

Garland County Conservation District

600 Main St Suite Q

Hot Springs, AR 71913

Phone (501) 545-4016

NEWSLETTER

Directors: Tommy Sorrells Melvin Daniel Doug Meredith Judy Castleberry David Parker

District Manager: Hesper Hortman *District Conservationist:* Derrek Nokes *MLRA Team Leader:* Larry Gray

Quail Forever Biologist: Kelly Bufkin *Soil Scientist:* Elizabeth Gray *Technician:* Terry Hunter

Issue 3

April, May, June 2019

POLLINATORS ARE IN TROUBLE



Three-fourths of the world's flowering plants and about 35 percent of the world's food crops depend on animal pollinators to reproduce. Some scientists estimate that one out of every three bites of food we eat exists because of animal pollinators like bees, butterflies and moths, birds and bats, and beetles and other insects.

These animal pollinators face many challenge in the modern world. Habitat loss, disease, parasites and environmental contaminants have all contributed to the decline of many species of pollinators.



YOU CAN HELP!

Use pollinator-friendly plants in your landscape. Shrubs and trees such as dogwood, cherry, willow and poplar provide pollen or nectar early in spring when food is scarce.

Choose a mixture of plants for spring, summer, and fall. Different flower colors, shapes, and scents will attract a wide variety of pollinators. If you have limited space, you can plant flowers in containers on a patio, balcony, and even window boxes.

Reduce or eliminate pesticide use in your landscape or incorporate plants that attract beneficial insects for pest control. If you use pesticides, use them sparingly and responsibly.

Accept some plant damage on plants meant to provide habitat for butterfly and moth larvae.

Provide clean water for pollinators with a shallow dish, bowl, or birdbath with half-submerged stones for perches.

Leave dead tree trunks, also called "snags," in your landscape for wood-nesting bees and beetles.

Support land conservation in your community by helping to create and maintain community gardens and green spaces to ensure that pollinators have appropriate habitat.



Earth Day is celebrated worldwide on April 22. The first Earth day was in 1970, when over 20 million Americans participated by actively demonstrating their love for planet earth. The Earth Day movement spawned the creation of the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, the Environmental Education Act and the Environmental Protection Agency. In 1990 the first international Earth Day was celebrated, with 200 million participants in more than 140 countries.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Reduce, Reuse, Recycle
- Plant a tree
- Use CFL or LED lightbulbs
- Go for a hike, picking up litter along the way
- Make every day Earth Day

We do not inherit the Earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children.

NATIVE AMERICAN PROVERB

The GCCD recently presented Gene Parker with the honor of Director Emeritus. Mr. Parker served on the GCCD board for over 30 years, many of those as board chairman. He has been a true servant to our community, county, state and country!



Pictured: Melvin Daniel, Judy Castleberry, David Parker, Tommy Sorrells, Doug Meredith, Hesper Hortman, Gene Parker (seated)

CONGRATULATIONS!



Jim Pafford of Hot Springs was recently selected as both 1st place Adult Division and Overall Grand Prize Winner, at the annual Arkansas Association of Conservation Districts

The Garland County Conservation District is pleased to announce our scholarship offering for the 2019-2020 school-year. A \$500 scholarship will be offered to students majoring in the field of agriculture, conservation, environmental science, natural resources or a related discipline.

Contact our office at 501-545-4016 or email

hesper.hortman@ar.nacdn.net for more information or to request an application. *Application deadline is June 1, 2019*



Equipment for Rent

Visit the office, call 501-545-4016 or email Hesper.Hortman@ar.nacdn.net

NO-TILL SEED DRILL

7-foot with Hydraulic Remote Outlets
Minimum Tractor Size: 55 HP
\$7 per Acre
\$50 Minimum

PASTURE SPRAYER

300-Gallon
\$25 per Day

LOG SPLITTER

35 Ton, Vertical or Horizontal Slitting
\$50 First Day
\$25 Each Additional Day

TOOLS FOR ELECTRIC FENCING

First 3 Days Included
\$5 Each Additional Day



The annual Locally Led Workgroup Meeting was held at the GCCD office March 20th. NRCS worked along with Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, Arkansas Forestry Commission, Quail Forever and the Garland County Extension Office to identify local natural resource concerns. Soil erosion, inadequate wildlife habitat and water quality degradation were among the concerns addressed.

Tackle Loaner Program

Itchin' to go Fishin'?

This location is a proud participant in the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission's Tackle Loaner Program.

Check out one of our rod-and-reel combos and get your hook wet.



