

# 2017 ANNUAL MEETING



2017

73rd Annual Meeting of the  
Dickinson County Conservation  
District

February 8, 2018  
6:30 PM  
Sterl Hall  
619 N Rogers  
Abilene, KS 67410

# AGENDA

## WELCOME

- Welcome.....Dennis Marston
- Invocation.....Dennis Chartier
- Dinner.....*Compliments of Dickinson County Banks*

## BUSINESS MEETING

- Introductions.....Dennis Marston
- FSA Updates.....Braden Stueve
- NRCS Updates.....Ken Howell
- Minutes & Financial Reports.....Dennis Marston
- Board of Supervisors Election.....Dennis Marston

## AWARDS PRESENTATION

- Poster Awards.....Darren Haney, Cindy Dooley
- Banker's Conservation Award.....Drew Snitker, Key Banker
- Grassland Award.....Dennis Marston
- Young Farmer Award.....*Sponsored by Frontier Farm Credit*
- Buffer Award.....Darren Haney
- No-Till Farmer Award.....Francis Anderson
- Windbreak Award.....Raymond Bielefeld
- Friend of Conservation Award.....Randy Barten

## ELECTION RESULTS

- Election Results & Adjournment.....Dennis Marston

**DOOR PRIZES** .....Dennis Marston and Darren Haney

**ENTERTAINMENT** .....Abilene High School Jazz Band

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Funding for some Dickinson County Conservation programs provided by the Division of Conservation, Kansas Department of Agriculture through appropriation from the Kansas Water Plan Fund

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# USDA SERVICE CENTER

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Our current Board of Supervisors have a combined total of more than 30 years of service.

- Dennis Marston – Elected February 2000 – 17 years 9 months
- Francis Anderson – Elected February 2012 – 5 years 9 months
- Darren Haney – Elected February 2013 – 4 years 10 months
- Raymond Bielefeld – Elected February 2014 – 3 years 10 months
- Dennis Chartier – Elected February 2011 – 10 months

## EMPLOYEES

District Manager – Cindy Dooley

Drill Manager – Brian Lang

## DICKINSON COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT PARTNERS

### Natural Resources Conservation Service

- Kenny Howell, Supervisory District Conservationist
- Danny Carroll, Soil Conservation Technician

### Farm Services Agency

- Braden Stueve, County Executive Director:
- Ellen Alvarez, Program Technician
- Tonya Askew, Program Technician
- Sandy Johnson, Program Technician
- Deb Marston, Program Technician
- Michele Snowball, Program Technician

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# ABOUT US

## HISTORY OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Conservation Districts evolved as a result of the Soil Conservation Act of 1935. In 1937, President Roosevelt sent a model act forming soil conservation districts to each state governor. According to President Roosevelt's model, each district would be governed by a locally elected board of supervisors, would be organized along county boundaries, and would have autonomy to carry out programs for soil conservation, flood prevention, water management, recreation, and other purposes. All states enacted legislation that followed this model.

## DICKINSON COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT HISTORY

Established in 1945, the Dickinson County Conservation District is one of 105 conservation districts now serving Kansas farmers, organized along county boundaries. Now entering our 74<sup>th</sup> year of service, the Dickinson County Conservation District is a governmental subdivision of the state of Kansas, organized under provisions of the Conservations District Law, K.S.A. 2-1901 et seq. We are governed by five locally elected supervisors. Our purpose is to develop and implement programs to protect and conserve soil, water, farmland, grazing land, woodland, wildlife, riparian areas, and wetlands. We work in partnership with other agencies and organizations to coordinate technical, financial, and educational resources to promote conservation practices and technologies to assist people with properly managing natural resources. Our funding comes from county and state allocations and funds generated by providing conservation goods and services.

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# NRCS PROGRAMS

**Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP)** - EQIP is a voluntary conservation program that helps agricultural producers in a manner that promotes agricultural production and environmental quality as compatible goals. Through EQIP, agricultural producers receive financial and technical assistance to implement structural and management conservation practices that optimize environmental benefits on working agricultural land.

**Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)** - CSP is for working lands. It is the largest conservation program in the United States with 70 million acres of productive agricultural and forest land enrolled in CSP. Thousands of people that have made the choice to voluntarily enroll in the program because it helps them enhance natural resources and improve their business operation.

**Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP)** - ACEP provides financial and technical assistance to help conserve agricultural lands and wetlands and their related benefits. Under the Agricultural Land Easements component, NRCS helps private land owners, Indian tribes, and non-governmental organizations protect working agricultural lands and limit non-agricultural uses of the land. Under the Wetlands Reserve Easements component, NRCS helps to restore, protect and enhance enrolled wetlands.

**Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)** - RCPP promotes coordination between NRCS and its partners to deliver conservation assistance to producers and landowners. NRCS provides assistance to producers through partnership agreements and through program contracts or easement agreements.

All programs can be applied for at any time but there are periodic cut-off dates when all signed applications are processed and considered for available funding. Resource concerns could be for Grazing Lands, Livestock Waste, Forests, Soil Health, Water Quality, Water Quantity, and Wildlife Habitat. So if you have a concern for a resource on your land contact the office for free technical assistance and to see if there is state or federal cost share money to protect our natural resources for everyone in your watershed.

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# MINUTES

## MINUTES OF THE DICKINSON COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT 72<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL MEETING FEBRUARY 9, 2017

Dennis Marston, Conservation District Board of Supervisors Chairman opened the meeting, welcomed guests, and introduced the Board of Supervisors, members of NRCS, FSA, Conservation District employees, Dickinson County Commissioners, and other special guests. Dennis extended thanks from the Conservation District to Ricky's Café of Hanover and Marcon Pies of Washington for preparing and serving the meal. Dennis also extended thanks to the Dickinson County Banks for sponsoring the meal.

Matt Gustin, Board of Supervisors member, gave the invocation.

The meeting was called to order by Dennis Marston, District Chairman at 7:30 p.m.

Board of Supervisors Chairman, Dennis Marston, introduced Braden Stueve, FSA County Executive Director, who provided an update of FSA operations and programs.

Dennis Marston presented the minutes of the 2015 Annual Meeting and the 2016 Financial Statement. There were no questions, additions or corrections. The minutes were accepted and the treasurer's report was filed for audit.

Dennis Marston, Board of Supervisors Chairman, reviewed the supervisor qualifications and voter eligibility. He announced that the term of Matt Gustin was expiring. Matt announced that he would not run for re-election. Dennis asked for nominations from the floor three (3) times. Matt Gustin nominated Dennis Chartier. Raymond Bielefeld made a motion for nominations to cease. Matt Gustin seconded the motion; motion was carried. Everyone that registered was instructed to vote for one supervisor.

Darren Haney, District Vice Chairman, presented the poster contest winners with tee shirts and honorable mention certificates. A PowerPoint presentation displayed all poster contest winners and Banker's Tour winners.

Brian and Carrie Shippy received the Kansas Bankers Soil Conservation Award, which was presented by Key Banker, Drew Snitker of Astra Bank. Brian and Carrie received a framed certificate and a metal sign.

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# MINUTES

## MINUTES OF THE DICKINSON COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT 72<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL MEETING FEBRUARY 9, 2017

Bob and Janet Meyer received the Grassland Award, which was presented by Board Member, Matt Gustin. Bob and Janet received a framed certificate and a metal sign.

Phil Hoffman received the Young Farmer Award, which was sponsored by Frontier Farm Credit and presented by Matt Gustin. Phil was not present to accept the award but he will receive a check in the amount of \$100.00 from Frontier Farm Credit along with a framed certificate and a metal sign.

Dennis and Mary Avery received the Buffer Award, which was presented by Darren Haney, District Vice-Chairman. Dennis and Mary received a framed certificate and a metal sign.

Steve and Jill Lang received the No-Till Farmer Award, which was presented by Francis Anderson, Board Member. Steve and Jill received a framed certificate and a metal sign.

