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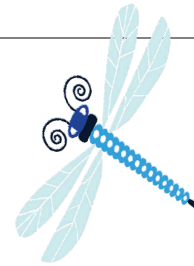
Jenny Jasper	District Manager
Mark Peters	District Aide
Scott Shea	MU Buffer Coordinator

**NRCS**

Debbie Sumner	District Conservationist
Bob Allen	Conservation Technician

August 2010

Auxiliary Advisors: Annalee Nelson, Dolly McCallop, Nettie Vickers, Mary Ann Eggleston, Linda Meinig



# Welcome, Scott Shea!

We would like to welcome Scott Shea as our new Management Unit Buffer Coordinator. Scott will be stationed in Paola, and will be working with the NRCS, FSA & Conservation Districts in Miami, Franklin, Johnson, and Wyandotte counties to implement the Continuous Conservation Reserve Program. Funds for this multi-unit position were secured through the *Kansas Water Quality ...Buffer Grant Program*.



Scott is a former U.S. Marine with several tours in Iraq as a member of a diplomat security detail. He is also licensed through the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks as a wildlife damage control operator. Scott enjoys hunting and fishing; currently he resides in Wellsville, Kansas with his wife Laura, daughter Rylee, and step-son Tyler.

Scott is excited to begin working with landowners in Miami, Franklin, Johnson & Wyandotte Counties to enroll land in the Continuous Conservation Reserve Program (CCRP). CCRP provides annual rental payments to landowners for practices such as wildlife habitat buffers, filter strips and riparian filter strips. Scott is familiar with the four county area and plans to make many contacts with landowners to begin enrolling new CCRP contracts. If you would like to learn more about the CCRP program, or think that you have a field that will qualify for a buffer or filter strip please contact Scott Shea at 913-294-3751 Ext. 106.

## Volunteers Wanted!

The Miami County Conservation District and the Natural Resources Conservation Service are always in need of good volunteers. Volunteers are needed for both office and clerical work and assisting with the many educational activities that the Conservation District provides. If you or someone you know may be interested in volunteering, please contact Jenny Jasper or Debbie Sumner at 913-294-3751 Ext. 101

## New Website

The Miami County Conservation District has a new and improved website. You will be able to find out contact information, upcoming events, basic information about our cost share program and educational activities at

[www.miamicountycd.com](http://www.miamicountycd.com).

You will also be able to find a downloadable version of our cost share application; in addition to copies of our most previous edition and past editions of our newsletter.

## E-News

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# Conservation Brings in Dollars

The Miami County Conservation District would like to thank the Miami County Board of Commissioners for their ongoing support of conservation through their annual budget allocation to the Conservation District. The Miami County Conservation District was created on June 27, 1945 as a subdivision of state government, established under the terms of Conservation Law by the State of Kansas. The Conservation District is fortunate to receive funding through both the Miami County Board of Commissioners and the State of Kansas to assist with operating expenses. In order to continue to provide the best level of service possible for the residents of Miami County in the field of conservation, it is important that we continue to receive a stable level of funding through the Miami County Board of Commissioners to offset the reductions we are faced with due to State budget cuts.

Operating expenses cover salaries for two conservation district employees and the administrative fees for all of our conservation education programs we offer. Throughout the year we do a number of different events, which include our Bankers Tour, Annual Meeting, Demonstration Tours, Poster/Essay/Limerick Contest, Informative Meetings, Rain Barrel Workshops, and many other events that may arise as the years pass. One of our many endeavors in 2010 was the creation of the Soil Tunnel Trailer (STT). The STT is a state of the art educational exhibit that is the only one of its kind in the United States. The STT was designed to help teach the importance of our soils and the need for us to conserve this natural resource. Miami County should be very proud that they are responsible for giving life to this unique learning experience. You can read more about the Soil Tunnel Trailer at [www.soiltunneltrailer.com](http://www.soiltunneltrailer.com).

The Conservation District promotes and assists with the following federal programs; CRP, CSP, EQIP, WRP and WHIP programs, which provides a benefit to many county residents. If the Conservation District was unable to assist NRCS with the promotion and implementation of these programs, the natural resources of Miami County would be in grave danger. Through the programs offered at the USDA Service Center in Paola, which includes Natural Resources Conservation Service, Farm Service Agency and the Conservation District, over \$1 million worth of funding was distributed to Miami County Landowners and Operators in 2009 for agriculture and conservation programs.

If you have participated in, benefited from, or you simply believe in the work the Miami County Conservation District is doing for the conservation of our natural resources for future generations, please thank the Miami County Board of Commissioners for their support of conservation. Let them know how important funding is for the Conservation District and for the future of natural resources in Miami County. Please contact us at 913-294-3751 Ext. 101 for any questions about services we may provide to you.

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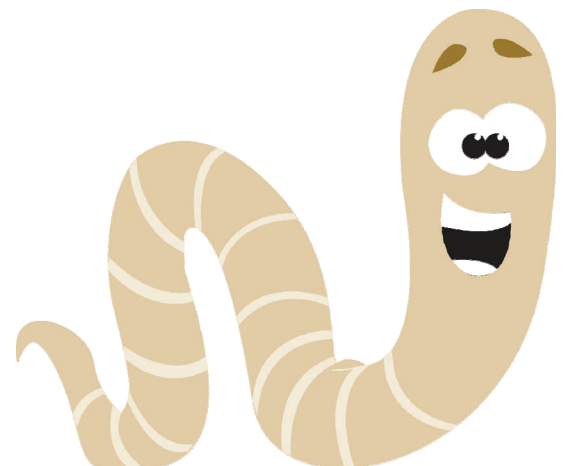
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## Signup Cutoff Date August 11, 2010 for Cooperative Conservation Partnership Initiative (CCPI) Applications

Wednesday, August 11, 2010 is the cutoff date for Cooperative Conservation Partnership Initiative (CCPI) applications to Renovate Shelterbelts and Restore Forested Riparian Areas in Kansas to be considered for Fiscal Year 2010 requested funding.



