



# Resources



## Riley County Conservation District

Winter 2013 Newsletter

[www.rileycountyks.gov/conservationdistrict](http://www.rileycountyks.gov/conservationdistrict)

Volume 20, Issue 1

### ANNUAL MEETING – February 7<sup>th</sup>

The Riley County Conservation District's **64<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting** will be held on Thursday evening, February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at Pottorf Hall in CICO Park, near the intersection of Avery and Kimball Avenues in Manhattan, Kansas. **Supper will be served at 6:30 PM**, and will consist of a hearty buffet catered by Ricky's Café of Hanover, Kansas. **Mr. Ron Wilson**, Poet Lariat from right here in Riley County, will entertain us after dinner.

A short **business meeting** will follow, and District Board Supervisors will present the 2012 annual report and treasurer's report. One Board Supervisor will be elected to a three year term. The 2012 Soil & Water Conservation Award and Grassland Award will be presented to Riley County landowners, and we will draw for Door Prizes! **(If you'd like to donate a door prize, it would be very much appreciated!)**

In order to know how much food to prepare, **reservations are required**. To make your reservations, please phone (785) 537 8764 ext 1301, or send an email message to [robert.lienemann@ks.nacdnet.net](mailto:robert.lienemann@ks.nacdnet.net), or return the form below to the Riley County Conservation District's office in Manhattan. Please contact Bob if you are able to contribute a door prize, and **please respond no later than February 1, 2013**.

\_\_\_\_\_ (clip here and return)



### RESERVATION FORM

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ meal(s) for the 64<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Riley County Conservation District to be held on February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at Pottorf Hall in CICO Park in Manhattan. The meal will be served at 6:30 PM.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Return to:

**Riley County Conservation District, 3705 Miller Parkway - Suite A,  
Manhattan, KS 66503-7604**

**Thank you to Riley State Bank, UMB National Bank, Union State Bank,  
Commerce Bank, Leonardville State Bank and Kansas State Bank  
for contributing to our Annual Meeting and meal.**

## Mr. Ron Wilson, Poet Lariat



**NOOSE RELEASE** - Cowboy poet **Ron Wilson** will perform his all original cowboy poetry in full costume, complete with audience participation. “The poetry is fun, family-oriented, patriotic, relates to rural audiences, and most of the time it even rhymes.”

Mr. Wilson is winner of the Horizon Award from the Heartland Chapter of the Academy of Western Artists and won first place in the cowboy poetry competition at the Kansas Cowboy Symposium in Dodge City. In 2002 Governor Bill Graves proclaimed Wilson as a “Poet Lariat” for Kansas, and Wilson was also the first Ambassador for the National Multicultural Western Heritage Museum in Fort Worth, Texas.

Wilson grew up on the Lazy T Ranch near Manhattan, has a B.S. in Agricultural Education with an animal science specialty and an M.S. in mass communications from Kansas State University. He was legislative assistant for agriculture to Senator Nancy Kassebaum, worked for the U.S. Senate Agriculture Committee and later the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives, and served as Vice President of Public Affairs for the Farm Credit Bank of Wichita. Since 1990, he has been director of the Huck Boyd National Institute for Rural Development at K-State.

Wilson and his family live on the family ranch near Manhattan. He is a life member of the Kaw Valley Rodeo Association and was a founding member of the Bibles & Boots Chapter of Cowboys for Christ. He has produced two books of original poetry and a CD.

## Your Current Staff



NRCS and FSA employees in the Manhattan Service Center serve both Riley and Geary Counties. **Kevin Religa**, District Conservationist is your best contact for CSP, EQIP, WHIP, and other program questions, **Tom Roth** is Soil Cons. and

Nutrient Mgmt. Specialist for the region, and **Justin Trout and Andrew Klein** are Technicians, providing design, staking and checkout for field work. **John Henry** works a ten county area from this office and **Alex Miller** works four local counties, both as Range Mgmt. Specialists.

**Bob Lienemann** will retire from the Riley County Conservation District in early 2013. **Bob / new District Manager** is your best contact for state cost share funds, drill rental, grass seed, educational programs and the District’s farm. We try to keep someone in the office, but occasionally we are all in the field. **If you have a specific need, it is best to call ahead** and be sure that we’ll be here to help you - (785) 537 8764 ext 1301.



