

# Conservation Connections



## Cost Share Sign Up

The Dickinson County Conservation District is currently conducting a state cost-share sign-up and will continue to accept applications through May 15, 2022. Dickinson County landowners can apply for state financial assistance to install enduring conservation practices. The conservation district administers state cost-share programs locally to improve water quality and reduce soil erosion. Funding is provided by the Division of Conservation, Kansas Department of Agriculture (DOC) through appropriation from the Kansas Water Plan Fund.

Contact Cindy Montgomery at 785-263-2787 for information and an application.

**NRCS and Conservation District**  
785-263-1351 or 785-263-2787  
extension 3

**USDA Service Center**  
328 NE 14<sup>th</sup> Street  
Abilene, KS 67410

**Farm Services Agency**  
785-263-1351  
Extension 3

### Conservation District

Cindy Montgomery, District Manager  
Brian Lang, Drill Manager

### NRCS

Adam Elliott, Supervisory District Conservationist  
Danny Carroll, Soil Conservation Technician  
Megan Reisinger, Soil Conservationist  
Traci Miles, Natural Resource Specialist

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Elizabeth Forsyth, Program Technician

**“Conservation is a state of harmony  
between men and land.” Aldo Leopold**

## 2022 Ag Census Deadline

June 30, 2022 is the last day to sign up for the 2022 Ag Census. If you have never received a census and are new to NASS surveys, sign up to be counted today. You do not need to sign up if you already receive NASS surveys.

Key Dates:

- June 30, 2022 – sign up ends
- November 2022 – ag census mails out and data collection begins
- February 6, 2023 – response deadline
- 2024 (TBD) – data release

The Census of Agriculture is a complete count of U.S. farms and ranches and the people who operate them. Even small plots of land - whether rural or urban - growing fruit, vegetables or some food animals count if \$1,000 or more of such products were raised and sold, or normally would have been sold, during the Census year. The Census of Agriculture, taken only once every five years, looks at land use and ownership, operator characteristics, production practices, income and expenditures. For America’s farmers and ranchers, the Census of Agriculture is their voice, their future, and their opportunity.

## Conservation Trivia

1. More than half of the breathable oxygen in the world comes from where?
2. How much of the world's oxygen is produced by the Amazon rainforest?
3. How much oxygen does an average 50-year-old tree provide?
4. Which of the following ailments can be treated by prescription drugs derived from plants found in the rainforest?
  - a. Cancer
  - b. Hypertension
  - c. Asthma
  - d. All of the above

Find us on Facebook for the answers!



### COST-SHARE UPDATE

During the cost-share year that ends June 30, 2022, the Dickinson County Conservation District allocated \$31,625 in cost-share funds to county landowners. Fifteen landowners were approved for Water Resources projects, including 8 acres of grassed waterways and 12,586 feet of gradient terraces. Five landowners were approved for Non-Point Source Pollution Control projects including four failed septic system replacements and two abandoned well pluggings.

### Did you know?

**During the Dust Bowl, farmers lost more than 480 tons of soil per acre.**

**In 2021, all conservation practices implemented in Dickinson County resulted in an estimated 485 tons of soil saved.**

Dickinson County Conservation District is one of 105 conservation districts across Kansas, organized along county borders. Conservation districts work in partnership with other agencies and organizations to coordinate technical, financial, and educational resources to promote conservation practices and technologies and to assist people with properly managing natural resources.

### KACD Applauds Increased Conservation Investment

The fiscal year (FY) 2022 omnibus appropriations package, which includes considerable increases to conservation investment, was signed into law Friday by President Biden. The National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) applauds both the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate, as well as President Biden, for recognizing the importance of conservation and environmental protection programs and is pleased to see the package includes increased funding for these crucial programs.

“Effective conservation begins at the grassroots level, putting boots on the ground in local communities to advance locally-led conservation efforts where they’re needed most,” said NACD President Michael Crowder. “This spending package is a testament to the importance of collaborative conservation at the federal, state, and local levels, and solidifies the dedication NACD and its partners have toward advancing that mission.”

These investments include \$904 million for Conservation Operations at the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), a \$72 million increase over FY21. This vital account funds conservation technical assistance, which is pivotal in

getting conservation assistance on the ground at the local level. Additionally, increased funding for the State and Private Forestry Program, Forest Stewardship Program, and EPA’s 319 Nonpoint Source Management Program, are bright spots in the package that will help producers address natural resource concerns on their lands and protect the environment.

“The nation’s nearly 3,000 diverse conservation districts and their local communities will no doubt benefit from the increased investment to conservation and environmental programs included in this spending package,” said NACD CEO Jeremy Peters. “NACD will continue to do its part to advocate for the advancement of conservation on all landscapes.”

Equally important, NACD is pleased to see the omnibus bill does not include any reductions to critical Farm Bill conservation programs. That funding is needed to meet the unprecedented demand from farmers and ranchers to address natural resource concerns. As Farm Bill negotiations begin, NACD will continue to play a leading role in shaping federal policy and maintaining its strong voice for advancing voluntary, locally-led, incentive-based conservation.



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**Paul Hettenbach**  
 paulhettenbach@gmail.com




**Crop Service**

(785) 263-3037

**ABILENE**

## Equipment Rental and Sales

The Dickinson County Conservation District provides conservation equipment rental service to area landowners. Contact Cindy Montgomery at 785-263-2787

### **Great Plains No Till Drill**

Delivered: \$50 Delivery Fee + \$15/Acre  
First 1/2 Acre Free  
Customer Pickup: \$15/Acre  
\$80 Minimum

### **Truax Grass Seed Drill**

Delivered: \$40 Delivery Fee + \$11/Acre  
First 1 Acre Free  
Customer Pickup: \$11/Acre  
\$40 Minimum

### **Drip Torch**

\$100 Deposit  
\$5/Day 1st 3 Days  
\$25/Day After 3 Days

### **CoCoRaHS Rain Gauge—\$32**

**30" Wire Stem Marking Flags  
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100 for \$10.00 or 1000 for \$100.00  
(\$10 minimum)



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328 NE 14<sup>th</sup> Street Abilene, KS



785-263-2787 ext. 3

Funding to produce this newsletter is provided in part by the Division of Conservation through appropriation from the Kansas Water Plan.

The Dickinson County Conservation District prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status.

## CALENDAR

May 6— Deadline to apply for Range Youth Camp 2022 sponsorship  
May 9—Regular Board Meeting  
May 30 – OFFICE CLOSED  
June 6—Regular Board Meeting

## Seeding Dates

### **Cool Season Grasses (brome, fescue)**

- Aug. 15 - Oct. 1
- Dec. 1 - April 15 (best dates)

### **Warm Season Grasses (native mix)**

- Dec. 1 - May 15 (best for forbs)
- March 15 - May 15 (best dates)

### **Prescribed burn dates**

- CRP: Feb. 1 - April 15
- Depending on soils, July 16 - Aug. 31 (contact FSA/ NRCS for more information)
- Rangeland: April 1 - May 5



Dickinson County Conservation District  
328 NE 14th Street  
Abilene, KS 67410

Dickinson County Farm Bureau  
2486 1600 Avenue  
Woodbine, KS 67410