



Inside Conservation

BOONE COUNTY FARM NAMED 2015 GUYAN CONSERVATION DISTRICT FARM OF THE YEAR!

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Congratulations! Johnny Ball and family for being selected and winning the 2015 Guyan Conservation Farm of the Year!

Johnny's farm was chosen district winner, as Johnny was the first individual in Boone County to install a seasonal high tunnel. The 2880 square foot tunnel is producing beans, tomatoes and cabbage. He is looking forward to educating the community on its benefits. With the assistance of the seasonal high tunnel, he will now be able to provide more produce at the farmer's market and supporting the "eat local foods" movement.

Johnny frequently takes soil tests of the different fields and applies only the recommended lime and fertilizer requirements, even on the most difficult of locations.

He frequently has the 4H community members, and others, out to his farm for hands-on learning experiences relating to vegetable production. This summer he plans on hosting a demonstration for all master farmers in Boone County featuring his new high tunnel.

Johnny is helping to plan and provide a venue for the Boone County 4H Summer Jamboree celebrating the end of the school year. He is an active member of the

Boone County Master Gardeners, Sahib Shriners International, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the Masonic Society.





CABELL COUNTY 2015 CONSERVATION FARM WINNER!

Congratulations to Keith and Sarah Clagg for being named Cabell County Conservation Farm Winner for 2015!

As a beginning young farmer, Mr. Clagg is working hard to improve the family lands. The property had been overrun by invasive brushy species and Mr. Clagg was able to clean up the land and return it back to pasture grounds. He hopes to better his farm so that he can increase the production and is doing the best with the resources he has available to him.

Keith frost seeded ladino and red clover into his pasture with great success to increase the nutritional value of his pasture lands. He takes soil samples of his property to apply the proper amounts of lime needed to his different field areas.



He was chosen as the county representative because he is actively working to improve his lands and create and expand a successful diversified agricultural operation.

Keith is actively involved with the Cabell County Fair and helping the 4H and FFA youth. He



aims the youth with knowledge in general beef cattle and how to show beef animals.



WAYNE COUNTY 2015 CONSERVATION FARM WINNER!

Congratulations Don White on being named Wayne County 2015 Conservation Farm Winner!

Don does a good job at rotating his pastures and maintaining grass height to avoid over grazing. He grazes his farm until the first of the year. Also, he uses mechanical measure during each winter to help prevent the spread of invasive brushy species on his farm.

He has two spring developments. Division fences have been built to rotate pasture. He has retrofitted the watering troughs to include a mesh camp for wildlife.



October 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23 	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 

November 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 	27	28
29	30					

Schedule of Events

- **October 23rd**-Guyana Conservation District Monthly Meeting
- **November 19th**-Guyana Conservation District Monthly Meeting
- **December 17th**-Guyana Conservation District Monthly Meeting
- GCD Office Closed **December 25, 2015 & January 1, 2016**
- GCD Office Opened Half Day **December 24, 2015 & December 31, 2015**

Please contact the Guyana Conservation District office at (304) 528-5718, if you would like to add local events to the calendar.

December 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 	26
27	28	29	30	31 		





The Guyan Conservation District now has a Grass works Weed Wiper available for rent through the office. The Weed Wiper is designed to be aggressive, yet economical and environmentally-friendly in the method of applying herbicides to control weeds in hay and pasture fields. The rotating drum ensures maximum chemical

transfer to the weeds, yet eliminates drips to the desired crop. The Weed Wiper operates at speeds up to 15 mph and has adjustable height that allows for application on the targeted weeds only. The machinery is 10 feet wide.

The Weed Wiper is available for use with a \$40 deposit (refundable upon satisfactory inspection) and a daily fee of \$40. Please contact the Guyan Conservation District office today at 304-528-5718, for further information on renting the Weed Wiper.



The Guyan Conservation District has a lime spreader available for renting. The lime spreader is a 2-ton drop spreader. It has a pin hitch for use with a pick up truck.

