

Nichols, Jessica

From: USDA Farm Service Agency <usdafsa@service.govdelivery.com>
Sent: Monday, October 29, 2018 11:41 AM
To: lkcd
Subject: Pleasants/Ritchie/Wirt/Wood County, WV FSA Updates

October 2018



Farm Service Agency **Electronic News Service**

BULLETIN

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- [Organic Certification Cost Share Program](#)
- [Acreage Crop Reporting Streamlining Initiative \(ACRSI\)](#)
- [Youth Loans](#)

Mill Run FSA Updates

Mill Run FSA Office
91 Boyles Lane
Parkersburg, WV 26104

Phone: 304-422-9072
Fax: 855-854-3082

County Executive Director:
Eleanor N. Grogg

Farm Loan Manager:
Jennifer L. Fisher

Program Technicians:
Teresa Painter
Sheila Dye

County Committee:
Jeffrey McElfresh -Chair
Suzanne Dietz- Vice Chair
Bryan Sims

Organic Certification Cost Share Program

The Organic Certification Cost Share Program (OCCSP) provides cost share assistance to producers and handlers of agricultural products who are obtaining or renewing their certification under the National Organic Program (NOP). Certified operations may receive up to 75 percent of their certification costs paid from Oct. 1, 2017, through Sept. 30, 2018, not to exceed \$750 per certification scope. The application deadline for the 2018 program year is Oct. 31, 2018.

Eligible costs include application fees, inspection costs, fees related to equivalency agreement/arrangement requirements, travel/per diem for inspectors, user fees, sales assessments and postage.

Ineligible costs include equipment, materials, supplies, transitional certification fees, late fees and inspections

Ivan Banks
Audra Cunningham

necessary to address National Organic Program regulatory violations.

Next County Committee Meeting:
December 05, 2018 @ 10:00 am

Producers and handlers may submit OCCSP applications to FSA county offices or they may apply through participating State Agencies, which will be listed at <https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/occsp/index> as their agreements to administer the program are finalized.

The FSA OCCSP application form is available at [USDA's eForms site](#), by selecting "Browse forms" and entering "OCCSP" in the "title or keywords" field on the search page.

To learn more about organic certification cost share, visit www.fsa.usda.gov/organic or contact a local FSA office by visiting <http://offices.usda.gov>.

Acreage Crop Reporting Streamlining Initiative (ACRSI)

Farmers and ranchers filing crop acreage reports with the Farm Service Agency (FSA) and participating insurance providers approved by the Risk Management Agency (RMA) now can provide the common information from their acreage reports at one office and the information will be electronically shared with the other location. This new process is part of the USDA Acreage Crop Reporting Streamlining Initiative (ACRSI).

Producers must still visit both their local FSA office and their insurance provider to validate and sign acreage reports, complete maps, or provide program-specific information, including reporting uninsured crops to FSA. The common data from the first-filed acreage report will now be available to pre-populate and accelerate completion of the second report.

Youth Loans

The Farm Service Agency makes loans to youth to establish and operate agricultural income-producing projects in connection with 4-H clubs, FFA and other agricultural groups. Projects must be planned and operated with the help of the organization advisor, produce sufficient income to repay the loan and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience. The maximum loan amount is \$5000.

Youth Loan Eligibility Requirements:

- Be a citizen of the United States (which includes Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands) or a legal resident alien
- Be 10 years to 20 years of age
- Comply with FSA's general eligibility requirements
- Be unable to get a loan from other sources
- Conduct a modest income-producing project in a supervised program of work as outlined above
- Demonstrate capability of planning, managing and operating the project under guidance and assistance from a project advisor. The project supervisor must recommend the youth loan applicant, along with providing adequate supervision.

Stop by the county office for help preparing and processing the application forms.

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in this meeting should contact Eleanor N. Grogg at 304-422-9072 extension 2 or Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339 (Local or Federal relay), (866) 377-8642 (Relay voice users).

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GOVDELIVERY 

LITTLE KANAWHA RC&D

Resource Conservation & Development Council

1014 Volcano Road
Waverly, WV 26184-9777

Phone: (304) 679-3639
Email: info@lkrcd.com



October 22, 2018

Little Kanawha Conservation District
91 Boyles Lane
Parkersburg, WV 26104

Dear Little Kanawha Conservation District,

Little Kanawha Resource Conservation and Development would like to thank you for your continued support of our organization and the programs and project areas that it serves. Your assistance is greatly appreciated and will help us in our efforts to better serve our nine-county area of Calhoun, Jackson, Pleasants, Ritchie, Roane, Tyler, Wetzel, Wirt and Wood.

Your support greatly enhances our ability to help other communities and organizations with projects that not only help the environment, but communities and rural areas as well. Your commitment to this organization and its mission each year is truly appreciated, and helps fill a need in our area of West Virginia.

On behalf of council members of the Little Kanawha RC&D, again, Thank You.

D. J. Allen

D. J. Allen, Coordinator
Little Kanawha RC&D
1014 Volcano Road
Waverly, WV 26184

Mission Statement:

“Assist local communities to manage their natural resources in ways that improve the area’s economy and environment.”

Vision Statement:

“Leading our communities through partnerships to make things happen.”

Little Kanawha RC&D Mini Grant Recipients

If you are scheduled to be presented a grant check from an RC&D council member, please try to have someone take a photo at the presentation.

