



Conservation On The Ground

Three Rivers Soil and Water Conservation District

Summer 2010

VA Agricultural BMP Cost Share Program Announcement

Sign Up Dates: July 12-August 6, 2010

There will only be a one-year **Cover Crop** program again this year. The state payment rate for cover crop is \$25.00 per acre. A \$25 early planting bonus is payable for cover crops planted by October 25. Also, an additional \$10 per acre bonus payment is available for all applicants that plant rye. There is a separate program for planting legume cover crops at a flat rate of \$35 per acre. All cover crops must be killed using mechanical or chemical means or by grazing between March 15 and May 15, 2011. No nutrients from any sources may be applied before March 1 of each year. The practice will be considered complete once the cover crop has served its purpose and has been killed. The kill date must be reported to the Three Rivers SWCD office by May 15, 2011.

Nutrient Management Plans

For those producers signed up for NM-1, if this is your third year, your contracts end this year and you will need to come in and sign up again so you can have your Nutrient Management Plans updated for next year. For all other producers that are signed up, you will need to have your Nutrient Management Plans revised. Make sure you meet with your plan writers early to update soil samples, crop rotations, and crop yield history in the fall or early winter when farming is slow. All Nutrient Management Plans and revisions must be on file and complete by March 1, 2011.

To sign up for the BMP Cost Share, you will need to have the following information and items with you:

1. Notebook provided by Three Rivers SWCD with current maps
2. Tax ID information

For questions, or to make an appointment, contact Wayne or Meaghann @ 804-443-2327 ext. 101

**Rain
Barrels
for Sale**

Rain Barrels are containers that hold water from rooftops, via downspouts, so that it doesn't runoff into storm drains and waterways. The barrels for sale hold about 50 gallons and have a spigot attached so the water can be used for watering flowers, gardens, and washing your car. This 50 gallon barrel can fill in less than 1/4" of rainfall. The cost for the fully equipped barrel with spigot, overflow valve and mosquito netting is \$42.00. Please stop by or give us a call for more information.

Congratulations to all our winners!



Three Rivers judged over 400 posters by the Tappahannock Elementary School Kindergarten — 4th grade students. The poster theme emphasized the importance of habitat in your community and in your backyard. All winners received certificates, and one poster from each age group will be forwarded on to the state competition. The winners are as follows:

Kindergarten - 1st Place - Grace Medlin, 2nd Place - Destinee Fields, 3rd Place - Nichelle Rankins, Honorable Mention - Shamari Garnett and Kanyon Newsome

1st Grade - 1st Place - Emily Atkins, 2nd Place - Jasmine Kelly, 3rd Place - Ryan Sisson, Honorable Mention - Devin Davis and Makayla Davis

2nd Grade - 1st Place - Keyadja Rollins, 2nd Place - Brian Balderson, 3rd Place - Daniel Johnson, Honorable Mention - David McNeal, Sydney Ross, Hunter Davis and Tyree Holmes

3rd Grade - 1st Place - Tommy Owens, 2nd Place - Logan Soles, 3rd Place - Margarita Ruiz, Honorable Mention - Steven Ruth, Sarah Vaughan and Porsha Johnson

4th Grade - 1st Place - Nathan McClain, 2nd Place - Raines Van Huss, 3rd Place - Mason Campbell, Honorable Mention - Delontae Norman, Sayvon Johnson, Tenyia Smith and Makayla Fortune

Scholarship Recipients

Three Rivers SWCD awards scholarships annually to area high school seniors and college students with interest in the Agriculture or Environmental fields. Checks in the amount of \$1,000 will be forwarded to the school of the recipients choice for further education.

John F. Townsend, Sr. Memorial Scholarship

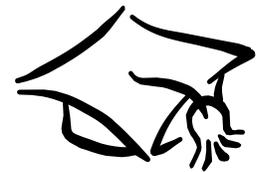
Ryan N. Prince, West Point High School

Anna K. Longest Memorial Scholarship

Sidney Blair Williams, West Point High School

Larkin Hundley Memorial Endowment

Blake Thomas Balderson, Virginia Tech



Farm Service Agency Elections

Each year the Farm Service Agency (FSA) holds elections to fill positions on their County Committees. Committee members serve rotating, three-year terms of office and are responsible for administering federal farm programs on the local level.

This year, the Essex/King & Queen/King William FSA office will be conducting an election to fill the Committee member position for Essex County. Agricultural producers and landowners are encouraged to nominate persons to be included on the ballot. The nomination period runs through August 2, 2010. County Committees should be representative of the area population and various types of agriculture. Nominations of minorities and females involved in agriculture as well as grain, livestock, fruit and vegetable, and forest product producers are welcomed and encouraged.

Nomination petitions can be obtained by contacting the USDA Service Center in Tappahannock (Rappahannock Office Building at 772 Richmond Beach Road, Tappahannock, VA, telephone 804-443-3571 ext.2) or at the following website: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/elections>

Notice of District E-Mail Changes

Effective July 1, 2010, the Three Rivers SWCD staff will have new e-mail addresses.



Michelle Carter: michelle.carter@trswcd.org
Wayne Pierson: wayne.pierson@trswcd.org
Meaghann Terrien: meaghann.terrien@trswcd.org
Anne Davis: anne.davis@trswcd.org
Marlene Shelor: marlene.shelor@trswcd.org

Agriculture Awareness Day At Zoar State Forest

On May 4, Three Rivers hosted its bi-annual Agricultural Awareness/SOL Review Day at Zoar State Forest, Aylett for 275 3rd and 4th graders from Acquinton Elementary, Lawson- Marriott Elementary and King & Queen Elementary Schools. The students rotated among seven mini classrooms, each 15 minutes long and designed to third and fourth grade Standards of Learning. The stations included: Plant Anatomy/Photosynthesis – Keith Balderson, Essex County Extension Agent, Watersheds/Water Cycle – May Sligh, DCR, Soils – Howard Hill, FFA Teacher King William High School, Lewis Redman and Hunter Faulkner, King William High School FFA Members, Forestry – Kathleen Ogilvy, Department of Forestry, Ag in the Classroom – Elizabeth Barber, King William County Farm Bureau Ladies Auxiliary, Wildlife – Will Smith and David Byrd, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Virginia's Mineral Resources – Dr. Gerald Johnson, Retired Professor from William and Mary College. The students also received goody bags filled with rulers, pencils, pencil sharpeners, stickers, bookmarks, and educational activity booklets all relating to conservation from various local agencies. This day was a great success because of the many contributions made by our sponsors and presenters. Thank you to everyone involved.



Visit us on the web at ThreeRiversSWCD.org or TRSWCD.org for cost share program due dates, upcoming events and educational outreach activities.