Conservation.

## Boyd County Mourns Loss of Supervisor

Jesse Ross (1940-2011) of Catlettsburg passed away Jan. 27, 2011. Ross was elected as a board supervisor to the Boyd County Conservation District in December 2008. During his elected service he was very dedicated and took an active roll in supporting and promoting the conservation district's goals and objectives. Ross also acquired county wide recognition as being a life-long

public servant and community leader, serving on many boards and councils throughout Boyd County and Ashland. He also was well known for his Durbin Farms Sorghum and his great passion for Thoroughbred and Rocky Mountain Pleasure horses.



## Bullitt County Conservation District's Success

The 2010 – 2011 fiscal year was a busy one in Bullitt County and will definitely go down in their books as one of the most productive yet. All of this is due to the hard work, dedication and determination of the board and the secretary to make their conservation district a successful one.

“Most of the last few years have been an uphill battle just trying to get enough funding to survive and keep our office open and functioning,” said Chairman George Henderman. “We did not stand out in the public as a business that needed funding – mostly due to the fact that we didn’t have the money to do enough.” That has all changed now. For years the district has been receiving \$20,000 for operating expenses with no successful funding increases. That was hardly enough to pay a full-time secretary, legally required bonding, rent and supervisor payments. They finally decided to push the issue. In the spring of 2010 the district approached their fiscal court armed with statutory precedent, their budget and plans for the future to make their county a better place. It was indeed a hard fought battle as the court

could not find the extra funding. The district board then made the tough decision to seek advice from a lawyer. Henderman says that was the last thing they wanted to do, but after talking with the judge and each one of the magistrates it was clear it was going to be hard to keep the conservation district active and part of the community.

The court was very adamant about not wanting a tax on the people. After many trips to the court meetings with lawyer and paperwork in tow, the court finally decided to work one on one with the district and review their budget, finally voting to increase their funding to \$72,000 with no tax. “Now the hard work begins implementing our new plan of work that doubled the number of programs,” says Administrative Secretary Cindy Badder. The plans even include projects that they will work with fiscal court and the solid waste department on dead animal removal, beautification projects and white goods pick up. The district was also able to resolve the issue with having a website. They couldn’t find a free web host that was allowed on the USDA server. The county allowed the district to be a part

of their website and in the process, Badder was named the webmaster for Bullitt County government. The district also plans to revitalize their education programs such as art and writing, soil stewardship and classroom education most of which had been dropped due to lack of funding. “For years we could only do things if we could find enough sponsors or if there was enough left in the budget. Now we can make that budget work for us,” said Henderman. We are aware that because we are not on a tax that this will be a yearly battle, but we feel that after they see what we can do for them and the community they will have more respect for us.” The board has learned a lot through this process and will continue to build their relationship with the court and the community.

Bullitt County is just one of the many districts in the state that is facing this problem. One thing is for sure – all the districts have to find a way to be self sustainable and to make our communities realize that conservation is important and should be a part of every community.

## Union County Tree Giveaway



Pat Carrithers (left) gives a tree away.

The Union County Conservation District ordered 3,000 Eastern Redbud, Flowering Dogwood, Cherrybark Oak, Wild Plum, and White Pine trees. The district gave away trees to the public on March 22 - 23 with the help of Earth Team Volunteers, Pat Carrithers and Wayne Berry. Administrative Coordinator Debbie Eubank delivered trees to the Sturgis, Uniontown and Morganfield elementary schools and the St. Ann School on March 24. Curt Divine with the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife picked up the remaining trees and planted them in the county.



Wayne Berry (left) prepares trees for distribution.

## Kenton County Conservation District Purchases Land

In February 2010 the Kenton County Conservation District applied for a grant from the Kentucky Heritage Land Conservation Fund Board to purchase a little over 200 acres of land in southern Kenton County near Morning View. The district is pleased to announce that the grant was awarded, and they have recently closed the transaction.