Your grant is coming from the
**Little Kanawha Resource Conservation
& Development (RC&D) council.**

Publicity in local newspapers or other media outlets about your grant award or project may be sent to our office and will be placed in your grant file and is encouraged for when you make your Progress Report or Final Report. This also may be used when we make our reports to the WV Conservation Agency in Charleston.

Mail to:
Little Kanawha RC&D
1014 Volcano Road
Waverly, WV 26184

If you have questions, please email info@lkrcd.com
or call 304-679-3639 Tues., Wed. or Thursday.

LITTLE KANAWHA RC&D

Resource Conservation & Development Council

1014 Volcano Road
Waverly, WV 26184-9777
Email: dj.allen@lkrcd.com

LKRC&D: (304) 679-3639
Project Sharing: (304) 893-9723
See our Project Sharing fb page



October 23, 2018

Little Kanawha Conservation District
Jessica Nichols, District Manager
91 Boyles Lane
Parkersburg, WV 26104

Project Number: B-2018

Project Name: Soil & Forage Analysis Program

Congratulations! Your project has been approved for funding by the Little Kanawha Resource Conservation & Development Council 2018 Mini Grant Program in the amount of \$1,000, dependent upon receipt of funding to our organization. Upon confirmation and receipt of our funding, your grant funds will be awarded.

Project Report Guidelines accompany this letter. Requirements of the grant provide that your organization complete both a Progress Report and a Final Report. Each must be signed and dated by an authorized representative of organization receiving the funds. All submitted information and signatures must be legible. Future grants to your organization are dependent upon receipt of completed reports.

Submissions – digital reports and photos are encouraged. Submissions may be

- emailed to: dj.allen@lkrcd.com or
- mailed to our office at: 1014 Volcano Road, Waverly, WV 26184

Thank you for participating in the Little Kanawha RC&D Mini Grant Program. If you need further financial or technical assistance with your project please contact us. Good luck on your project.

On behalf of the Little Kanawha RC&D,

D. J. Allen

D. J. Allen, Coordinator

Mission Statement:

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Vision Statement:

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Little Kanawha RC&D

1014 Volcano Road, Waverly, WV 26184

You will be notified if the
schedule below changes.

Project Report Guidelines

Progress Reports:

A progress report is due by **May 15, 2019**, to indicate progress on your project.

On your report, please include the following:

1. Project Number
2. Project Name
3. Organization Receiving Grant
4. Amount of the Grant
5. Photographs providing evidence that the project is on schedule or completed. Also provide description for each photo.
6. State Progress to Date. If there are delays, please state those delays.
7. Contact Person (please type or print)
8. Signature of Contact Person
9. Date

Mail report (please do not just write on this sheet), photos and additional information to:

Little Kanawha RC&D, 1014 Volcano Road, Waverly, WV 26184
or email to **info@lkrcd.com**. Submissions must be legible.

Final Reports:

The Final Report is due by **July 24, 2019**, to indicate progress on your project.

On your report, please include the following:

1. Project Number
2. Project Name
3. Organization Receiving Grant
4. Amount of the Grant
5. Photographs (before and after) providing evidence that the project is on schedule or completed. Also provide description for each photo.
6. Project Completion Date. If there are delays, please state those delays.
7. Total hours of volunteer time (name volunteers and hours for each)
8. Description of accomplishments and how the project benefitted the state's conservation mission.
9. Did this project create or help retain any jobs, if so, how many?
10. How did this project benefit the environment, natural resources, or the local economy?
11. Final reports shall include a copy of all expenses associated with the grant, and other information or success stories that detail the accomplishments of the project.
12. Contact Person (please type or print)
13. Signature of Contact Person
14. Date

Mail report, photos with descriptions, invoices and additional information to:

Little Kanawha RC&D, 1014 Volcano Road, Waverly, WV 26184
or email to **info@lkrcd.com**. Submissions must be legible.

Nichols, Jessica

From: Fisher, Kim
Sent: Tuesday, October 9, 2018 1:24 PM
To: Gibson, Veronica; Cochran, Lori; Nichols, Jessica; Pearson, Sherry; Gilbert, Jennifer; Sue Brand; Steele, Suzie
Subject: District Supervisor Perdiem

Today, October 9, WV SCC moved that Conservation Districts may increase the maximum per diem rate from \$60 to \$80 based on the availability of local funds. The WVCA will maintain its existing level of support to Supervisor's travel and per diem and not provide supplemental funds if a district exceeds its available funds for travel and per diem expenses.

All districts will need to place this on their October or November agendas for motion to continue with \$60 or increase to \$80.

Thank You,

Kim Fisher

Sent from my iPhone

October 21, 2018

**West Virginia Association of Conservation Districts
742 Airport Road
Sutton, WV 26601**

To: All Conservation Districts

Subject: District Highway Boundary Signs

The Association will be ordering Highway Boundary Signs for all districts. The sign will be the same as the previous signs. The cost of each sign will be around \$200.00. Each district is requested to submit the number of signs needed and send the request to:

