



26032-C Newt Road
Agri-Civic Center
Albemarle, NC 28001
704-986-3059



2015 Agri-Civic Center Day

The fifth annual Stanly County Agri-Civic Day, sponsored by the Friends of the Stanly County Agri-Civic Center (FACC), was held August 15th with attendance up about 20 percent over last year. Agri-Civic Day is a celebration of the county's rich agricultural heritage. Many local sponsors contributed to the success of this event. Children had choices of bounce houses, corn pits, a straw bale maze, face painting, balloon animals, Smokey the Bear, pony rides, gold panning and even milking Elsie the fake cow. Adults also enjoyed heritage/historical demonstrations, livestock judging, mule jumps, food vendors, live entertainment, heavy equipment and farm machinery. The purpose of the event is to bring attention to and gather support for the facility that provides services to the residents of Stanly and surrounding counties. Thanks to the support of many sponsors, admission was free.

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The Friends of the Stanly County Agri-Civic Center is a nonprofit organization.

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District Board Members

Terry Blalock	Chairman
John Pickler	Vice-Chairman
Jody Smith	Secretary/ Treasurer
Curtis Furr	Supervisor
June Mabry	Supervisor
W. Chester Lowder	Advisor

District and NRCS Staff

Rita Little	Admin/Education Coordinator
Lin Taylor	Civil Engineer Technician

Grayson Sarif Takes New Position With NRCS

Grayson Sarif, former Cost Share Technician for Stanly Soil and Water, recently took a new position with the Natural Resource Conservation Service as Soil Conservationist. Although his workstation is in Union County, he will be servicing both Union and Anson Counties.

He began his tenure at Stanly SWCD in March 2014. Grayson was instrumental in obligating all but \$104 of the \$178,632 allocated for Cost Share Program for 2014 and 2015. The Cost Share Programs all share a common goal of increasing water quality and include Ag Cost Share (ACSP), Ag Water Resources Assistance (AgWRAP), and the Community Conservation Assistance (CCAP).



During the short time he was here, Grayson won the respect and confidence of many local producers. He assisted them with technical and financial resources to improve their water use efficiency, and overall water quality. He also helped them implement best management practices to address erosion and animal waste. Other contracts provided pond installation, pond sediment removal, cistern installation, pasture renovation, livestock exclusion and crop land conversion .

He brought to the Stanly field office a can-do attitude that raises the bar for the next Cost Share Technician. Good luck Grayson. We will miss you!

District Soil Conservationist Nathan Lowder... Movin' on Up!!!

District staff and friends regrettably say goodbye to Nathan Lowder as he prepares to begin a new chapter in his life. Serving as District Conservationist for the Natural Resource Conservation Service for the past eight years served him well in preparing for the next step in his career. As of October 18th, he began his new position as Regional Soil Health Specialist with the NRCS National Soil Health Division. His service area will include Georgia, Alabama, Florida and Puerto Rico.

Nathan has been an invaluable asset to the Stanly NRCS field office, always willing to help co-workers and producers in any way he can. Along with well wishes from all in our office, he takes with him much experience and expertise. A wealth of information, he was always willing to share that knowledge whenever the opportunity presented itself.

He will be greatly missed and leaves big shoes to be filled by his successor. We wish Nathan much success in this new endeavor .



2015 Agri-Civic Center Day

What a wonderful time we had!!!



Ag Cost Share Programs Available

Soil and Water Conservation Districts implement four cost share programs, all of which share a common goal of increasing water quality. These programs include the Agriculture Cost Share Program (ACSP), the Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program (AgWRAP), the Community Conservation Assistance Program (CCAP), and the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP). The District accepts applications year round for each of these programs. Received applications are ranked based on various criteria and conservation concerns. The highest ranking application is considered for assistance to install best management practices.

ACSP-The major cause of water quality problems in the area is non-point source pollution. Damage to our water resources comes from soil erosion, excessive fertilizer use, animal waste contamination, and improper use of agricultural chemicals. The Agriculture Cost Share Program helps address nonpoint source pollution.