## Flint Hills PF & QF

**Flint Hills Pheasants & Quail Forever will hold their Annual Banquet at 5:00 pm on Friday, February 8, 2013** at the Purple Wave Banquet Hall, 825 Levee Drive in Manhattan, Kansas. They will raffle 27 fine firearms, a gun safe, plus cash prizes and other items, and the proceeds support habitat work in Riley, Geary, Pottawatomie, Washington, Clay and Marshall Counties. **For information about the banquet, contact Josh Vogt** at (608) 225 2309 or at [bccmanhattan@cox.net](mailto:bccmanhattan@cox.net).

## District’s Website



[www.rileycountyks.gov/conservationdistrict](http://www.rileycountyks.gov/conservationdistrict) will take you to our website. Current and recent newsletters are available there in full color in January and June - plus other timely information. Check us out!



## Burn Permits



Prescribed burning is required on many local CSP, CRP, WHIP and EQIP contracts. Landowners are reminded that **a burn permit is required in Riley County**. Please be safe and follow all county burning guidelines. For information or to obtain a permit, contact Riley County Emergency Management at (785) 537 6333, or you can apply online at [www.rileycountyks.gov](http://www.rileycountyks.gov).



For information about EQIP, WHIP and CSP – call Kevin Religa at (785) 776 7582 ext 1303 - or visit the KS NRCS Web site at [www.ks.nrcs.usda.gov/programs](http://www.ks.nrcs.usda.gov/programs). NRCS is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

## ENVIROTHON



This year's Area Envirothon competitions will be held at **Centralia Lake near Seneca on April 17<sup>th</sup> and at Council Grove Reservoir on April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2013**. The statewide Envirothon competition will then be held at a camp near **Salina on May 8<sup>th</sup>**.

The **Envirothon program** is for students in grades 9 - 12, who conduct fieldwork, and then compete in the five subject areas of Wildlife, Forestry, Soils, Aquatics, and the Current Environmental Issue.

### EQIP / WHIP / CSP Signups

Producers with cropland, rangeland, or forestland with any concerns should visit their local NRCS office and work with the staff to **develop a conservation plan**. Financial assistance for certain improvements may be available, and applications for these programs can be submitted at any time. As future signup deadlines are announced, the **applications on hand will be ranked and considered for funding**.

### Conservation District News

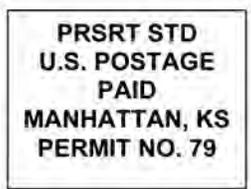
We may have **limited cost share funds available for work in the Wildcat Creek watershed and a very small area southwest of Lasita, draining to Mall Creek**. Give us a call at **785 537-8764 ext 1301** if you have a project in one of those areas

**The District offers items for sale or rent** from time to time, with the **proceeds going toward** Annual Meeting costs, awards to school children for poster and essay contests, conservation awards to landowners, participation in the Envirothon and other **programs that educate and promote the wise use of our county's natural resources**.



**Native Grass Seed** – our standard mix includes Big Bluestem, Little Bluestem, Indiangrass, Switchgrass and Sideoats Grama. **Special seed mixes can be prepared for your site, and we rent grassland drills**. Please call us at (785) 537 8764 ext 1301 for availability.

Riley County Conservation District  
3705 Miller Parkway – Suite A  
Manhattan, KS 66503  
785 537 8764 ext 1301



*Happy New Year 2013!*

## *Conservation Newsletter*

**Riley County Conservation District**  
**Board of Supervisors:**

Steve Hargrave, Chair  
Stanley Johnson, Vice Chair  
Nathan Larson, Treasurer  
Steve Strauss, Member  
David Cederberg, Member

**Conservation District Staff:**

**Bob Lienemann**, District Manager



**Natural Resources Conservation Service**  
**Staff:**

**Kevin C. Religa**,  
District Conservationist  
**Tom Roth**,  
Soil Conservationist  
**Justin Trout and Andrew Klein**,  
Soil Conservation Technicians  
**John Henry and Alex Miller**,  
Range Management Specialists

Riley County Conservation District Board meetings are generally held the second Thursday of each month -  
(May-October at 7:30 PM, and November-April at 6:30 PM). The public is welcome to attend – please call to verify time of meeting.