

GOOD NEWS

DIRECTORS

MARTIN BALTZ
BILL BAILEY – CHAIRMAN
DANNY ELLIS
JODY THIELEMIER - SECRETARY/TREASURER
JAMES RAY CHESTER

NRCS HOURS ARE MON-FRI 7:30-4:00
RCCD HOURS ARE MON-FRI 8:00-4:30

RCCD DISTRICT STAFF

LISA CAGLE – DISTRICT OFFICE MANAGER
MARLA MOLAND – WATER QUALITY TECHNICIAN
DANIEL BALDWIN – IRRIGATION WATER MANAGEMENT TECHNICIAN

Randolph County Conservation District
308 Camp Road Pocahtontas, AR 72455
870-892-3623 Ex 3
www.randolphcountycd.com
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE STAFF

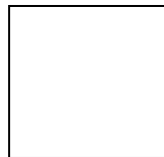
ZACH TRUBLOOD – DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST
BRIAN LANGSTON – SOIL TECHNICIAN
BRAD ASHCRAFT – PROGRAM SPECIALIST
CIERA RHODES – FARM BILL WILDLIFE BIOLOGIST



TO RECEIVE A COPY OF THE NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL SEND
YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS TO LISA.CAGLE@AR.NACDNET.NET

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RANDOLPH COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT
308 CAMP RD
POCAHONTAS, AR 72455



RANDOLPH COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT IRRIGATION WATER MANAGEMENT & TECHNOLOGY WORKSHOP

DATE:

AUGUST 15, 2018

TIME:

10 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

LOCATION:

CLAY COUNTY ELECTRIC
CO-OP MEETING ROOM
2302 OLD COUNTY RD.
POCAHONTAS, AR

LUNCH PROVIDED:

R.S.V.P. BY AUGUST 8, 2018

LISA CAGLE:

lisa.cagle@ar.nacdnet.net
870-892-3623 x 3

DANIEL BALDWIN:

daniel.m.baldwin@ar.usda.gov
870-450-2653



AGENDA

- 10 – 10:15: Introductions**
Zach Trublood (NRCS District Conservationist)
- 10:15 – 11:15: Cover Crop and Rainfall Simulator –**
Keith Scoggin (District Conservationist, Wynne AR)
- 11:15 – 12:00: Pipe Planner & Irrigation Tools –**
Mike Hamilton (U of A Extension) &
Daniel Baldwin (Irrigation Technician – Randolph,
Clay and Lawrence Co.)
- 12:00 – 12:10: Questions/Adjourn**

FARM SAFETY AND EDUCATIONAL FIELD DAY

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2018

9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

DEVELOPMENT CENTER - BRTC CAMPUS

HWY 304, POCAHONTAS, AR

Grain Bin Safety, safety on working with animals, highway safety, machinery entanglement, PTO safety, tractor run overs and rollover, ATV safety, chemical safety, and shop safety.

Something new that we are working on for this year is educational booths set up for the high school students to talk to different professionals about careers in agriculture, internships, and technical jobs.

CHECK OUT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE AND WEBSITE FOR UPDATED INFORMATION

NEW EMPLOYEES



Ciera Rhodes
Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist

Quail Forever is dedicated to the conservation of quail, pheasants, and other wildlife through habitat improvements, public awareness, education, and land management policies and programs.

At the heart of Pheasants Forever and Quail fundraising and project development that allows members to see the direct result of their contributions. PF and QF empower county chapters with the responsibility to determine how 100% of their locally raised conservation funds will be spent – the only national conservation organization that operates through this truly grassroots structure.

As a result, chapter volunteers are able to see the fruits of their efforts locally, while belonging to a larger national organization with a voice on federal and state conservation policy. If you would like to become a QF member, join or start a chapter, contact Arkansas Regional Representative, John Wallace at jwallace@quailforever.org or (937) 459-8085 for more information.

Check out their Facebook page “Quail Forever in Arkansas” for all the latest information and workshop dates. For more information about private lands conservation programs in Northeast Arkansas, contact Ciera at crhodes@quailforever.org or 731-439-0027.