**Jim Foster, Secretary
2798 Grove Summers Road
New Milton, WV 26411**

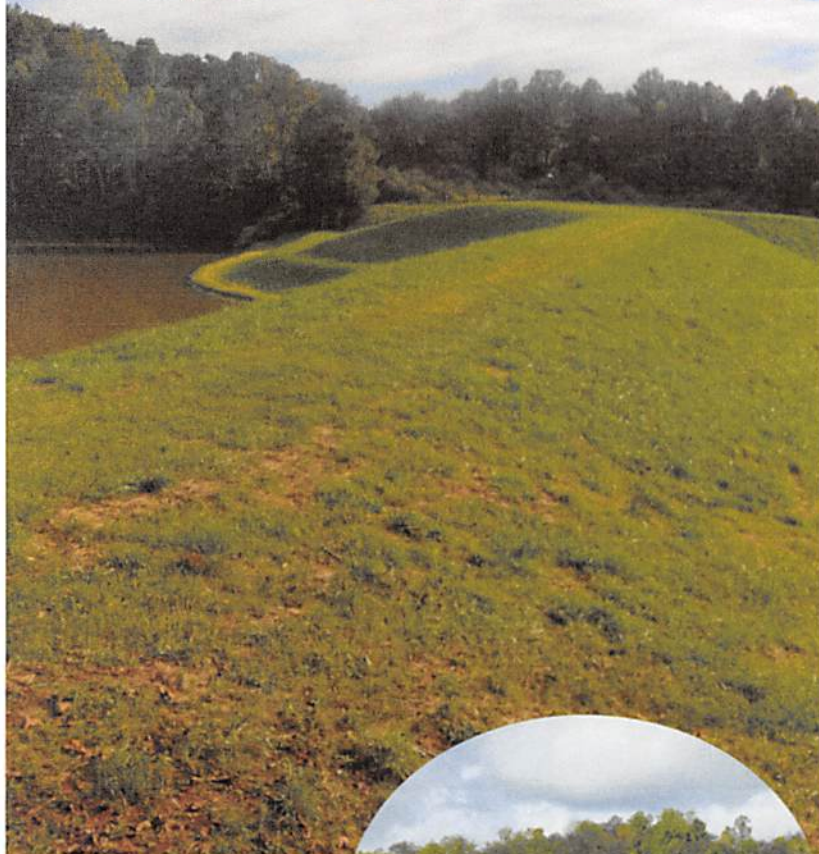
This needs to be received no later than December 15, 2018. If your district does not want any signs, please let us know that also.

Thank you,


Jim Foster, Secretary

Little Kanawha Conservation District

Serving the counties of Calhoun, Ritchie, Roane, Wirt and Wood



Six Watershed Dams provide:

Flood Control
Water Supply
Recreation



We Promote:

Forestry Contest
Land Judging
Conservation Camp
Farm Field Day
Conservation Education

Little Kanawha Conservation District

Serving the counties of Calhoun, Ritchie, Roane, Wirt and Wood



Our Ag Enhancement Practices include:

Heavy Use Area	Invasive Species
Lime	Watering Systems
Pasture Division Fencing	Critical Area Planting
Woodland and Water Protection Exclusion Fence	

These practices make for happy livestock.



Our District serves:

2,263 farms with 374,962 total acres

Little Kanawha Conservation District
91 Boyles Lane
Parkersburg, WV 26104
(304) 422-9088
LKCD@wvcr.us

**WV ENVIROTHON COMMITTEE
DRAFT MINUTES 10-3-2018**

Present: Johnny King, WVDOF; Jim Withrow, WCD; Andy Sheetz, WVDOF; Wayne McKeever, UOCD; Clark Mollohan, ECD; Jim Foster, WFCD; Earlene Foster, WFCD; Jane Collins, WFCD; Karen Sykes, USFS; Tammy McKeever, Volunteer; Linda Carnell, WVDOF; Claire Ferguson, WVDOF/AmeriCorps; Shirley Hyre, ECD; Chuck Reger, USFS; Terry W. Hudson, CCD; Sam Sheets, LKCD; Art Shomo, WVDNR; Belva Junkins, WFCD; Joe Gumm, TVCD

Video/Telephone: Katy McBride, NRCS; Heather Duncan, EPCD; Shanti Amos, WVDEP; Amo Oliverio, Eastern WV CTC

Call to Order: Chairman Wayne McKeever called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM at the ECD/WVACD Conference Room.

Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all and led by Jim Foster.

Introductions: Claire Ferguson, WVDOF/AmeriCorps intern.

Agenda Approval: Jim Foster moved to approve the agenda as presented. Motion was seconded by Chuck Reger. Motion carried.

Review and Approval of 9/5/18 Minutes: Question on the purpose of the appointed committee. Clarification that it was for the station awards. Jim Foster moved to approve the minutes as presented. Joe Gumm seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Financial Report: Shirley Hyre reported there is \$78,689.13 in the general account and \$31,681.60 in the general CD. There is \$13,182.56 in the scholarship account and \$14,855.30 in the scholarship CD. There is a total of \$138,408.59 in all accounts. All expenses are paid to date. **The report was filed for audit by Chairman McKeever.**

NCF Report: Chairman McKeever reported that the learning objectives and key topics are posted on the National Envirothon website (envirothon.org). There is a strong possibility that many test questions may come from Project Learning Tree material which is also posted on the national website. There are also team photos from the competition that have been posted.

Correspondence: No formal correspondence. Heather Duncan and Chairman McKeever noted that several teachers had made contact since receiving the promotional posters. Anthony Oliverio has offered to present a 45-60 minute presentation on wildlife for an evening activity.

Committee Breakouts: 10:15 am – 10:45 am

Committee Reports: 11:00 am

Prior to committee reports, Chairman McKeever announced that there would be a trailer inventory after the committee meeting. The tents will also need to be unfolded and checked for a possible reorder. Anyone interested in a prospectus can pick one up from Kelley Wayne.

