

# Sherman County district annual report

This is the Annual Report of the Sherman County Conservation District for the Calendar year of 2009.

The 2009 Annual Meeting was held February 9, 2009 at the VFW in Goodland. Mr. and Mrs. Larry Enfield received the Banker's Award and Mr. and Mrs. Stan Kenny were recipients of the Windbreak Award. Aaron Duell was recipient of the Good Citizenship Award.

One hundred thirty cooperators enjoyed the meal furnished by the District and local banks. Dean Graber introduced the High School Barbershop Quartet who provided the entertainment for the evening. Lonnie Whiteker and Dean Graber were re-elected to the board by secret ballot.

Thirty-six plaques were presented at the 2009 Annual Meeting for the Poster, Limerick, Essay and Computer Technology Contest. Sandy Rodgers, District Manager presented conservation programs prior to the contest.

The Goodland Star-News published the Annual Soil Conservation Edition. KLOE/KKCI/KWGB radio continues to support conservation throughout the year.

Sherman County Farmers continue to support conservation in Sherman County. All Compliance plans are on schedule. Approximately 396 CRP contracts are in place for approximately 45118.1 acres. The State Water Resources Cost Share funded jobs for 2009 included tanks,



Sherman County Conservation District Board members (front left to right) Lynn Ihrig, Bill Selby, District Manager Sandy Rodgers, Treasurer Dean Graber (back row) Scott Jarrett, Chairman Lonnie Whiteker and Vice Chairman Dennis Shank.

livestock wells, pipelines and septic systems that were failing. There are twenty six active EQIP contracts, one Wetland Reserve Program contract, one Conservation Security Program contract and four Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program contracts in Sherman County.

The Sherman County Conservation District continues a strong education and information program. Representation and information was presented at the Ag Expo in Goodland in February. A fair booth was displayed in August. Sandy Rodgers, District Manager worked with 5th and 6th graders on the Poster, Limerick, Essay and Computer Technology Contest. The 3rd through 4th Grades also participated in the Poster and Limerick Contest. Sandy gave programs in the classroom. In April the local 4th graders along with 4th graders from area counties met in Colby and attended the 3rd annual "Conservation Kids

Roundup" sponsored by the Northwest Kansas Conservation and Environmental Alliance. The Sherman County Conservation District Board supported the first "Women in Denim" Conference held at the Kuhrt Ranch in October. The District Board awarded BreAnna Nemecek, Devin Mangus, Adam Duell and Clay Schilling graduating seniors in Sherman County scholarships to attend the colleges of their choice.

The District offers grass seed, flags, trees, rabbit netting, and weed barrier for sale as a service to area cooperators, as well as, providing additional funding for the District Programs.

Sherman County Conservation District paid dues to the National Association of Conservation Districts, the Kansas Association of Conservation Districts, the KACD Auxiliary,

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Congratulations to all of the Sherman County Conservation winners!!

## A Salute to Area Farmers



*It starts with pride. Pride in himself and the way he farms. The American farmer knows he can expect a season full of long hours and hard work. But he's up to the challenge. In fact, he wouldn't have it any other way. A good farmer is a good neighbor, too. Involved in his community and committed to the land. He's a family man. Passing knowledge on to his children so they'll be ready when it's their turn to farm. A good farmer runs a tight operation. But his eyes*

*are always open; looking for new ideas and tools that can make his business a little more efficient; a little more productive. He listens hard when other people talk farming. But mainly, he takes a long look at his own program and decides things for himself. Throwing out what didn't work and sticking with the things that did. Upgrading his system until his goals are reached and then upgrading some more. He's hard to please, but he's fair. A good farmer, in short, is one of America's greatest natural resources.*

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