AgWRAP-The Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program was recently created in order to address water quantity issues. Producer concerns include water to be used for cropland irrigation, and livestock watering. Multiple best management practices are available to help producers increase their water use efficiency, availability and storage.

CCAP-Nonpoint source pollution stemming from non agricultural sources is also addressed through cost share programs. The Community Conservation Assistance Program is available to address water quality issues that are present in urban, suburban and rural areas. Assistance is available to implement best management practices which address and increase overall water quality.

CREP-Lastly, the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program is available to protect environmentally sensitive cropland and marginal pasture land long term. This is accomplished through 10, 15, and 30 year conservation easements.



USDA Non-Discrimination Policy

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Stanly SWCD prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees and applicants for employment on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the Department. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact the USDA Office of Communication at (202) 720-2791. To file a complaint, write the Secretary of Agriculture, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250 or call 1-800-245-6340 (Voice) or (202) 720-1127 (TDD).

Erosion Control Materials Now Available



Landowners and producers are encouraged to take advantage of another service provided by the Stanly SWCD. Erosion control materials are now in stock and available for purchase.

“Erosion control blankets are effective in controlling erosion on slopes and stabilizing soils long enough for re-vegetation seeding to establish on the site. They are designed to be used on gradual to steep slopes, with low to high velocity flow channels, and are available for both short term biodegradable applications, and long-term soil stabilization.” protecherosionsupply.com

8' x 112.5' Single Net Straw Blanket \$25.00 each

4' x 180' Single Net Excelsior Blanket \$38.00 each

6" x 1" 11 gauge Sod Staples \$30.00 box of 1000



“Our wattles are 100% Certified Weed Free Wheat Straw bound into a tight tubular roll. When wattles are placed on the face of slopes, they intercept storm water runoff, reduce its flow velocity, release the runoff as sheet flow, and provide removal of sediment from the runoff. By interrupting the length of a slope, the wattle can also reduce erosion. Wattles are designed to stop sediment and other debris from entering retention ponds, lakes and other water bodies.” Protecherosionsupply.com

12" x 10' Straw Wattle \$25 each

24" Wood Stake 1.5" x 1.5" \$16/bundle of 25 or 75¢ each



It's Contest Time !!!

Deadline:

January 15th, 2016

2015-2016 Education Contest “We All Live In A Watershed”

~ Poster Contest: 5th grade - Must be titled: “We All Live In A Watershed” and must be original work. Mounted material cannot stick out more than 1/8 inch. Student info should be printed on the back. Must not be larger than 24” x 36”.

~ Essay Contest: 6th grade - Must be titled: “We All Live In A Watershed”. Student name and info must be on back of last page. Should contain 300-500 words. Please use letter size paper (8.5 x 11)

~ Slide Show Contest: 6th grade - - Must be titled: “We All Live In A Watershed”. Maximum of 15 slides, followed by blank slide, then student information. May use either PC or Mac computer. Animation and sound is allowed. Absolutely NO video. Submit electronically to: RLittle@stanlycountync.gov

~ Public Speaking: 7th and 8th grade - Title should be “We All Live In A Watershed”. Speech should be 4 - 6 minutes in length. Personal info or visual aids should NOT be used for this contest.

Student info must include:

- * Your name
- * Your grade
- * Your school
- * Your teacher’s name
- * Your mailing address

Winners will advance to the Area competition for cash prizes.

All contests sponsored by the N.C. Association of
Soil and Water Conservation Districts

For more information and the contest rule book, visit the Division of Soil and Water NCDA&CS website <http://www.ncagr.gov/SWC/educational/contests.html>

What is a watershed?

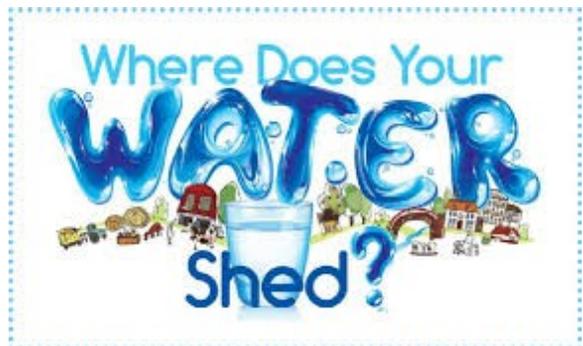
A watershed is the area of land where all of the water that is under it or drains off of it goes into the same place.