Station Awards: Johnny King, Chair: Johnny discussed that the Ethics Commission has no problem with a teacher receiving a monetary award. The funding would come from the Toyota Foundation in the amount of \$2,500. It was recommended to follow the same protocol as the 2018 competition and to use the verbiage as stated in the November 1, 2017 minutes: "Mr. Gumm recommended and moved to award \$2,500 for station awards split between the 5 testing stations in the amount of \$500 with \$250 awarded to the teacher and \$250 awarded to the team members. John Sencindiver seconded the motion. Motion carried." Discussion that the Attendance Award would follow the same protocol. The motion from the January 3, 2018 meeting states: "The finance committee recommended that a \$500 Team Attendance Award be drawn at the beginning of the awards presentation and the entire team must be present to win. Donnie Tenney seconded the motion. Motion carried."

Education: Johnny King, Chair: The 5th topic scenario is going well. The teacher training was well attended with six new teachers. The test writers picked their testing and practice sites at Canaan, however, the sites will require shuttling and porta pots. The following tables, chairs, and tents are needed for each station at this time:

Station	Tables	Tents	Chairs
Wildlife	3	2	3
Forestry	2	2	6
Soils	2	2	6
Aquatics	3	3	6

It was discussed to have porta pots at two locations for the testing portion. Four total porta pots would be needed. The WVEC will need to purchase the aquatic testing kits this year. A minimum of six new teaching training kits are needed to fulfill those who attended the teacher training. Extra kits are also needed for next year and as needed. **Johnny King moved to order 15 training kits to supply teachers from the 2018 teacher training and also to have extra kits. Andy Sheetz seconded the motion. Motion carried.** According to the Task List the education committee is ahead of schedule and they will be looking at the website to keep it updated.

Finance: Joe Gumm, Chair: Thought that the education committee presented the station awards well and the budget if financially ok to continue if the Toyota grant is not received. Mr. Gumm moved to approve the 2019 budget of \$63,000. Jim Foster seconded the motion. Motion carried. Mr. Gumm reminded the group that a prospectus packet is available to anyone interested.

Public Relations: Clark Mollohan, Reporting: No report. Mr. Mollohan reminded the group that members are always welcome as it is a very important committee.

Site: Jane Collins, Chair: Spoke with Nancy Guthrie at Canaan Valley Resort (CVR) and shuttling is available at a rate of \$220 per hour. Ms. Guthrie is willing to only charge for actual shuttling hours, however, CVR must know in advance if the service is needed. Only maintenance staff is allowed to hang any signage. No lifeguard will be on duty. However, a list of names can be provided and the WVEC must pay for the lifeguard and let CVR know what times the pool will be in use. The games center will be open and available during the stay. Amo Oliverio from WV Eastern CTC (WVECTC) will provide a 45-60 minute wildlife demonstration with live animals. At the conclusion of the presentation it will be free time for the teams. There is no nurse on duty. CVR can provide tables and chairs to be used outside, however, they must be covered. The menu is being discussed. CVR staff will set up the inside arrangements provided a room diagram is provided. At this point, only one day was available at the reduced room rate. Mrs. Collins will check into this as per the contract the reduced room rate is for

two nights. Need to check with CVR if the trailer can be parked for three days. Also need to check on Tuesday evening meals for volunteers.

Old Business:

Fall Workshop: Training went well and 6 new teachers attended. Chairman McKeever thanked the trainers and those who volunteered to help set up.

Task List: Everyone needs to make sure that follow the task list and update as needed, especially points of contact.

New Business:

5th Topic: Discussed under Education Committee report

Updating Webpage: Discussed under Education Committee report

Station Awards Update: Discussed under Station Awards Committee report

Trailer Inventory: Discussed earlier.

Other: Amo Oliverio reported that his presentation could run on Wednesday evening starting at 6 pm and would last 45-60 minutes, depending on engagement and questions from audience. He also offered that the WV Envirothon could be advertised through the Environment and Technology page through WVECTC and any other help that the WVEC may need. Shirley Hyre wanted to clarify that the training kits were supposed to go to any school that intended to have a team.

Upon no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:57 am by Chairman McKeever.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heather Duncan, Secretary

Next Committee Meeting: November 7, 2018 10:00 AM at WVACD/ECD Conference Room

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Smith, Edmund" <esmith@crec.org>

Date: October 24, 2018 at 11:05:25 AM EDT

To: "wayne.mckeever@gmail.com" <wayne.mckeever@gmail.com>

Subject: National Middle School Envirothon

Dear Wayne McKeever,

I am trying to put together the first 'National' (more like a regional to get it started) Middle School Envirothon. The states of PA, NC, OH, CT, RI, NY have current Envirothon leaders or at least one high school team advisor interested in doing so – with the national site being the NJ Pine Barrens. I am presenting at the New England Environmental Educators Alliance Conference this Nov. 1-3 to line up other NE states.

Are you the person to collaborate with in trying to line up WV Envirothon stakeholders that would consider joining us in our quest?

I have been running a CT middle school Envirothon now entering my fourth event, and pretty much have in my possession most of the materials needed to run a very good Envirothon (complete set of mammal skulls and pelts as one example) – which I plan on bringing to NJ if we are successful in getting a sponsor and booking a residential camp or other location in NJ that is within or contiguous to the Pine Barrens. I plan on approaching Cabela's/Bass Pro Shops as the potential sponsor once I have all the state contact people in place who want in on this, as well as the NJ location and rental fee so that we can give them a solid monetary request that would cover all travel, lodging and food expenses for a middle school team from each participating state to be sent to NJ. With the number of hunters and anglers in decline nationally, my expectation is that if we present to Cab/Bass Pro that this would be an opportunity to grow their customer base – we might have success. We can even pitch them with the offer of adding in a larger percentage of questions and skill sets that tie more into angling and hunting. One example of this might be a casting derby with fishing poles and plastic weights with an extra prize for most accurate caster. We would still keep the middle school event aligned to the Northeast Envirothon goals and philosophy, but there are many ways we can make it more attractive to this potential sponsor.

