

# Jackson County Conservation District

## *Inside the Issue*

### SOIL MOISTURE SENSORS

**The District has eight Soil Moisture Sensors that are ready to be rented out for the upcoming cropping season. See Zach Powell or Melanie O'Tinger for more information.**

### WATER USE REGISTRATION

**If you have not registered your wells/relifts for the Crop Year 2021, Please see Melanie.**

### BEAVER PROGRAM

**From December 3, 2021 until March 17, 2022, the District took in a total of 1,632 Beaver Tails. We are currently not taking any Beaver Tails at this time. We will start accepting tails again in December 2022.**

**For more information, contact Melanie.**



### DISTRICT INFORMATION

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District Employee: Melanie O'Tinger  
Irrigation Water Mgmt. Zach Powell  
District Board President: Carey Robertson  
District Board Vice President: Gus Graham  
District Board Secretary/Treasurer: Micahlene Soden  
District Board Member: Sam Cunningham  
District Board Member: Josh Loftin

### NRCS INFORMATION

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District Conservationist: Suzanne Teel  
NRCS Technician: Michael Morrison  
NRCS Soil Conservationist:  
Jessica Royal and James Lin



## WATER USE REGISTRATION

*October 1st-March 1st*

Act 154 requires all users of surface and ground water be assessed an annual water use fee in the amount of \$10 per registered-surface water diversion and \$10 per registered ground water withdrawal, which are payable at the time of water use reporting, (October 1 through March 1).

Fees collected will be utilized for cost-share on water conservation practices, administration, and information/education programs.

October 1, 2021 is the sign up date for you to register your diversion points for the 2021 crop season. The form can be mailed or emailed to you. Please contact Melanie via phone at 870-523-8986 ext. 3013 for a water use form or come by the Jackson County Conservation District office at your earliest convenience to complete this report. You will also need to be prepared to pay the registration fee of \$10 per diversion point. Please let us know if there were any new Wells or Relifts drilled for this season.

Any person who fails to register by March 1, 2022, as required by law, shall pay penalty fees for late 2021 registration. The Jackson County Conservation District office is required to submit a list of delinquent diverters and/or landowners at the end of the registration period to the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission.

- 1st Failure - to register by March 1: Written notice
- 2nd Failure - to register by April 1: \$25.00 fee
- 3rd Failure - to register by June 30: \$50.00 fee
- 4th Failure - to register by September 30: \$100.00 fee

## SOIL MOISTURE SENSOR

The Jackson County Conservation District has eight (8) Soil Moisture Sensors to be rented out. These are first come, first serve.

Rental Amount: \$200  
Deposit Amount: \$1,000

You will receive the deposit back once the sensor is returned to the office. The District will be put as the Lien Holder on your insurance for the duration of the sensor.

For More information about renting a sensor, contact Melanie O'Tinger.

## BEAVER PROGRAM

Jackson County Conservation District started accepting Beaver Tails in December of 2021 and stopped taking them on March 18, 2022. In that duration, 1,632 beaver tails were taken.

The district pays \$15.00 per tail. Each trapper is responsible for contacting the office to set up a time for tails to be accepted and to make sure all proper paperwork is up to date.

This is a first come first serve program and there is only a select amount of money set at side, once money has been depleted there will be no more beaver tails taken until the next year.

For more information, please see Melanie O'Tinger.





United States Department of Agriculture

**Natural Resources  
Conservation Service**

Room 3416 Federal Building  
700 West Capitol Ave.  
Little Rock, AR 72201  
Web: <http://www.ar.nrcs.usda.gov>

# News Release

Release No.: 031522-01

**Contact:** Reginald Jackson, State Public Affairs Specialist  
(501) 301-3133(w) 501-352-7761(c)  
[reginald.jackson@ar.usda.gov](mailto:reginald.jackson@ar.usda.gov)

## USDA Sets April 15 Application Cutoff for CSP Renewals

**LITTLE ROCK, Ark., March 16, 2022** – The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resource Conservation Service is accepting Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) renewal applications through April 15. During the first half of the fifth year of the existing contract term, NRCS may allow a participant to apply and compete to renew their contract for an additional 5-year period. NRCS is mailing contract renewal notification letters to all participants whose contracts expire in 2022. These letters contain instructions on how to apply for CSP renewal.

- Participants with 2018 CSP contracts (Classic, Renewal, and RCPP-CSP) expiring December 31, 2022, can apply to renew their contracts for an additional five years if they agree to adopt additional activities to achieve higher levels of conservation on their lands.
- NRCS will assess and rank all renewal applications received on or before the renewal application cutoff date. Renewal applicants will compete within a separate state-established ranking pool, and NRCS will make funding selections based on ranking score and available funds.

Through CSP, NRCS helps private landowners build their business while implementing conservation practices that help ensure the sustainability of their entire operation.

"Producers who have questions about the CSP renewal instructions, should visit their local NRCS office," said Arkansas State Conservationist Mike Sullivan. "CSP is a great chance to continue building your operation's conservation portfolio and help us protect more of our state's natural resources."

For more information about conservation planning and programs to help treat natural resource issues on your land, visit [www.ar.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.ar.nrcs.usda.gov) or your local USDA Service Center.



## EQIP

Through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service provides a voluntary conservation program for farmers and ranchers to promote agricultural production and environmental quality as compatible national goals. EQIP priorities in Arkansas are to reduce erosion; reduce pollution from animal wastes, nutrients and sediments; improve irrigation and reduce dependence on ground water for irrigation; forest improvements; improve grazing lands; and improve wildlife habitat.

## CSP

The Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) is a voluntary program providing financial and technical assistance promoting the conservation and improvement of soil, water, air, energy, plant and animal life, and other conservation purposes on Tribal and private working lands. The 2008 Farm Bill replaced the Conservation Security Program with the new Conservation Stewardship Program for fiscal years 2009 through 2017. The program may enroll more than 12.7 million acres each fiscal year. Acreage will be allocated based primarily on each state's or area's proportion of eligible acres to the total number of all eligible acres. The 2008 Farm Bill provides for funding for all current Conservation Security Program contracts.

## CTA

The Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA) Program provides technical assistance supported by science technology and tools to help people conserve, maintain, and improve natural resources on their land. The CTA program provides the technical capability, including conservation planning, design and implementation provided to individuals, groups, and communities who make natural resource management decisions on private, tribal, and other non-federal lands. NRCS, through the CTA Program, provides conservation technical assistance to address state and national natural resource conservation issues.

## CRP

The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) is a voluntary program for agricultural landowners. Through CRP, you can receive annual rental payments and cost-share assistance to establish long-term, resource conserving covers on eligible farmland. CRP protects millions of acres of American topsoil from erosion and is designed to safeguard the Nation's natural resources. By reducing water runoff and sedimentation, CRP 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 increased wildlife populations in many parts of the country. CRP is administered by the USDA Farm Service Agency <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/>

## WRP

The Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) is a voluntary program offering landowners the opportunity to protect, restore, and enhance wetlands on their property. The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service provides technical and financial support to help landowners with wetland restoration. The NRCS goal is to achieve the greatest wetland functions and values, along with optimum wildlife habitat. This program offers landowners an opportunity to establish long-term conservation and wildlife practices and protection. Arkansas ranks second in the nation in number of acres enrolled.

Jackson County Conservation District  
2115 Malcolm Ave  
Newport, AR 72112