Joe and Anita Miller received the Windbreak Award, which was presented by Raymond Bielefeld, District Treasurer. Joe and Anita received a framed certificate and with a metal sign.

District Chairman, Dennis Marston, announced that Dennis Chartier had been elected to three (3) year terms as District Supervisor.

District Chairman, Dennis Marston drew and announced ticket numbers for door prizes, while Board Member, Matt Gustin, passed out prizes to the winners. Door prizes were donated Sharp Brothers Seed.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion was carried and the 2016 Annual Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Musical entertainment was provided by Jim Carroll and Randy Rogers

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# FINANCIAL REPORT

## ENTERPRISE ACCOUNT

<b>Opening Balance</b>	<b>\$8,833.48</b>
<b>Income</b>	
Marking Flag Sales	\$808.64
Truax Drill Rental	\$2,454.20
Great Plains No Till Drill Rental	\$4,890.10
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$8,152.94</b>
<b>Cost of Goods</b>	
Rain Gauges	\$349.00
Marking Flags	\$759.88
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,108.88</b>

## ENTERPRISE ACCOUNT

<b>Expense</b>	
Salaries and Wages	\$1,551.69
Travel	\$664.19
Annual Meeting	\$267.00
Insurances	\$400.00
Truax Drill Repairs	\$46.03
Great Plains Drill Repairs	\$796.59
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,725.50</b>
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$12,152.04</b>

## OTHER ACCOUNTS

<b>Petty Cash</b>	\$40.12
<b>Certificate of Deposit</b>	
CD Opening Balance	\$22,457.32
CD Interest Earned	\$28.13
CD Additional Deposits	\$2,500.00
<b>CD Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$24,985.45</b>

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# FINANCIAL REPORT

## OPERATIONS ACCOUNT

<b>Opening Balance</b>	<b>\$50,991.36</b>
<b>Income</b>	
Interest	\$35.75
Quarterly Newsletter Sponsorship	\$1,800.00
Appropriations - State	\$20,739.04
Appropriations - County	\$30,000.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$52,574.79</b>
<b>Expense</b>	
Salaries and Wages	\$36,913.35
Employee Benefits	\$3,133.27
Travel	\$836.53
Sponsorships	\$1,116.95
Fair Booth	\$120.00
Scholarships	\$2,000.00
Information & Education	\$223.87
Computer and Software	\$542.44
Postage and Delivery	\$425.89
Accounting	\$1,700.00
Subscriptions	\$99.00
Supplies	\$141.39
Telephone	\$298.75
Annual Meeting	\$2,125.77
Taxes	\$2,383.11
Dues and Fees	\$823.22
Insurance	\$1,090.00
Board Meetings	\$790.92
Miscellaneous	\$49.05
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$54,813.51</b>
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$48,752.64</b>

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# Cost-Share Program

The Dickinson County Conservation District administers cost-share funding for the Kansas Department of Agriculture Division of Conservation (DOC). The DOC provides funds on a cost-sharing basis to assist landowners in the installation and implementation of soil and water conservation and pollution control practices. These practices are in the public interest and contribute to the protection and enhancement of water resources. Cost-share funding is not used to support Conservation District activities. **All cost-share funding goes directly to landowners.**

## Division of Conservation Cost-Share Allocations

	WRCSF	NPSPCF
	DOC Allocation	DOC Allocation
2004	\$26,796	\$38,321
2005	\$29,524	\$26,082
2006	\$29,467	\$2,689
2007	\$37,146	\$33,933
2008	\$29,014	\$29,343
2009	\$29,416	\$23,758
2010	\$24,559	\$19,572
2011	\$18,167	\$29,322
2012	\$18,009	\$29,036
2013	\$26,998	\$29,000
2014	\$21,527	\$24,579
2015	\$15,812	\$20,870
2016	\$17,270	\$17,334
2017	\$16,948	\$15,502
2018	\$13,521	\$11,610

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# Cost-Share Program

## Water Resources Cost-Share Program (WRCSP)

The WRCSP provides financial incentives to landowners for the establishment of conservation practices that reduce soil erosion, improve or protect water quality, and reduce the consumptive use of water supplies.