I plan on a 2020 date in late May or early June to hold the event in NJ. But, if things flew along and everything came together quickly – we might even consider June 2019. This would be possible since several states already run a middle school contest and will already have a winning team ready from their state.

Might you be interested in broaching this proposal to your Envirothon steering committee? I appreciate any advice you can give.

Some final points – I am a member of the CT Envirothon steering committee and help run the Forestry section. Since 2005 I have been a regional and national coordinator for National Science Bowl that is run by the US Dept. of Energy. National Science Bowl very successfully expanded from just a high school competition to now include middle schools. The Northeast Science Bowl at UConn that I am part of is now the largest of about 70 regionals that send winning teams to nationals in Washington DC. I am confident we can grow Envirothon and put it more in the public's eye, better serve youth and environmental stewardship. Sincerely, Ed Smith

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Nichols, Jessica

From: Kevin B. Lang <Kevin.Lang@fiscal.treasury.gov>
Sent: Thursday, October 18, 2018 10:30 AM
To: lkcd
Subject: Agricultural Enhancement Program

Ms. Kaitlyn Murphy,

I am sorry to inform you that I will not be able to complete the program (fence) because of medical reasons. I am scheduled for knee surgery this November and also, will have surgery in February or March on the other knee. I am sorry for the inconvenience to you and to the program.

Kevin Lang
2209 Hampton St
Parkersburg WV 26101
(304) 488-3394

The contents of this message are mine personally and do not reflect any position of the Government or my agency. Use of this equipment is permitted by the agency's policy governing limited personal use.

10-16-18

Dear mam,

I regret to inform
you that I will have
to cancel my water trough.
I broke my arm and I am
unable to install it now.

I will sign up again
when I am able.

Thank you

Gary Mosser



November 2018 WVCA Report

WVSCC Meeting:

The next West Virginia State Conservation Committee meeting will be January 8th @ 10:30 a.m.

WVACD Fall Quarterly Meeting

The Fall WVACD Quarterly Meeting was held October 16 & 17, 2018 at Flatwoods.

2018 WV Conservation Farm was awarded to D. Frank Masters' Farm, GVCD.

In addition to the Masters Farm, the Conservation Farm of the Year finalists included: Ward Grass Cattle, which is operated by James "Jay" Wallace in TVCD; and the Hunter Family Farm, operated by Luke and Mitsy Hunter in WCD.

Carrol Greene----Mark Fitzsimmons - NPCD

2019 Dates for the WVACD Quarterly Meetings

January 22 & 23	Flatwoods
April 22 & 23	Pipstem State Park
July 15 & 16	Highlands Event Center, Triadelphia
October 21 & 22	Flatwoods

AgEP:

Jennifer Skaggs will be scheduling meetings with each district to provide an overview of the AgEP program.

AgEP Timeline for 2019

- ❖ **January 31** - Deadline for CDs to submit program comments
- ❖ **Early February** – Review and organize comments received, develop options based on comments, have AgEP staff meeting to review comments received
- ❖ **February** - Comments reviewed and forms revised
- ❖ **Late February** - Revisions sent to CDs/staff for review
- ❖ **Mid-March** - CDs submit recommendations for upcoming FY practices
- ❖ **Late March** - State AgEP committee meeting to finalize upcoming FY AgEP, including allocation formula
- ❖ **April** - Presentation of upcoming FY AgEP to SCC

AgDay at the Capitol / Legislative Breakfast

AgDay will be held on January 30, 2019. There will be a Legislative breakfast at 7:30 that morning.

Request to Conservation Districts

The WVCA is encouraging Conservation Districts to review and update your District Policy Manuals. In addition to your policy manual you are encouraged to review your CD Employee Manual (if you have one) and your CD Plan of Work. If you are already doing the reviews, please disregard this request. However, please let us know with a written response that you are already reviewing or will be reviewing the documents.

Agreed Procedures Engagement (Audit):

Conservation Districts are asked to begin the Agreed Procedures Engagement (APE) audit if you haven't already. Please check your current agreement to make sure it is valid.

SSRP Program

CDs need to vote to approve the SSRP program to be eligible for funding allocation for the program. Final program documents will be provided and reviewed in November.

O&M Sponsor letters

Brian has sent letters to all current O&M sponsors requesting a meeting to review O&M agreements. These meeting should be scheduled in the months of November and December. He will be reviewing the AG opinion relating to the O&M agreements, have a tailored presentation for each sponsor, and review the 5-year maintenance plan.

Per Diem

The SCC voted on October 9, 2018 to increase the per diem cap for supervisors to \$80/day. Districts need to discuss and vote on whether they wish to increase their cap. No additional funding will be provided at this time. If your CD has reviewed their budget and determines they wish to increase from \$60 to \$80 (or somewhere in between), the travel and per diem policy needs to be amended.

WVACD questions to CDs

The legislative committee of the WVACD has asked CDs to answer the following questions to begin planning efforts for the 2020 legislative session:

What do you see as the future of Conservation in your District?
What needs to be corrected legislatively to make this happen?