**Miami County Conservation District**

Miami County Conservation District  
100 N Angela Suite 3  
Paola, KS 66071

Phone: 913-294-3751 Ext. 101

Fax: 913-294-3386

E-mail: [jenny.jasper@ks.nacdnet.net](mailto:jenny.jasper@ks.nacdnet.net)



**It's Your District!**  
The Miami County Conservation District is a tax supported sub-division of State Government. The service it provides is governed by the board of supervisors elected by you, the voting public.



**Miami County Conservation District**

*Friends of the Earth!*

*"Water Wisdom" is financed by a grant from the State Conservation Commission Non Point Source Pollution Control Fund and the State Water Plan Fund.*

**Equipment Available:**

**300 Bushel Manure Spreader**

\$60/day

**10ft No-Till Drill**

\$8/acre, \$50 minimum

**Construction Fabric**

\$2.50/linear ft

**Tree Tubes—Call For Current Price.**

**Drip Torches— No Charge**

**Root Plow—No Charge**

**Soil Probe— No Charge**

The following non discrimination provision is being complied with and has been included in revisions of basic memorandums of understanding between the District and the United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service. "The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."



# NEWS RELEASE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE - FARM SERVICE AGENCY

Release No. 0386.10

Contact:  
Kent Politsch (202) 720-7163  
[kent.politsch@wdc.usda.gov](mailto:kent.politsch@wdc.usda.gov)

## USDA Announces Conservation Reserve Program General Sign-up

WASHINGTON, D.C. – July 26, 2010 - Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced that a general sign-up for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) will begin on August 2, 2010 and continue through August 27, 2010. During the sign-up period, farmers and ranchers may offer eligible land for CRP's competitive general sign-up at their county Farm Service Agency (FSA) office. The 2008 Farm Bill authorized USDA to maintain CRP enrollment up to 32 million acres. Jim Miller, Agriculture Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agriculture Services, made the announcement on behalf of Secretary Vilsack during a conference call with reporters.

"America's farmers and ranchers play an important role in improving our environment, and for nearly 25 years, CRP has helped this nation build sound conservation practices that preserve the soil, clean our water, and restore habitat for wildlife," said Miller. "Today's announcement will help us create a greener and healthier America, and I encourage all interested farmers and ranchers to contact their local FSA office to learn more how to take advantage of this opportunity."

To help ensure that interested farmers and ranchers are aware of the sign-up period, USDA has signed partnership agreements with several conservation and wildlife organizations, which will play an active role in USDA's 2010 CRP outreach efforts. Additionally, Secretary Vilsack has recorded two public service announcements, which are available to the press and public at [www.fsa.usda.gov/psa](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/psa).

CRP is a voluntary program that assists farmers, ranchers and other agricultural producers to use their environmentally sensitive land for conservation benefits. Producers enrolling in CRP plant long-term, resource-conserving covers in exchange for rental payments, cost-share, and technical assistance. CRP protects millions of acres of America's topsoil from erosion and is designed to improve the nation's natural resources base. Participants voluntarily remove environmentally sensitive land from agricultural production by entering into long-term contracts for 10 to 15 years. In exchange, participants receive annual rental payments and a payment of up to 50 percent of the cost of establishing conservation practices.

By reducing water runoff and sedimentation, CRP also protects groundwater and helps improve the condition of lakes, rivers, ponds and streams. Acreage enrolled in the CRP is planted to resource-conserving vegetative covers, making the program a major contributor to wildlife population increases in many parts of the country. As a result, CRP has provided significant opportunities for hunting and fishing on private lands.

Land currently not enrolled in CRP may be offered in this sign-up provided all eligibility requirements are met. Additionally, current CRP participants with contracts expiring this fall covering about 4.5 million acres may make new contract offers. Contracts awarded under this sign-up are scheduled to become effective Oct. 1, 2010.

FSA implements CRP on behalf of Commodity Credit Corporation. FSA will evaluate and rank eligible CRP offers using an Environmental Benefits Index (EBI) for environmental benefits to be gained from enrolling the land in CRP. The EBI consists of five environmental factors (wildlife, water, soil, air and enduring benefits) and cost. Decisions on the EBI cutoff will be made after the sign-up ends and after analyzing the EBI data of all the offers.

Those who would have met previous sign-up EBI thresholds are not guaranteed a contract under this sign-up. In addition to the general sign-up, CRP's continuous sign-up program will be ongoing. Continuous acres represent the most environmentally desirable and sensitive land. For more information, visit <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/crp>.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice), or (202) 720-6382 (TDD).



General  
CRP  
Information Meeting

Miami/Johnson Co. FSA

When: **Aug. 11, 2010**

Where: Paola Extension Office

104 S. Brayman St

Time: **7:00pm**



Please call if you have any questions 913-294-3751 ext 2.

\* Reasonable accommodations will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment to attend or participate in meetings or events sponsored by the Farm Service Agency. If you require special accommodations to attend or participate in one of our events, please call the FSA county office and we will be happy to make any needed arrangements. \*