In Fiscal Year 2017, from July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017, Dickinson County Conservation District received a cost-share funding allocation of \$16,281.53 and paid contracts in the amount of \$15,072.54. A contract with a cost-share funding allocation of \$1,208.99 was encumbered and will be paid in 2018.

- Gradient Terrace – 4 complete – 12,229 linear feet
- Grassed Waterway – 4 complete – 8.68 acres

**Estimate 113 tons of soil saved by implementing these conservation practices.**

In Fiscal Year 2018, from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018, Dickinson County Conservation District received a cost-share funding allocation of \$13,521 and paid contracts in the amount of \$2,301.25. \$11,219.75 are allocated and remain to be paid by May 1, 2018.

- Grassed Waterway – 1 complete – 2.09 acres
- Gradient Terrace – 4 approved – 11,350 linear feet
- Grassed Waterway – 2 approved – 3.7 acres

## Did You Know?

In 2015, cost-share funds provided by the Kansas Department of Agriculture's Division of Conservation and implemented by Kansas Conservation Districts protected 27,298 acres of cropland and saved over 133,200 tons of soil.



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# Cost-Share Program

## Non-Point Source Pollution Control Program (NPSPCP)

The NPSPCP fund evolved from the Kansas Water Plan, adopted and approved by the 1985 Legislature. The Non-Point Source Pollution Control Program is a comprehensive, voluntary program that provides technical and financial assistance for restoring and protecting surface and groundwater quality through the installation of pollution control measures and structures and through information and educational assistance.

The Conservation District works closely with Dickinson County Environmental Services to ensure compliance for all onsite wastewater systems.

In Fiscal Year 2017, from July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017, Dickinson County Conservation District received a NPSPCP cost-share funding allocation of \$15,300 and paid contracts in the amount of \$15,300.

- Onsite Wastewater Systems – 10
- Well Decommissioning - 1

In Fiscal Year 2018, from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018, Dickinson County Conservation District received a cost-share funding allocation of \$11,610 and paid contracts in the amount of \$6,810. \$4,800 are allocated and remain to be paid by May 1, 2018.

- Onsite Wastewater System – 5 complete
- Onsite Wastewater System – 3 approved
- Well Decommissioning – 1 approved

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# 2017 PROGRESS REPORT

## NRCS/FSA

Brush Management	650 acres
General CRP Contracts Accepted	0
Continuous CRP Practices Approved	52
CRP Waterway Contracts	116
SAFE (Upland Game Bird Habitat) Contracts	24
Pollinator Contracts	5
Quail Borders Contracts	38
Filter Strip Contracts	129
Total CRP Contracts	857
Conservation Crop Rotation	4670 acres
EQIP Contracts Approved	10
CSP Contracts Approved	1
Critical Area Planting	23
Prescribed Burning	685 acres
Prescribed Grazing	1967 acres
Residue and Tillage Management	2200 acres
Terraces	63,742 feet
Water Well	4
Watering Facility	3
Grassed Waterways	33 acres
Livestock Pipeline	755 feet
Pumping Plant	5
Fence	20,000 feet
Forage and Biomass Planting	74
Ponds	3
Planned Acres	7,500
Applied Acres	14,600

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# 2017 DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS

- Hosted Annual Meeting and dinner with election and business reports with more than 175 landowners in attendance
- Presented awards for outstanding conservation efforts to six area landowners
- Presented awards to area students for participation in annual Poster, Limerick, and Essay Contest.
- Submitted articles and informational stories to the Abilene Reflector-Chronicle for 11 monthly Conservation Editions, along with 1 Annual Meeting supplement
- Provided two \$1,000 scholarships to Dickinson County students
- Produced and distributed the quarterly "Conservation Connections" newsletter to area landowners and businesses four times during the year
- Participated in the Spring SCC meeting in Manhattan, Kansas
- Participated in WRAPS/SLT meetings throughout the year
- Participated in the annual Save A Drop Water Festival hosted by WRAPS and Dickinson County Environmental Service
- Sponsored the Save A Drop Water Festival
- Sponsored the Chapman High School Envirothon team
- Sponsored the local chapter of Pheasants Forever
- Sponsored the Milford ECO-Meet
- Attended County Commissioner meeting for annual budget review
- Hosted Local Work Group Meeting
- Participated in Fall KACD Meeting
- Presented activity on habitat destruction at 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Ag Day

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## Why is Conservation Important?

