

POLK COUNTY GRAZIER

October 24, 2023



An eNewsletter by the Rich Mountain Conservation District

“Whoever could make two ears of corn or two blades of grass to grow upon a spot of ground where only one grew before, would deserve better of mankind, and do more essential service to his country than the whole race of politicians put together.”

— *Jonathan Swift, Gulliver's Travels, 1726*

RMCD is accepting bids on a GameChanger Jr Hog Trap until October 31st, 2023. The trap includes the standard package:

- 2 – 8' gates
- 8 – 8' welded wire mesh panels
- Trailer and Hinge Panel
- Solar Panel, Battery, Antenna Pole
- GameChanger Camera System

This trap allows for real-time video and gate drop with the push of a button and is 3 years old.





Please contact the RMCD office at 508 7th Street, Mena (479) 437-6054 to submit a bid. RMCD maintains the right to reject all bids.



Wes Ward (4th from left), Arkansas Secretary of Agriculture, visited the Mena School Natural Resources Management Lab on

October 20, 2023. The Arkansas Department of Agriculture has provided some grant assistance for development of the lab through

the Natural Resources Division and the Rich Mtn Conservation District. Much assistance has also been provided by the Arkansas

Forestry Division, Ronnie Duckett family, Ouachita Beekeepers Association, Arkansas Game & Fish Commission, USDA-Natural

Resources Conservation Service, and countless others.

Want to learn more about the soils on your land?

Check out the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service's Web Soil Survey!

The simple yet powerful way
to access and use soil data.



Welcome to Web Soil Survey (WSS)



Web Soil Survey (WSS) provides soil data and information produced by the National Cooperative Soil Survey. It is operated by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and provides access to the largest natural resource information system in the world. NRCS has soil maps and data available online for more than 95 percent of the nation's counties and anticipates having 100 percent in the near future. The site is updated and maintained online as the single authoritative source of soil survey information.

Soil surveys can be used for general farm, local, and wider area planning.

Four Basic Steps



Use the Area of Interest tab to define your area of interest.

Click or Press the Enter or Spacebar key to view the larger image.
Press the Escape key to close.



Click the Soil Map tab to view or print a soil map, and detailed descriptions of the soils in your Area of Interest.

Click or Press the Enter or Spacebar key to view the larger image. Press the Escape key to close.



Click the Soil Data Explorer tab to access soil data for your area and determine the suitability of the soils for a particular use. The items you want saved in a report can be added to your shopping cart. Click or Press the Enter or Spacebar key to view the larger image. Press the Escape key to close.



Use the Shopping Cart tab to get your custom printable report immediately or download it later.

Click or Press the Enter or Spacebar key to view the larger image. Press the Escape key to close.

“To be a successful farmer one must first know the nature of the soil.”

— *Xenophon, Oeconomicus, 400 B.C.*



The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is NRCS' flagship conservation program that helps farmers, ranchers and forest landowners integrate conservation into working lands.

EQIP provides technical and financial assistance to agricultural producers and forest landowners to address natural resource concerns, such as:

- Improved water and air quality,
- Conserved ground and surface water,
- Increased soil health,
- Reduced soil erosion and sedimentation,
- Improved or created wildlife habitat, and
- Mitigation against drought and weather volatility.

How It Works:

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NRCS works one-on-one with producers to develop a conservation plan that outlines conservation practices and activities to help solve on-farm resource issues. Producers implement practices and activities in their conservation plan that can lead to cleaner water and air, healthier soil, and better wildlife habitat, all while improving their agricultural operations. EQIP helps producers make conservation work for them. Financial assistance for practices may be available through EQIP.

Benefits:

Some of these benefits include:

- Reduced contamination from agricultural sources, such as animal feeding operations.
- Efficient use of nutrients, reducing input costs and reduction in nonpoint source pollution.
- Improved soil health, which mitigates against weather volatility and improves drought resiliency.
- Implementation of climate-smart practices that improve carbon sequestration and reduce greenhouse gas emissions while building resilient landscapes.

How To Get Started:

The first step is to contact your local NRCS office. An NRCS conservation planner will schedule a visit to your property. They will walk the land with you to discuss your goals and review any resource concerns. Following the site visit, the conservation planner will develop a conservation plan that includes a variety of conservation practices or activities to address the resource concerns and management goals discussed.

Applications for NRCS conservation programs are accepted on a continuous basis; however, customers should apply by December 1, 2023 to be considered for the current (2024) funding cycle.

To learn more about EQIP, contact the Mena NRCS office at 479-437-6054 or steve.swall@usda.gov; or, come by the office at 508 7th St in Mena (across the street from Janssen Park).

Pesticide Applicator Training

November 7, 2023

5:30 p.m. @ Mena-Extension Education Building

211 De Queen St. -Mena

Cost: \$20/person

Call (479)394-6018 for more information



The Rich Mountain Conservation District has equipment available for rent to landowners in Polk County:

SUNFLOWER NO TILL DRILL

\$10 ACRE, \$50 MINIMUM

TYE NO TILL DRILL

\$10 ACRE, \$50 MINIMUM

RHINO POST DRIVER

\$150 PER WEEK (5 days) with a \$100 deposit

3 POINT CYCLONE SEEDER

\$75.00 per week (5 days) with a \$50 deposit

Building electric fence?

We have a spinning jenny & electric fence tester available for landowners use

Please contact RMCD at (479) 437-6054 for more information or to make a reservation. Note: the available days for the no till drills are filling up fast for this fall so call and make arrangements as soon as possible! Most winter annuals such as Ryegrass, Wheat, or Cereal Rye should be planted between September 1 and November 1, but September 15-October 15 is usually optimum.

Know someone who would enjoy receiving this newsletter?

Please feel free to forward it to them and have them contact our office to be on the mailing list in the future!

Rich Mountain Conservation District

Web: www.rmcd.org

Email: rmcdistrict2023@gmail.com

Phone: (479) 437-6054

Mail: 508 7th Street, Mena, AR 71953

Sent on behalf of the Rich Mountain Conservation District.

Thanks for your interest in grazing management and conservation,

Steve Swall

District Conservationist

USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service

Mena Service Center (Polk & Montgomery counties)

(479) 437-6054