District plans for this spring include issuing a news release, sponsoring a tour of the property and holding a community meeting. The district hopes the public will be able to join them for the meeting and tour to discover Kenton County's newest natural treasure.

The Kentucky Heritage Land Conservation Fund Board grant included funds to acquire the land as well as funds to assist with land restoration and making the area accessible for compatible public uses. The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service has also dedicated funds to the project.

The property includes several acres along the Licking River that could provide canoe and kayak launching access for the public, adding another link in a waterways trail for northern Kentucky. The Licking River provides critical habitat for mussels, one of Kentucky's most endangered species.

The additional acreage provides the opportunity for hiking and other non-consumptive recreational and educational uses. Providing a place for these pursuits is important to the quality of

life in Kenton County and can help generate tourism and related businesses for Kenton County's economy while protecting an important part of the county's natural heritage.

Kentucky Heritage Land Conservation Fund Board (KHLCFB) funds are generated through the sale of nature license plates in Kentucky, the state portion of the unmined minerals tax, and environmental fines. Land is acquired only from willing sellers.



The board's mission is to award funding for the purchase and preservation of selected natural areas in the Commonwealth, to protect rare and endangered species and migratory birds, to save threatened areas of natural importance, and to provide natural areas for public use, outdoor recreation and education.

Grants can be awarded to local governments, state colleges and universities, and specified state agencies to acquire and protect areas of natural significance. Land purchased through the



fund is protected through a conservation easement held by the Commonwealth of Kentucky. For more information about the KHLCFB, visit <http://dnr.ky.gov/heritageland>.

This is the first project funded by the KHLCFB in Kenton County. The district hopes everyone will continue to support projects like this through the purchase of nature license plates.

The Kenton County Conservation District looks forward to working with the citizens of the county to ensure that this part of the county's natural heritage is managed in accordance with the requirements of the grant while meeting the needs of the surrounding community.

## Harrison County Conservation District Hosts Contractor Breakfast

On Jan. 25, 2011, the Harrison County Conservation District hosted their annual Contractor Breakfast. This is a great event that many local contractors and landowners look forward to each year. Bill Thomas, an engineer with Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), served as guest speaker. Thomas used a PowerPoint presentation and numerous handouts to inform the group about various commonly in-

stalled conservation practices in Harrison County. He went into detail about not only the purpose for the conservation practices but also how they should be properly designed and installed on the ground. The practices discussed included, but were not limited to pipeline and tank, fencing and stream crossings. This gave the participants a chance to seek advice from the NRCS engineer assigned to their county.

Prior to the presentation the supervisors of the conservation district prepared a wonderful breakfast for the 25 guests in appreciation of their attendance. Overall it was a great learning experience for everyone. The morning ended by the conservation district staff taking the opportunity to promote the Kentucky Soil Erosion and Water Quality Cost Share Program.

## Jason Lindsey visits Union County

Union County elementary students were educated and entertained by Jason Lindsey, host of the television series “Hooked on Science” on March 21. Debbie Eubank of the Union County Conservation District made arrangements between Lindsey and the local schools so students could learn more about riding bicycles, circuits, Newton’s laws and electricity. This program was sponsored by the Office of Regional Stewardship and Outreach at Murray State University. For further information on the program, contact Cindy Cossey at Calloway County Conservation District.



*Jason Lindsey demonstrating scientific concepts to Union County students.*



## Cleaning Up The County

The Carlisle County Conservation District, with the assistance of the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, has been involved in the Rinse and Return Recycling Program for the past 15 years. This program has assisted farmers in the county by collecting used pesticide containers and preparing them for recycling. The service helps protect Kentucky’s soil and water quality by keeping these containers from being land-filled, which might allow the chemicals remaining in the container to seep into the water supply.

The Carlisle County Conservation District holds two dates (one in the spring and one in the fall) to return containers. The district cooperates with the Carlisle County Fiscal Court to use the county garage as a drop off site for container return. According to the Ken-



tucky Department of Agriculture, the Carlisle County Rinse and Return program is the most successful countywide program in the state. Approximately 6,000 containers are collected annually through this program. Since the program’s inception in the county, over 6,750 pounds of material have been recycled.