Protect productive farmland   Protect water supplies  
Protect infrastructure   Foster environmental stewardship   Preserve quality of life and economic growth  
Protect water quality

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# 2017 DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS

- Conducted Banker's Tour to review nominee's for 2017 Conservation Awards
- Participated in KACD Annual meeting in Wichita, Kansas
- Upgraded Conservation District equipment to reduce ongoing expenses and create process efficiencies
- Participated in required annual audit
- Hosted annual Poster, Limerick, and Essay Contest in conjunction with Kansas Association of Conservation Districts (KACD) and the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD)



## Did You Know?

District Supervisors are elected public officials who serve without pay. In Kansas, there are 525 Conservation District Supervisors who donate over 50,000 hours per year establishing local priorities, setting policy, and administering programs to conserve natural resources and protect water quality.

Because Conservation Districts are citizen directed organizations, they are practical partners to coordinate local, state, and federal initiatives to protect natural resources.

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**The Dickinson County Conservation District would like to thank the Dickinson County Banks for their gracious sponsorship of tonight's meal.**

Astra Bank of Abilene and Chapman  
Central National Bank of Herington  
Citizens State Bank & Trust of Woodbine  
Dickinson County Bank of Enterprise  
First Bank Kansas of Abilene  
First National Bank of Hope  
First Nation Bank & Trust of Herington  
Pinnacle Bank of Abilene  
Solomon State Bank of Abilene and Solomon  
UMB National Bank of Abilene

**A big thanks to Ricky's Café of Hanover, Kansas and Marcon Pies of Washington, Kansas for the wonderful meal!**

**Thanks go to Janet Meyer for her assistance every year at our Annual Meeting and her dedication to conservation in Dickinson County!**

**Thank you to area businesses and contractors for their continued support throughout the year!**

**Thank you to the Abilene Reflector-Chronicle for distributing the monthly Conservation Edition and for their awesome work in creating the annual Conservation Special Edition every February!**

# Thank You!

**We would like to thank Aaron Tompkins and the Abilene High School Jazz Band for providing this evening's entertainment!**

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# AWARDS

## POSTER & LIMERICK CONTEST

Every year, in cooperation with the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) and Kansas Association of Conservation Districts (KACD), the Dickinson County Conservation District holds an Essay, Speech, Limerick and Poster Contest, open to all students in Dickinson County. More than 250 students, grades K through 10, participated in the 2016 contest. First place winner in each grade category is automatically entered into the state contest.

### K-1 Poster

1<sup>st</sup> Place.....Blake Murphy

2<sup>nd</sup> Place.....Lucy Barten

3<sup>rd</sup> Place.....Hayden Potts

4<sup>th</sup> Place.....Janice Heinecke

### 2-3 Poster

1<sup>st</sup> Place.....Rebekah Olson

2<sup>nd</sup> Place....Brinley Zook

3<sup>rd</sup> Place.....Benson Smiley

4<sup>th</sup> Place.....Blayke Mintner

### Limerick

1<sup>st</sup> Place.....Cali Acker

2<sup>nd</sup> Place.....Tanner Harwood

3<sup>rd</sup> Place.....Aubree Cooper

### 4-6 Poster

1<sup>st</sup> Place.....Haylie Olson

2<sup>nd</sup> Place.....Layton Randle

3<sup>rd</sup> Place.....Levi Evans

4<sup>th</sup> Place.....Madison Simarson

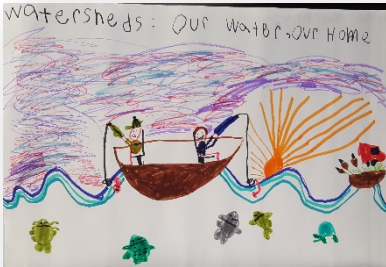


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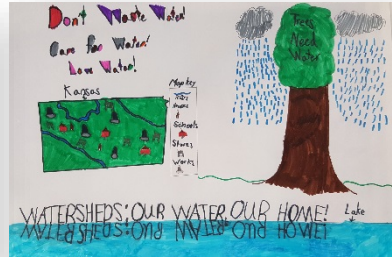
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# AWARDS