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www.stanlycountync.gov/soil-and-water



FSA News...

2016 Acreage Reporting Dates

In order to comply with Farm Service Agency program eligibility requirements, all producers are encouraged to visit the Stanly County FSA office to file an accurate crop certification report by the applicable deadline.

The following acreage reporting dates are applicable for Stanly County:

- November 16, 2015: Perennial grazing and forage,
- January 15, 2016: Fall seeded small grains
- July 15, 2016: Corn, Soybeans, Tobacco, Cotton, Peanuts, Grain Sorghum, CRP, and all other crops and land uses

The following exceptions apply to the above acreage reporting dates:

- If the crop has not been planted by the above acreage reporting date, then the acreage must be reported no later than 15 calendar days after planting is completed.
- If a producer acquires additional acreage after the above acreage reporting date, then the acreage must be reported no later than 30 calendar days after purchase or acquiring the lease. Appropriate documentation must be provided to the county office.
- If a perennial forage crop is reported with the intended use of “cover only,” “green manure,” “left standing,” or “seed,” then the acreage must be reported by July 15th.

Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) policy holders should note that the acreage reporting date for NAP covered crops is the earlier of the dates listed above or 15 calendar days before grazing or harvesting of the crop begins.

For questions regarding crop certification and crop loss reports, please contact the Stanly County FSA office at 704-982-5114.

Farmers to Receive Documentation of USDA Services-Local Offices Issue Receipts for Services Provided

Farm Service Agency (FSA) reminds agricultural producers that FSA provides a receipt to customers who request or receive assistance or information on FSA programs.

As part of FSA’s mission to provide enhanced customer service, producers who visit FSA will receive documentation of services requested and provided. From December through June, FSA issued more than 327,000 electronic receipts.

The 2014 Farm Bill requires a receipt to be issued for any agricultural program assistance requested from FSA, the National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and Rural Development (RD). Receipts include the date, summary of the visit and any agricultural information, program and/or loan assistance provided to an individual or entity.

In some cases, a form or document – such as a completed and signed program enrollment form – serves as the customer receipt instead of a printed or electronic receipt. A service is any information, program or loan assistance provided whether through a visit, email, fax or letter.

Conservation Reserve Programs The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) is a land conservation program administered by the [Farm Service Agency \(FSA\)](#). In exchange for a yearly rental payment, farmers enrolled in the program agree to remove environmentally sensitive land from agricultural production and plant species that will improve environmental health and quality. Contracts for land enrolled in CRP are 10-15 years in length. The long-term goal of the program is to re-establish valuable land cover to help improve water quality, prevent soil erosion, and reduce loss of wildlife habitat.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will accept new offers to participate in CRP under a [general signup](#) to be held Dec. 1, 2015, through Feb. 26, 2016.

Farmers and ranchers should consider the various CRP [continuous sign-up](#) initiatives that may help target specific resource concerns. Financial assistance is offered for many practices including conservation buffers and pollinator habitat plantings, and initiatives such as the highly erodible lands, bottomland hardwood tree and longleaf pine, all of which are extremely important. USDA has added CRP Grasslands program which helps landowners and operators protect grassland, including rangeland, and pastureland, and certain other lands, while maintaining the areas as grazing lands. The program emphasizes support for grazing operations, plant and animal biodiversity, and grassland and land containing shrubs and forbs under the greatest threat of conversion.

CREP expands on the effectiveness of the continuous CRP program by allowing the USDA to work in partnership with state and local agencies to meet specific conservation objectives. CREP utilizes federal and state resources to achieve long-term voluntary protection of environmentally sensitive cropland and marginal pastureland near streams or other approved water bodies, through 10-, 15-, 30-year and permanent easements. The economic incentives of CREP are greater annual payments than traditional CRP, state easement payment, cost share assistance, and incentive payment.