Recently, Carlisle County Judge/Executive Greg Terry approached the conservation district board to assist the county with the problems the Carlisle County Fiscal Court were having with white goods being dumped on roadsides throughout the county. The county was also receiving calls from residents about removing white goods from their property. The conservation district agreed with Judge/Executive Terry that disposal of white goods was a mounting problem

and something needed to be done.

The conservation district applied for an environmental grant through the Kentucky Soil Erosion and Water Quality Cost Share Program to begin a white good collection program in 2002. These grants are available for conservation districts across the state to implement countywide programs to reduce pollution and educate the public about natural resource issues. The conservation district has reapplied and received this grant annually since 2002. The response from the community has been overwhelming. White goods from citizens of Carlisle County can be dropped off at the county garage or left outside the gate of the garage if it is closed.

The Carlisle County Emergency Operations Center keeps track of the amount of white goods collected. The total for 2009 was 4.62 tons collected, and the amount for 2010 is still being totaled. The county knows that this program is working as fewer appliances are being found on the sides of the roads.

## Logan County Hosts 319 Agriculture Water Quality Workshop

On Jan. 20 the Logan County Conservation District hosted a 319 Agriculture Water Quality workshop at the Schoch Community Center. Wes Wright, Logan County Conservation District soil conservationist, and Shanna Drake, DOC field representative, were available to assist landowners.

The 319 Agriculture Water Quality Project involves the Pleasant Grove area in

Logan County. There are approximately 125 landowners in the area. During the span of the project that goes through June 30, 2012, landowners are encouraged to complete a survey about the agriculture water quality best management practices relating to their Agriculture Water Quality Plan. Landowners in Kentucky with 10 or more acres are required by law to have an Agriculture Water Quality Plan.

Landowners have been sent packets containing the surveys. They have also been notified by postcard about the workshop. In the next phase of the program landowners will be contacted and given an opportunity to schedule an appointment to complete the survey.

To date 38 surveys have been completed.

## McCormick honored at Trigg County Conservation District's Award Program

The Trigg County Soil Conservation District Board of Supervisors honored Lewis McCormick for his distinguished service to the conservation district. McCormick's contributions to conservation and management of our nation's natural resources are easy to see after talking with him and viewing his daily farm operations.

McCormick is one of the original Trigg County Conservation District board members. The district was established May 17, 1950, and he has served many

of his supervisor years as chairman. His quiet nature, willingness to conform to change and eagerness to help out his fellow man make him a unique individual who has been a valued member of the board.

During his time as a member of the board of supervisors, the Trigg County Conservation District farm tour was established. The tour made numerous stops throughout areas of the county and highlighted best management practices implemented for a particular farm.

McCormick realized the importance in educating farmers of their individual needs and was instrumental in helping with personalized practices.

McCormick's conservation on his own farm is a model for other conservation-minded individuals to follow. When asked, he gently lends a suggestion and is quick to apply new conservation methods to his well-established farming operation. Although he does not have the largest farm in Trigg County, he strives to have one of the most conservation friendly farms in the county.

McCormick is not only conservation minded, but over the years of active involvement in the agricultural community, he gives one of the most precious commodities that being his time and energy. Many of the programs and activities initiated by the Trigg County Conservation District have been spearheaded by him during his tenure as chairman. Always willing to go that extra mile to assist in any district activity, he is the example of a true public servant.

One of his most recent interests was the understanding and leadership in purchasing a permanent office building for the Trigg County Conservation District. The purchase insured local landowners the convenience of receiving local, state and federal technical assistance in their home county. The building purchase was a monumental accomplishment and is in tune with locally led conservation leaders.

Much of the foundation of this conservation district's programs has been formed under McCormick's leadership. The district is grateful for his service to his family, farming community and general concern of using, controlling and helping save the county's natural resources.