## POSTER AND LIMERICK CONTEST WINNERS



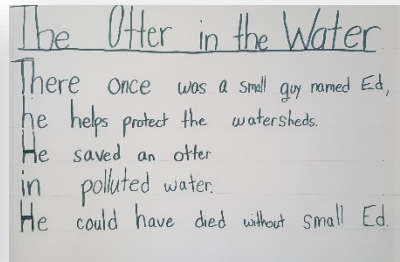
1<sup>st</sup> Place K-1<sup>st</sup> Grade  
Blake Murphy



1<sup>st</sup> Place 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> Grade  
Rebekah Olson



1<sup>st</sup> Place 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Haylie Olson



1<sup>st</sup> Place Limerick  
Cali Acker

The Dickinson County Conservation District would like to thank students, teachers, and parents who participated in the annual Poster, Limerick, and Essay contest!

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# AWARDS

## CONSERVATION AWARDS

**Banker's Conservation Award** – *Awarded to a landowner who implements best management practices that will prevent erosion and maintain the fertility and productivity of the land.*

- Kevin & Lorine McKeeman

**Buffer Award** – *Awarded to a landowner who establishes and maintains buffers and filter strips that improve water quality by taking marginal land out of production and planting it to native grasses, forbs, and legumes, resulting in the improvement of wildlife habitat.*

- Larry and Karin Kellogg

**Grassland Award** - *Awarded to a landowner who has established, supported, and managed the grasslands, resulting in conservation of soil, water, and grassland resources.*

- Ray and Merelyn Stites

**No-Till Farming Award** – *Awarded to a landowner who establishes, supports, and implements no-till farming practices, resulting in the reduction of soil erosion and fuel consumption, as well as an increase in soil health and wildlife habitat.*

- Cedar Hill

**Windbreak Award** – *Awarded to a landowner who establishes and manages a windbreak for protection of farm resources.*

- Rex Sandow and Jan Robinson

**Young Farmer Award** – *Awarded to a landowner who shows an understanding the importance of conservation, implements conservation practices both as a joint effort and individually, shows excellence and dedication in operation management, makes great conservation efforts while overcoming challenges, and takes a leadership role in conserving natural resources.*

- Cameron Lang

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# CONNECT WITH US



dkcoconservation



328 NE 14<sup>TH</sup> Street Abilene, KS



dkconservation



(785) 263-2787 extension 332

## CONSERVATION DISTRICT SERVICES

### EQUIPMENT RENTAL AND SALES

The Dickinson County Conservation District provides conservation equipment rental service to area landowners. Contact Cindy Dooley at 785-263-2787 extension 332 to schedule your rental.

#### Great Plains No Till Drill

Delivered: \$50 Delivery Fee +  
\$15/Acre

First 1/2 Acre Free

Customer Pickup: \$15/Acre  
\$80 Minimum

#### Truax Grass Seed Drill

Delivered: \$40 Delivery Fee +  
\$11/Acre

First 1 Acre Free

Customer Pickup: \$11/Acre  
\$40 Minimum

#### Drip Torch

\$100 Deposit

\$5/Day 1st 3 Days

\$25/Day After 3 Days

#### CoCoRaHS Rain Gauge—\$32

#### 30" Wire Stem Marking Flags—

#### Fluorescent Pink

100 for \$10.00 or 1000 for \$100.00  
(\$10 minimum)

### NOTARY PUBLIC SERVICE AVAILABLE

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