FSA County Committee Election

Ballots will be mailed to voters by Nov. 9, 2015, and must be returned to the FSA county office or postmarked by Dec. 7, 2015. Eligible voters must contact their local FSA county office before the final date if they did not receive a ballot.

Who can vote? Agricultural producers of legal voting age may be eligible to vote if they participate or cooperate in any FSA program. A person who is not of legal voting age but supervises and conducts the farming operations of an entire farm also may be eligible to vote. Members of American Indian tribes holding agricultural land are eligible to vote if voting requirements are met. More information about voting eligibility requirements can be found in the FSA fact sheet titled “FSA County Committee Election - Eligibility to Vote and Hold Office as a County Committee Member” <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/news-room/county-committee-elections/index>.



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Get your newsletters by
 email!! Contact us at
 rlittle@stanlycountync.gov
 today!

Visit us on the web
www.stanlycountync.gov/

Thanks to Our Sponsors

The Stanly SWCD would like to thank the sponsors of this newsletter. Without their financial support, this publication would not be possible. Please patronize our sponsors whenever possible. *If you would consider helping us cut our production cost by viewing this newsletter on our website, www.stanlycountync.gov/soil-and-water, please call 704-986-3059 or email rlittle@stanlycountync.gov to be put on our email list.*

 <p>Office: 704-982-8496 Fax: 704-982-8500 Cell: 704-791-3589</p> <p>Billy R. Lowder Facility Manager</p> <p>www.cpsagu.com</p>	 <p>Main Office: 155 W. South St., Ph. 982-9184 West Stanly: Hwy. 27, Locust, Ph. 888-4431</p>	 <p>ENTERPRISE RENDERING COMPANY DEAD FARM ANIMALS REMOVED HORSES, PONIES, MULES, HOGS USED RESTAURANT COOKING OIL PHONE 485-3018 28821 BETHLEHEM Church Rd. Oakboro, NC 28129</p>
 <p>Office: 704-474-3400</p> <p>Mark A. Smith Facility Manager</p>	 <p>20506 N.C. 73 HWY, Albemarle, NC 28001 (704) 982-2226 or 2228</p> <p>Steve Edwards Manager</p> <p>Dennis Phifer Field Associate</p>	 <p>Mauney Feed Mill, Inc. 40255 US Hwy. 52 North New London, NC 28127</p> <p>KELLY VICK Phone 704-463-1331</p>
 <p>STANLY COUNTY FARM BUREAU 704-982-0113</p>	<p>B.B. Oil, Inc. Diesel - Home Heating Oil - Kerosene Tires - Batteries - Auto Accessories Home A/C, Furnace & Heat Pump Service Auto/Motorcycle Inspections Hydraulic Hoses Propane Tank Filling</p> <p>128 Hwy 49 N PO Box 185 Richfield, NC</p> <p>704-463-7543</p>	 <p>Newport Landowner Services Inc. Complete Reforestation Management Site Preparation - Tree Planting - Herbicide Application Agricultural Services - Land and Estate Management Dale Newport 44558 N.C. Hwy. 8 New London, NC 28127</p> <p>Home (704) 463-1226 Mobile (704) 985-5437 FAX (704) 463-7589</p>
 <p>First Bank Your Community Bank</p> <p>MEMBER FDIC</p>	 <p>H.W. CULP LUMBER COMPANY</p> <p>P.O. Box 235 New London, NC 28127 Phone: 704-463-7311</p> <p>SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY INITIATIVE Purchasers of Standing Timber</p>	<p>Place your business ad here. rlittle@stanlycountync.gov for details</p>
<p>Place your business ad here. rlittle@stanlycountync.gov for details</p>	 <p>Uwharrie BANK www.Uwharrie.com</p>	 <p>STRATEGIC INVESTMENT ADVISORS, INC. www.StrategicInvestmentAdvisors.com</p> <p>Not FDIC Insured Not Bank Guaranteed May Lose Value Not Guaranteed by any Government Agency Not a Bank Deposit</p>