Working for Quail Forever in Randolph, Sharp, and Fulton Counties since January, Ciera Rhodes is our new Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist in Northeast Arkansas. She will be responsible for providing technical assistance and guidance with Farm Bill programs and other cost-share opportunities to private landowners and public organizations. She also meets with the local chapter of Quail Forever in Jonesboro to help coordinate habitat management efforts. A native to Selmer, Tennessee, she received her B.S. degree from University of Tennessee at Martin and her M.S. in Wildlife, Fisheries, & Aquaculture from Mississippi State University.

Since August of 2017, Quail Forever has teamed up with Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and Arkansas Game and Fish Commission (AGFC) to get 7 new biologists hired in the state to focus on habitat restoration. These biologists are working closely with NRCS and AGFC employees to help educate and enroll landowners in both federal and state cost-share programs available.

ATTENTION!!!!

Ask about the Tax Incentive and Agricultural Water Quality Loan Program that is available through Arkansas Natural Resources Commission (ANRC) and Randolph County Conservation District

Programs offered by NRCS

- **EQIP** – Environmental Quality Incentive Program is a voluntary conservation program that provides financial and technical assistance to farmers and ranchers who face threats to soil, water, air, and related natural resources on their land. This program helps producers implement conservation practices that address environmental natural resource concerns; furthermore, providing assistance for private and Tribal Land to develop or improve high quality habitat that support fish and wildlife. NRCS provides technical and financial assistance to landowners and others to develop upland, wetland, aquatic, and other types of wildlife habitat on their property.
- **CSP** – Conservation Stewardship Program is a voluntary program that encourages agricultural and forestry producers to address resource concerns by (1) undertaking additional conservation activities and (2) improving and maintaining existing conservation systems. CSP provides financial and technical assistance to help land stewards conserve and enhance soil, water, air, and related natural resources on their land.

EQUIPMENT RENTAL

- 2 – 10FT HAYBUSTER NO-TILL DRILLS
- PULL-TYPE 300-GALLON SPRAYER
- SPINNING JENNY
- VICON SEEDER
- FENCE DAWG

NEW FOR CROP YEAR 2019

The following irrigation equipment will be available to use at no charge:

- Soil Moisture Sensor
- Surge Valves
- Flow Meters

ITEMS FOR SALE

- Marking Flags - \$7.00/100ct. Bundle
- Marking Tape - \$1.50/roll
- Geo-Textile Material - \$55.00/15'x15' sheet



Blaine Huddleston Awarded District Scholarship

The Directors of Randolph County Conservation District are pleased to announce Blaine Huddleston as recipient of the local district Dave Ferguson scholarship in the amount of \$500.00. Blaine is the son of Clay and Megan Huddleston.

Blaine was elected the 2017-2018 FFA President. In his 4 years in FFA, he was awarded the Green hand, Chapter, State Awards, and Silver Ranking Beef Production Award. He has been a member of the Randolph County 4-H since the age of 5, during which time he has been awarded the 4-H Teen Star, 2018 Sr. of the Year, 2014, 2015, and 2016 4-H Hands (leadership) award, State Fair Ambassador, 4-H State Ambassador, 2018 State Record book winner. And is currently a Randolph County Student Ambassador.

Blaine plans to obtain an Associate Degree in Agriculture from BRTC and then transfer to ASU with plans to obtain his Master's Degree in Agricultural Business.

Blain's essay on "Watersheds: "Our Water, Our Home" will compete with other East Central Conservation District winners at the area level for a chance to win \$1000.00 (1st place) or \$500.00 (2nd place) scholarship.

Five Rivers Trap Club Recipient of Arkansas Rural Development Commission AGFC Grant

Randolph County Conservation District was recently awarded a grant in the amount of \$12,423.15 for the Five Rivers Trap Club to purchase shells and targets. This was made possible through a grant with the Arkansas Game & Fish Commission Education Grant Program and the Arkansas Economic Development Commission Rural Services.

Eleven Point River Sr Squad placed 2nd in regionals.

Spring River Jr Squad placed 4th in Regionals. Spring River and Eleven Point both advanced to the sweet 16 in the state AYSSP.

Black River Sr Squad and Current River Jr Squad also competed at Regionals but did not advance to the state competition.

CONGRATULATIONS FIVE RIVERS TRAP CLUB!