Ag Strategic Plan Listening Session Reimbursement

Districts will be reimbursed expenses of up to \$350 for the meeting room and refreshments. The \$350 is the max. The LOR needs to be for "Reimbursement for Expenses related to Agriculture Strategic Plan Listening Sessions". Copies of all receipts to match the total need to be attached to the LOR. Also, as always, the board approval minutes.

WVCA Project Section:

OM&R

- Work for this season is ongoing in most districts. Approximately \$303,000 has been paid to date, there are contracts and additional work pending.
- Supervisors are always welcome to attend inspections. Please contact the Watershed Manager in your area for an updated schedule.
- Five-year work plans including estimates will be developed for all districts.
- Annual fall inspections are completed for the South section. Reports are being prepared to submit to Sponsors and Districts.
- Annual Fall Inspections in the North will wrap up on November 7th. Reports will be available in December.

Citizens Contact Reports

- Call Log Procedure – a call log procedure has been implemented to assure that calls are directed to the appropriate project section staff. Please call 304-872-4302 and your call will be directed as needed.
- Technicians are performing site visits and generating stream management plans in response to the calls that are received.

SSRP

- Streambank Stabilization and Restoration Program (SSRP) was scheduled to begin October 1, 2018. Applications will be provided to the Districts, Area Directors can provide guidance.

EWP

- The final work for the 2016 flood has started in Greenbrier County. This work is at the request of the County OES Directors.
- 2018 flood work in PVCD is complete.

Interagency Agreements

- Work on the Little Grave Creek Bank Stabilization project in Glen Dale with Marshall County and NRCS is underway. Work is anticipated to be complete in early November.

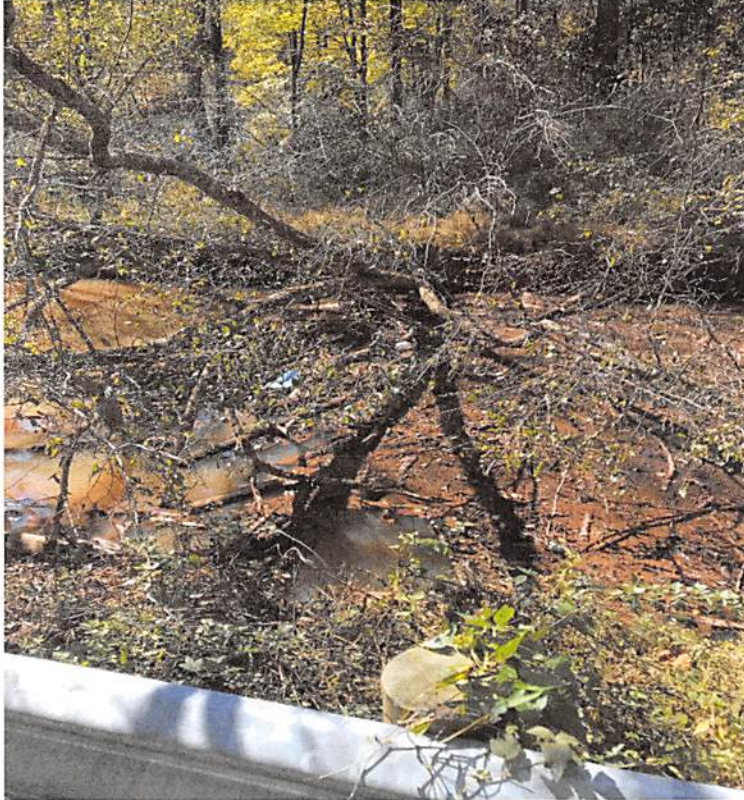
Dam Rehab

- Gannett Fleming is continuing to work on planning studies for Brush Creek 9 & 15 and New Creek 1 & 17 and perform the construction oversight for UDC1.
- Upper Deckers 1
 - WVCA continues to work on the permits and mitigation plan.
 - Construction continues
- NPCD, SCD, MCD and PVCD – Please track hours that District Supervisors attend any rehab meetings.
- Rehab meetings have been suspended at this time with the exception of Upper Deckers 1. This call takes place on Mondays at 9:00 am.

November 2018 Watershed Report

CCRs:

- Ritchie County OES-working with them for a cost share for blockage removal. They could provide dump site and this would be in-kind service for some of the cost share.



- Site 13489-E. Parsons-West Fork of LK-Orma-Calhoun Co.-In Progress
- Mayor of Cairo contacted Ivan to request work for bank erosion on the NFHR. I talked with him and explained to him that there were no funds for this and the NFHR is on the endangered species list for mussels. There was an issue with a house that the landowners claim was slipping. I explained this would be a landowner issue for the responsibility of the situation. He was good with that and understood.

Stream Permits: none received

O&M:

- North Fork of the Hughes: EAP Up to Date
- Pocatalico 14: EAP Up to Date
- Pond Run: EAP Up to Date
- Pullman 01: EAP Up to Date
- Walker Creek: EAP Up to Date
- Bonds Creek 01: EAP Up to Date

Below are pictures of the work on NFHR dam. A few times during the work, more debris came in during rain events. I and Mike Sherpenberg checked on the work several times. There were no issues while we were there. A couple of trees came down on the access road from the high winds that they had to cut out before they could work. Steve Jones-Park Superintendent wants to leave the trees where they fell. They are off the road.

**As of Friday, November 9th Dan Elliott states that they are finished with pulling all the debris. They will be working next week to dress the site up.









