



Collaborate | Educate | Implement

This is a quarterly newsletter from Kansas Association of Conservation Districts.

Encourage others to [sign up!](#)

## Healing the Soil



If you have ever wondered about the importance of regenerative agriculture, this video from the Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska puts a spotlight on the wonderful contributions made on the reservation. It provides valuable lessons for anyone involved in or wanting to learn about regenerative agriculture.

The Iowa Tribe is taking steps to adapt to climate impacts and also building resilience into the health of tribal lands, community, and economy.

[Subscribe to the KACD YouTube Channel](#)

## NRCS Employee Spotlight



We are excited to put this quarter's spotlight on one of our own, who was recognized nationally by NRCS of the Future for her many contributions in the following article!

### Lisa Wainwright

#### A Personal Mission to Reduce Redundancy Inspires Innovation

Lisa Wainwright has devoted her NRCS career to helping farmers and her colleagues. For 10 years, Lisa worked as a soil conservation technician in eight counties across Kansas before settling in Wabaunsee County, in 2021 as a district conservationist.

Eastern Kansas is where Lisa grew up and where her love for the land and animals began. Her lifelong passion for horses and other livestock led her to Kansas State University, where she earned a degree in animal science. And Lisa hasn't stopped learning and striving to meet her career aspirations.

"Seven years into my career with NRCS, I went back to school to get a few more hours of credit to be eligible to move up in the agency," says Lisa. "I am not sure where I want to go, but I am growing by taking details and participating in leadership programs and projects that expose me to so many more aspects of the agency."

One challenge Lisa consistently found during her career explorations was a lack of institutional knowledge sharing.

"There are so many people that look to other states as resources for information or tools that their own state does not yet utilize," says Lisa. "There wasn't a place to share that knowledge."

[Continue Reading Lisa's Spotlight](#)

## Annual Convention Nov. 19th-21st

### Keynote Speaker: Nate Hylla

Nate Hylla has been actively involved in conservation for the past 20 years. He is currently the CEO of Kanati Land Management in Avon, MN.

Over his career, Nate has experience in Land Surveying and Engineering, Conservation Education, Real Estate, Conservation Management & Oversight, Conservation Project Implementation, and Easement and Conservation Program Delivery.



Read more about Nate in the [Annual Convention News Article](#).

[Register for Convention](#)

### New in 2023 - Continuing Education Credit

Get continuing education credit for certified crop advisors by attending the symposium.

[Symposium Registration](#)

## Annual Convention Nominations Due

**Reminder:** If you have a nominee for any of the awards below, please make sure to get your nominations in by **October 6th!**

-Outstanding Supervisor Award  
-Pat Lehman Legacy Award  
-Don Rezac Memorial Award

-Kansas Grasslands Merit Award  
-Pollinator Conservation Award

[Enter Your Nomination](#)

## Conservation Districts Can Help!

Here are some of the top things you didn't know a conservation district can help with:

-Septic Tank Upgrades  
-Water Well Plugging  
-Brush Management  
-Pollinator Habitat  
-Classroom Education (use of educational tools)



[Get Help](#)

### Conservation Districts: Did you know?

Conservation Districts provide information and education to landowners, schools, and the general public about soil and water conservation issues. Some Districts offer conservation-related items for sale, such as grass seed and trees.

Check with your local conservation district about available seeds for purchase.

## Summer Field Days

Many of the conservation districts have been busy hosting field days this past spring and summer.

One of many events was the Ottawa-Clay-Dickinson County Conservation Districts where they captured some great videos of their event with special guests and top-notch speakers Candy Thomas and Jay Fuhrer.

[Read more about this event and the link to the YouTube videos.](#)



Another summer field day highlight is this interview with John Dryden, Pawnee Co Conservation District Board Member. View the full video to learn about the benefits of cover crops and how they helped reduce pigweed.