Eleven Point River Sr Squad



Spring Rive Jr Squad



Black River Sr Squad



Current River Jr Squad



Marla Moland
Water Quality Technician

Marla Moland is the new Water Quality Technician (WQT) for the district. Marla received her B.S degree in Natural Science from the University of Arkansas at Monticello, AR and her M.S. degree in Environmental Science from Arkansas State University in Jonesboro, AR.

The WQT's perform valuable work for our farmers. They are certified to write Nutrient Management Plans (NMP) for poultry operations and for any landowner using poultry litter to fertilize their fields. Nutrient management plans require soil samples, which are analyzed along with the litter, so recommendations can be written as to how many tons of litter to apply per acre. These plans provide the landowner with information to provide the best application for their nutrient needs.

Plans are required by the poultry companies and financial institutions for poultry operations to manage their litter. The analysis of the chicken litter also provides the buyers of that litter with nutrient information, so decisions can be made on how best to meet their needs.

With poultry expansion in recent years, NMP's are a valuable and necessary guideline to allow for the best use on the farms.

If you would like to have a nutrient management plan for your farm, be sure to give our office a call. The only cost is to have the litter tested, but a NMP can be done on your farm even if you do not apply chicken litter. A NMP is also useful if you use commercial fertilizer. With soil analysis, you will be able to purchase only the fertilize mixture that your soil needs, and sometimes that might only call for lime to be applied, which will save you money.

Marla is also responsible for the water testing of the area rivers and streams. These tests are run to monitor possible nutrient pollution from farm runoff. The nutrients that are tested are Nitrogen (nitrates and nitrites), phosphorus, and dissolved oxygen. Time, date, location, and weather (temperature and conditions) are documented when the samples are collected. Water reports are available on the RCCD website at www.randolphcountycd.com.

"I enjoy my work improving natural resources, while continuing to learn more about soil and water conservation practices. I am grateful for the opportunities to meet and learn from farmers, as well as my co-workers. I believe I am gaining meaningful field experiences that can help me and the producers down the line.", says Marla when discussing her new job.

2018 RANDOLPH COUNTY FARM FAMILY OF THE YEAR



Daniel Baldwin
Irrigation Technician



Daniel has worked with the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) since September 2016 and has recently become our Irrigation Technician (IT) for Clay, Randolph, and Lawrence counties. Daniel is a native to Clay county and received his B.S. degree from the University of Arkansas in 2013. As an IT, Daniel works closely with producers on irrigation equipment such as Soil Moisture sensors, surge valves, ET gauges, and flow meters. He is also responsible for giving guidance to producers using tools such as Pipe Planner and the University of Arkansas' rice irrigation app. With these tools at his disposal, he has helped numerous producers irrigate more efficiently by not allowing water to escape the field of focus. This is done by irrigating as uniformly as possible, and only irrigating when the soil moisture is at a threshold that can help save producers money on poly pipe, as well as fuel for their motors. Along with being in the field with producers, Daniel is also responsible for writing Irrigation Water Management Plans for producers with contracts through government-funded programs. This gives producers a record of how many gallons of water they are using year to year on irrigation. This in turn fulfills the objectives set forth by the NRCS to conserve water and save the resources that are critical to our region.

Understanding how many gallons per minute a well will pump is critical for producers to understand how much water agriculture uses yearly. If anyone is interested in measuring their irrigation well or using irrigation equipment, please contact the Randolph County Conservation District and Daniel will be glad to assist with any irrigation related issues you may have. This service is free to our producers with the hope to encourage participation in water conservation for future generations.



From left: T.L., Redwine, Jake, Maci and Madison Redwine, Mary Jo Dust, Terry Redwine

The 2018 Farm Family of The Year is Redwine Angus Farms.

What began more than a half century ago with 10 registered angus heifers and a bull on 80 acres of land has now grown to over 200 black Angus cows and over 1,200 acres of land with a successful hay operation. Although Redwine farms have been in the registered Angus cattle business since 1961, their major crop is hay. Presently they farm 120 acres of ground that produces about 2000 round bales, and 500 square bales a year.

CONGRATULATIONS REDWINE ANGUS FARMS!