The lime spreader is available for use with a \$40 deposit (refundable upon satisfactory inspection) and a daily fee of \$40. Please contact the Guyan Conservation District office today at 304-528-5718, for further information on renting the lime spreader.



The Guyan Conservation District now has Dibble Bars for rent through the office. The Dibble Bars help to plant tree seedlings. The Dibble Bar is available for use with a daily fee of \$5.00/\$20.00 deposit. Please contact the Guyan Conservation District office today at 304-528-5718, for further information on renting the Dibble Bar.



The Guyan Conservation District has a Herd tractor mounted, ATV mounted, and Truck mounted broadcast spreader available for rent at a daily fee of \$40.00/\$40.00 deposit.

Spreaders can be used for spreading sand, salt, seed, and fertilizer



Agricultural Enhancement Program GCD AgEP Practices at a Glance...

AgEP's mission is to assist the agricultural cooperators of West Virginia Conservation Districts with the voluntary implementation of best management practices (BMPs) on agricultural lands in order to conserve and improve land and water quality. The program offers technical and financial assistance as an incentive to implement suggested best management practices. Additional practice options will be determined by each Conservation District to best address the needs of the district.

The intent of AgEP is to be a simple, user-friendly program in order to encourage participation. Overall program primary objectives include the reduction of nutrients and sediment from entering the waters of the State and increasing farm profitability and sustainability. Each conservation district has the ability to modify the program to address specific agricultural issues in its area.

Heavy Use Area Program

Benefits: The protection of heavy use areas reduces the runoff of nutrients and other pollutants that impact water quality.



Limits:

- Not to exceed 1,000 square feet

Cost Share Rate:

- \$0.87/Square Foot
- Not to exceed \$870

Lime Program

Benefits: To improve soil structure, better soil tilth, reduced erosion, and increase production of the grassland.



Limits:

- Not to exceed 50 acres per farm per year

Cost Share Rate:

- Up to \$30 per ton (includes purchase and delivery)
- Up to 3 tons per acre

- Soil pH of 6.0 or below from a current soil test
- A current soil test is a test less than two years old
- Maximum cost share of \$4,500
- Hayland, pastureland and cropland are eligible

Invasive Species Program

Benefits: To reduce the negative impact species have on West Virginia lands and agricultural operations.



Limits:

- Must not exceed 5 brush acres

Cost Share Rate:

- \$100/Brush Acre
- Not to exceed \$500

Cover Crop Program

Benefits: Protects water quality by reducing soil erosion if properly constructed and maintained. Cover crops have a filtering effect on movement of sediment, pathogens, dissolved nutrients, and pollutants.



Limits:

- 50 Acres Max

Cost Share Rate:

- \$30/Acre
- Not to exceed \$1,500

Frost Seeding Program

Benefits: Reduce erosion from wind and water, increase organic matter content, capture and recycle/redistribute nutrients in the soil profile.



Limits:

- 50 acres max
- Soil pH 6.0 or greater
- Must seed between February 1 to March 1, 2016
- A current soil test that is less than 3 years of the date the practice is required.

Cost Share Rate:

- \$20 per acre
- Not to exceed \$1,000

Pollinator Habitat Program

Provides food and habitat for pollinators to help them thrive. In farming situations this increases production per acre. In the wild, biodiversity increases and wildlife food sources increase.



Limits:

- 1 acre minimum
- Soil pH 5.8 or greater
- A current soil test that is less than 3 years of the date the practice is requested.

Cost Share Rate:

- \$445 flat rate

Nutrient Management

To improve soil structure, better soil tilth, reduce erosion and increase the production of grassland.



Limits:

- 50 acre maximum
- Pasture or meadow only.
- 6.0 pH or greater
- A current soil test that is less than 1 year of the date the practice is requested.

Cost Share Rate:

- 75% the cost of the product
- \$100/per acre
- Not to exceed \$5,000

Roof Runoff Program:

To manage water quality by directing water that falls on roofed areas to be directed to a stable outfall avoiding contamination by fecal material and/or sediment improving soil and water quality.