**Get involved with your local conservation district to attend educational events and camaraderie with our farmers and ranchers!**

## Soil Health U

### Who Should Attend?

This event reflects land as a resource that, when treated with care, can continue to provide for farmers and ranchers even when times are tough. With Soil Health U, attendees will learn how to unleash the power of healthy soil. Past attendees include:

-Farmers and ranchers of all acreages  
-Agriculture professionals  
-Agronomists  
-Landowners  
-Students

**Tony's Pizza  
Event Center  
Salina, KS  
January 17-18, 2024**

[Learn more about Soil Health U](#)

[Schedule](#)

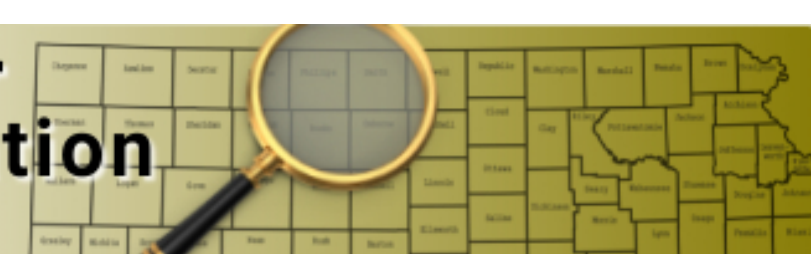
## Volunteer to be an Earth Team Member

Since 1965, Earth Team volunteers have provided a valued source of talent to NRCS. These dedicated volunteers work with conservation professionals on private lands to improve soil quality, conserve water, improve air quality and enhance wildlife habitat.

Informational links to learn more about Earth Team:  
[-Getting Involved](#)  
[-Volunteers](#)

**Interested in volunteering?  
Visit your  
local conservation district today!**

### Find Your Conservation District



## No-till On The Plains Winter Conference



To learn more about No-till on the Plains visit [notill.org](#)

Look for registration to open November 13th, 2023, for the 28th No-till on the Plains Winter Conference.

The conference is January 22-24, 2024, at the Wichita Marriott, on 9100 Corporate Hills Drive, Wichita, KS.

Registration will be accessible on [the No-till on the Plains site](#) starting November 13th.

## Farmer-to-Farmer Meetings

All local farmers, ranchers, and producers are encouraged to attend these regular Farmer-to-Farmer meetings focused on the conservation and preservation of our state's natural resources. Learn more about these events in [KACD News](#).

### Farmer-to-Farmer Discussion

Collaborate & Discuss with Others!



## UPCOMING EVENTS

>> **Sept. 19th-21st: [Soil Health Academy: Adaptive Grazing](#)**

>> **Sept. 21st: [TLA Blender Ranch Tour](#)**

>> **Sept. 21st-22nd: [Fuller Field School-Tomorrow's Hope Starts Today: Planting the Seed](#)**

>> **Oct. 3rd-5th: [Soil Health/Sheep School](#)**

>> **Oct. 10th: [Feikert Farms Field Day](#)**

>> **Oct. 18th: [Women In Ag 2023](#)**

>> **Oct. 21st: [Garden Soil Health Workshop](#)**

>> **Nov. 10th-11th: [Kansas Rural Center Food & Farm Conference: Urgency & Resilience: Cultivate a Thriving Future](#)**

>> **Nov. 19th-21st: [2023 Kansas Association of Conservation Districts Convention: Quality Water, Quality Life](#)**

>> **Nov. 29th-30th: [4th Annual Southeast Kansas Soil Health Conference](#)**

Kansas Soil Health Alliance provides a list of many of the [soil health events](#). If you are hosting a soil health event, please submit it to Jennifer at Kansas Soil Health Alliance!

### Connect With Us!

Follow along with us on our Facebook, Instagram, Youtube, and website for information about upcoming events, program details, available resources, news and more!



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*"Providing local leadership to protect and improve Kansas Natural Resources through collaboration, education and implementation"*

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