Greenbrier Valley Conservation District

Quarterly Report Winter 2018

October, November, December

Agricultural Enhancement / Grassland Program

Approvals for FY19 AgEP consist of 40 applications for lime totaling \$61,132.50 and nine applications for water and fencing that will result in pasture development, totaling \$39,369.60. Cooperators are in the process of completing their practices and some payments have already been issued.

There has been much discussion about what can be done to expedite the receipt of funds in the future to give cooperators ample time to complete their projects during favorable weather months. Also under consideration are new criteria for ranking applications with a goal to reach more cooperators and maximize conversation impact throughout the district.

Education / Outreach

Conservation Farm Contest

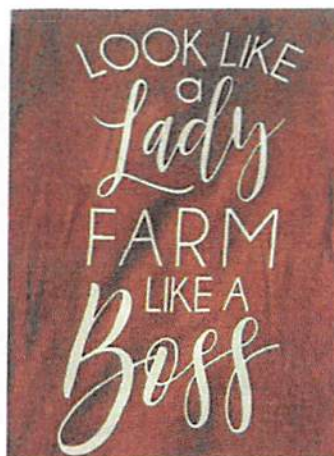
The **West Virginia Conservation Farm of the Year** title was awarded to D. Frank Masters of Greenbrier County at the Annual Partnership Awards Luncheon in Flatwoods on October 17, 2018. Frank will be attending Ag Day at the Capitol and will speak at the Legislative Breakfast. He and his sons will also be recognized on the House and Senate Floor. A special thanks to Delegate Jeff Campbell and Senator Stephen Baldwin for making these arrangements.

Frank runs a small but impressive cow/calf operation. Even though he operates the farm by himself and has a full-time, off-farm job, he has voluntarily exceeded the minimum obligations of regulation and general agricultural practices to enhance and conserve natural resources. Agronomic BMPs implemented include prescribed (rotational) grazing, nutrient management, critical area planting, pasture division fencing, pond exclusion fencing, and pasture and hay planting (frost seeding). Lime and fertilizer have been applied according to results of soil testing to improve plant health and productivity. He has undergone an energy audit and is in the process of implementing the recommendations of that report and is also installing a high tunnel to extend the growing season of specialty crops. He is also in the approval process for the Farmland Protection Program.



Women in Ag

The Greenbrier Valley Women in Ag workshop was held on Saturday, October 20th, at the Blue Ribbon Center on the State Fairgrounds. The GVCD cooperates event with NRCS, FSA, and WVU Extension to sponsor this event. This year, the workshop had a livestock focus. Guest speakers included Dr. Angie Clark who talked about vaccines and the sheep industry; Tara Helmick of Little Brown Cow Dairy (2017 State Conservation Farm winner) who talked about dairy operations; Mary Clay discussing the beef industry; Tootie Jones from Swift Level Farms (former State Conservation Farm finalist) on agricultural marketing and sales; and Susan Davis with a presentation on pasture and grazing management. Monroe County District Supervisor Carolyn Miller emceed the event.



WVDA Listening Session

The GVCD assisted the WVDA with a Community Ag Listening Session on October 10 at the WVU Building on the State Fairgrounds. Facilitators led work groups in discussion about Increasing Local Demand, Agri-tourism, and New Technology and Efficiencies. There were about 35 participants in attendance.



Watershed Projects / Programs:

- Work is continuing on a watershed base protection plan for the Anthony Creek Watershed to address the resource concerns of area residents and partners, including WVCA, Trout Unlimited, USFW, WVDNR, NRCS, WVDEP, USFS, the Greenbrier River Watershed Association, WV Rivers Coalition, Ducks Unlimited, and locally elected officials.
- Currently there are ten projects contracted with landowners in the Indian Creek Watershed. These projects are in cooperation with NRCS, with NRCS cost-sharing on the water development and heavy use area protection practices and the WVCA assisting with the fencing practices through 319 funds. In addition, US Fish & Wildlife has become a partner, providing fence posts to help offset the cost of the fencing practices and stretch 319 funds. There is also one project contracted and two more in the planning stages for the Spring Creek Watershed. In total the projects in these two watersheds will result in the installation of 68,092 feet of pipeline, 59 watering systems, 74,832 feet of exclusion fencing, 32,953 feet of pasture division fence, five wells, five pumping systems, two spring developments, three waste storage facilities, and 20,000 square feet of heavy use area protection.
- By means of an AGO grant, we are working with the City of White Sulphur Springs and other local charities to develop a plan to restore Howards Creek upstream of the flood control channel. The geomorphic survey has been completed and the design is underway.
- We are working with USF&W and the White Sulphur Springs National Fish Hatchery in efforts to restore Wades Creek from flood damage. A \$153,000.00 grant has been obtained from USF&W to develop habitat and control erosion.
- L. D. Hanna & Son Excavating Contractors completed a contract at a cost of \$18,155.00 to clean sediment out of creeks in several locations. The sites were identified by Greenbrier County Office of Emergency Services who worked with Judith Lyons to coordinate this effort.

Other

- Annual Agreed Upon Procedures was completed by Hollifield & Associates with no findings or recommendations. Jeff Hollifield, CPA presented his report on November 27, 2018.
- Annual Legislative Brief is being planned for January 3rd, 2019.
- District Manager, Lynn Woods attended State Auditor's training at Tamarack on October 25 with Becky Floyd of SCD.
- GVCD's annual Christmas dinner was held on December 6, 2018 at the Lewisburg Church of Christ. Supervisors and staff from all three counties, along with family members, enjoyed a potluck feast and an evening of good cheer to celebrate the holidays.
- As always, our most up-to-date information about activities can be found on our facebook page!