Limits:

- Not to exceed \$2,000

Cost Share Rate:

- 75% cost share on materials and labor

Urban Agriculture

Assists with the purchase of a commercially produced raised bed, composting structure and or a rain water harvesting system.



Limits:

- Not to exceed \$300

Cost Share Rate:

- 75% of receipts

Guyan CD Guidelines for Participation:

- Land must be engaged in the production of agricultural products.
- All AgEP practices are limited by available funds.
- Sign up periods for applications will go from September 1 - December 31, 2015.
- All practices must be completed by the deadline of May 31, 2016.
- Soil tests are encouraged on all practices. WVU lab preferred

For more detailed information on the GCD AgEP Program, including program limits and cost share rates, producers should contact the Guyana Conservation District Office at 304-528-5718. Applications are available at the Guyana Conservation District Office.





Dorothy Stewart

**GCD Supervisor's
Wife, Dorothy
Stewart, Wins First
Place in Category,
Best of Show
and Best of Best at
State Fair!**



Dorothy Stewart, wife of GCD Supervisor Bill Stewart, won 2 awards this year at the State Fair, August 13-22, held in Lewisburg, WV. For the second year in a row, she won First Place in Crocheting in Tablecloth Division, Best of Show in Crochet and Best of Best in Needle Working. Her tablecloth is beautiful!

Dorothy is also a member of the Ladies for WVACD. Her award winning table cloth will be auctioned off at the Flatwoods Annual Meeting October 26-27. The public is welcome. The money received from the auction will go to college scholarship funds.

NRCS NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

NRCS is Accepting Applications for Conservation Programs

Written By: Corine Powell

NRCS offers a variety of cost-share assistance programs for landowners to enhance their property and protect natural resources. All programs operate on a continuous sign-up. Here are a few general details on what may be available:

Livestock Operators: Establishing watering systems, establishing rotational grazing systems and associated fences, increasing the efficiency of on farm nutrient management, increasing the quality and quantity of forage plants, and solving erosion and runoff issues associated with winter feeding areas

Truck Crop Operators: Seasonal tunnels, nutrient management planning, and cover crops

Forest Management Plans: Include thinning, invasive species control, or cull tree removal.

Woodland Operators: Reclaiming logging roads into wildlife feeding areas, planting wildlife friendly trees, shrubs and other plants and implementation of wildlife friendly planting.

We also have a program that may provide cost assistance to maintain conservation already in place for those landowners who are meeting all of their conservation needs. And of course, NRCS is always available for general conservation assistance with no program obligation for all the above listed activities.

Application cut-off date for FY2016 is October 15, 2015. Applications made after this date will be held until addition funding is received or until FY2017 signup.

For more information, please contact our office at (304) 697-6033 Ext. 3.



Ben Marcum Joins Guyan Conservation District and NRCS!

Written By: *Ben Marcum*

I grew up in the metropolis of what is known as Fort Gay, West Virginia. My family was always surrounded by agriculture; therefore it has always been an interest of mine. I graduated from Marshall University in the fall of 2012, and started working with the West Virginia Conservation Agency soon after. For the last two and a half years I have been working with the Capitol and Elk Conservation Districts. I have now accepted a joint position with the Guyan Conservation District and NRCS. I will be working out of the Huntington field office. This position allows me to assist with many programs for both agencies. I am glad to be working much closer to home, and am looking forward to assisting landowners with conservation practices on their property.



**To report any STREAM BLOCKAGES,
please contact Kim Neal
at 304-872-4302.**

Questions? Contact us!

Be sure to contact the people below for answers or help with your conservation questions and concerns. They are the District's representatives, and are ready to help you.

Cabell County	Boyd Meadows 743-9558 John Oblinger 736-0099
Boone County	Grady Hayner 855-4440 Ronnie PerDue 836-5683
Lincoln County	David Webb 778-7995 Steve Billups 524-7713
Logan County	George Mathis 239-0022 Rocky Adkins 792-8626
Mingo County	Helen Stanley 236-2309
Wayne County	Bill Stewart 272-6422 John Bill Perry 385-4660

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