# Peyton Creek Watershed Success Story

Peyton Creek Watershed is an important tributary of Hanging Fork of Dix River in the Kentucky River Basin. The 3,883-acre watershed is heavily impacted by surrounding land use and is impaired with E. coli and fecal coliform. Working to reduce the impacts in the watershed is the Kentucky Heritage Resource Conservation and Development Council (RC&D) which received three EPA 319(h) grants. The congruent projects were divided into three phases totaling \$1,325,220 over six years. The final phase was completed in the fall of 2010.

Peyton Creek Watershed is listed as nonsupporting for Primary Contact Recreation due to E.coli and fecal coliform. Suspected sources are agriculture, livestock grazing or feeding operations, crop production and onsite treatment systems. The watershed is made up primarily of full-time farmers whose sole family income is derived from on-farm agricultural production and who do not earn supplemental income assistance from a second part-time job. As such, the farms in this watershed have limited funds available to address wa-



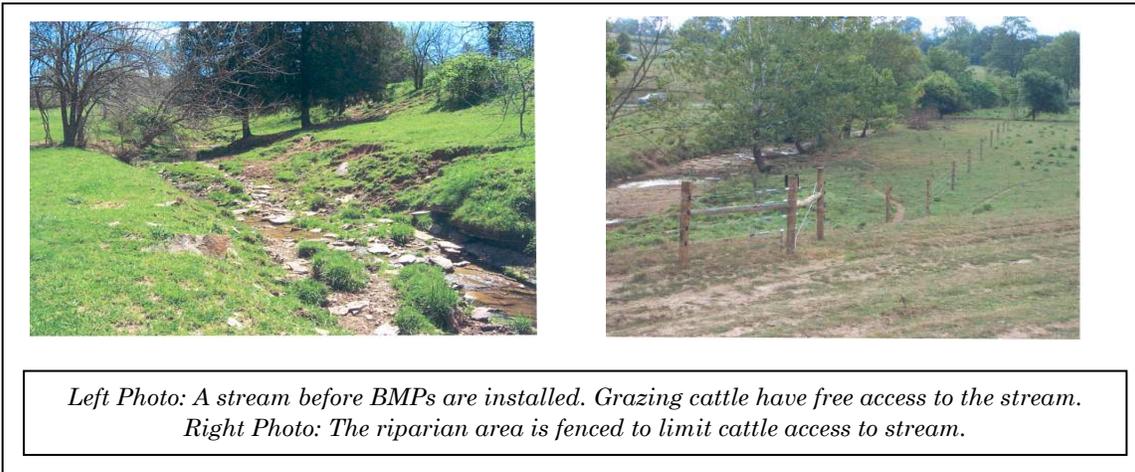
*Top photo: (before) over used feeding area. Bottom photo: (after) controlled heavy use feeding area is constructed.*

ter quality issues. Rather, they try to get as much production from their land as is physically possible.

Prior to receiving assistance through the section 319 (h) grants, animal lots were weary and overcrowded, cattle had free access to creeks for shade and water, and there were no rotational

grazing systems or cross-fencing leading to improper stocking rates and soil erosion. Best management practices (BMPs) that were installed include pipeline/tank systems, waste storage facilities, heavy use areas, hay and pasture establishment, stream crossings and fences. Cattle were denied free access to streams, and greater attention was given to producer management practices. Due to the small size of the Peyton Creek Watershed (roughly six square miles), monitoring has shown an improvement in water quality resulting from implemented BMPs.

Partnerships formed in implementing this project included the Lincoln County Conservation District; Peyton Creek Project Oversight Committee; Peyton Creek Technical Review Committee; USDA-NRCS; Kentucky Division of Conservation; Kentucky Division of Water; Cumberland Environmental Group LLC; and the U.S. EPA.



*Left Photo: A stream before BMPs are installed. Grazing cattle have free access to the stream. Right Photo: The riparian area is fenced to limit cattle access to stream.*

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