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Woods

District Manager
Greenbrier Valley Conservation District
179 Northridge Drive
Lewisburg, WV 24901
304-645-6173



SOUTHERN CONSERVATION DISTRICT
QUARTERLY REPORT
OCTOBER NOVEMBER DECEMBER 2018



The Board of Supervisors met with engineering firms to renew their current Expression of Interest. The board will be reviewing a EOI contract with Civil and Environmental Consultants at their January OM&R meeting.

The Board accepted the RFQ for the FY18 Agreed Upon Procedures from Lowe and Associates. Rod Lowe has completed the field work for the Agreed Upon Procedures.

A \$1,000.00 donation was made by the District to the 2019 Appalachian Grazing Land Conference.

The Board of Supervisors voted to increase their per diem rate from \$60 to \$80.00 effective December 1, 2018.

Oscar Vecellio is continuing to work with the Raleigh County Solid Waste Authority and NRCS on the construction of two high tunnels.

The District is working with Leo Lester, a retired forester, to host multiple forestry workshops in 2019. The board is also working with Marty Walker on a proposed Agro-forestry AgEP practice.

Dennis Bailey is continuing to work with local and state agencies on the Pipestem Creek Watershed Based Plan and with the development of a Pipestem Creek Watershed Association. Jennifer Skaggs, Marty Walker, Becky Floyd and Dennis Burns will assist the board in moving forward with the new watershed-based plan.

John Farrell, Randall Patton and Ray Lafferty attended the October WVACD annual meeting.

The District purchased a mini excavator from Leslie Equipment.

FY18 SCD Annual Report was compiled and distributed to various agencies.

The district hosted an Agriculture Strategic Plan Listening Session on October 3, 2018 at Ghent Fire Department.

A \$300.00 donation was made to the Summers County Farmland Protection Board for program support.

The District submitted information to Jim Foster to order twelve (12) new District boundary signs.

The District received two applications for the open VISTA position. Supervisors met on December 19, 2018 to review applications.

The AgEP program continues for FY19. The board approved to extend all open AgEP contracts through the end of April due to inclement weather this fall.

The District will host the April 2019 WVACD quarterly meeting at Pipestem State Park.

Supervisors purchased green fleece vests with the SCD logo for each board member.

Respectfully submitted

Becky Floyd
WVCA Administrative Services Assistant III/District Manager

Agricultural Enhancement Program



WV Conservation Districts
Fall 2018



West Virginia Conservation Agency

Mission: To assist the agricultural cooperators of West Virginia Conservation Districts with the voluntary implementation of best management practices on West Virginia lands in order to conserve and improve land and water quality for all West Virginia residents.



West Virginia Conservation Agency

• Lime Incentive Program



• AgEP Pilot - EPCD, GVCD, MCD, NPCD, PVCD



• Statewide Program

Fiscal Year	\$ Paid	Paid Applications
2013	\$1,235,512.54	868
2014	\$1,459,015.09	1,204
2015	\$1,695,447.54	1,318
2016	\$1,340,195.37	1,074
2017	\$1,392,200.37	1,011
2018	\$1,011,477.66	797



West Virginia Conservation Agency

WV Code §19-21A-4a. Administration of West Virginia Conservation Agency programs

- CD supervisor participation no longer limited to \$1000 (Ethics limit)
- SCC responsibilities (Code)
 - Propose rules for legislative approval to establish:
 - The criteria, ranking and standards required for an applicant to qualify to participate in WVCA programs
 - A process to disclose the recipients of the award
 - The process for an unsuccessful qualified applicant to appeal an award.
- SCC responsibilities (Legislative Rule)
 - Annually approve program to include practice list and applicant eligibility criteria
 - Consider CD recommendations when developing criteria
- CD responsibilities per Legislative Rule:
 - Provide recommendations to the SCC on local resource concerns, needed conservation practices, financial assistance rates and other local priority needs
 - Use SCC's approved practice list to generate and submit a local priority list to the WVCA
 - Administer financial assistance programs in accordance with SCC approved policies
 - Update and maintain WVCA's financial assistance database
 - Provide annual progress reports to the SCC by July 31 each year
 - Conservation District supervisors who apply to participate in a WVCA financial assistance program shall submit their applications to the WVCA for evaluation, approval or rejection.



West Virginia Conservation Agency

Program Administration

- State AgEP Committee
 - Program Document – reviewed annually
- Conservation Districts
 - CD committees
 - Program Outreach
- Funding
 - State allocation
 - CD allocations – formula
 - CD budgets/Rates
- Application/Approval/Payment Process
 - Supervisor Applications
- Administrative Spot Checks
 - WVCA staff



West Virginia Conservation Agency

Role of WVCA Conservation Specialists

- Coverage Area - Multiple CDs and/or programs
- Combined work environment – field focused
- Technical aspects of AgEP - Field visits, ranking, verification, technical assistance
- Cooperation with field office staff – WVCA and Federal Partners
- Conservation Planning
- Other duties



West Virginia Conservation Agency

Updates

- Trend Analysis Report
- FY 20 Program
- Staffing



West Virginia Conservation Agency

- Conservation Services Structure
 - EPCD and LKCD 50/50 positions
 - 319, Chesapeake Bay, Ag Enhancement Management



West Virginia Conservation Agency

Questions?



West Virginia Conservation Agency