8th Annual Hot Springs Fishing Challenge

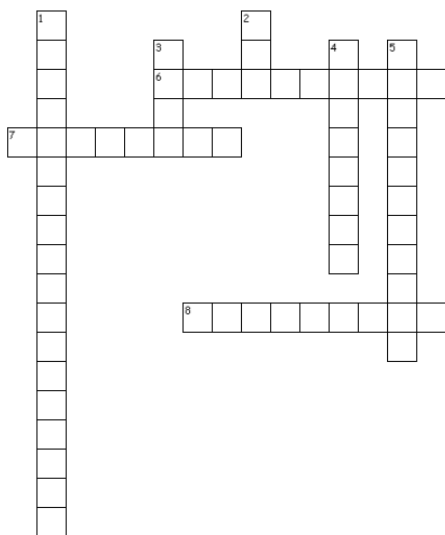
May 1-July 31, 2019

Spring is prime time for fishing in Garland county lakes and the kickoff of the 8th Annual Hot Springs Fishing Challenge is just in time. Seventy-one fish will be tagged and released into the lakes by Visit Hot Springs' partner, the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission's Andrew Hulsey Fish Hatchery. Beginning at 6 a.m. May 1 and running through 5 p.m. on July 31, anyone who catches one of the tagged fish stands to win a prize.

Eligibility: The contest is open to anyone with a valid Arkansas fishing license. Employees of the Hot Springs Advertising and Promotion Commission, the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission at the Andrew H. Hulsey Fish Hatchery, and their immediate family members, and/or those living in the same household of each are ineligible to win a cash prize.

How It Works: Seventy-one (71) tagged fish (total) will be released in Lake Hamilton and Lake Catherine. The fish released will be largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish, white bass, crappie, and walleye. The tags will have a phone number and a prize number on them. If a fish is caught the angler must call the number and present the fish with the tag attached. (www.hotspings.org)

Ag Trivia Crossword



- Across
6. grazing practice of moving grazing livestock between pastures as needed or on a regular basis to support soil fertility and forage quality
 7. land consisting of marshes or swamps; saturated land
 8. a conservation practice to prevent erosion on sloped areas
- Down
1. local non profit organization which promote conservation through education and grants
 2. youth organization for middle and high school classes that promote and support agricultural education.
 3. why is soil red
 4. common pine tree planted in timer stands
 5. middle and high school competitions on soil properties and interpretations

1. conservation district 2. FFA 3. Iron 4. loblolly 5. Land Judging 6. rotational 7. wetland 8.

RECIPE

Hummingbird Sugar Water

<p>INGREDIENTS</p> <p>1 CUP SUGAR</p> <p>4 CUPS WATER</p>	<p>INSTRUCTIONS</p> <p>USE WHITE GRANULATED SUGAR ONLY.</p> <p>BOIL UNTIL SUGAR IS DISSOLVED.</p> <p>ALLOW TO COOL AND FILL FEEDER.</p> <p>CHANGE SUGAR WATER EVERY FEW DAYS, AND WASH FEEDERS THOROUGHLY.</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">empressofdirt.net</p>
--	---

SAVE A TREE

By signing up to receive our newsletter electronically you will help to conserve one of our most precious natural resources!! Send your request to be added to the E-newsletter to

Hesper.Hortman@ar.nacdnet.net

Savory Recipe of the Quarter

Savory Recipe of the Quarter

Chicken Tortilla Soup

1 yellow onion chopped
 3 cloves garlic minced
 1 tablespoon olive oil
 2 teaspoons chili powder
 1 teaspoon dried oregano
 1 (10.5 ounce) can condensed chicken broth
 1 1/4 cups water
 1 cup whole corn kernels cooked
 3 cans Rotel diced tomatoes with green chilies
 1 (15 ounce) can black beans, rinsed and drained
 1/4 cup chopped fresh cilantro
 2 boneless chicken breast halves cooked and cut
 into bite-sized pieces

Optional Toppings:
 crushed tortilla chips
 sliced avocado
 shredded cheese
 chopped green onions
 sour cream

In a medium stock pot, heat oil over medium heat. Sauté onion and garlic in oil until soft. Stir in chili powder, oregano, tomatoes, broth, and water. Bring to a boil, and simmer for 5 to 10 minutes.

Stir in corn, beans, cilantro, and chicken. Simmer for 10 minutes.

Ladle soup into individual serving bowls, and top with crushed tortilla chips, avocado slices, cheese, sour cream and chopped green onion.

Sweet Recipe of the Quarter

Sweet Recipe of the Quarter

Easy Raspberry Iced Mousse

From Good Food Magazine

17.5 oz low-fat cream cheese
 1/2 cup icing sugar
 squeeze or two of lemon juice
 1/2 lb frozen raspberries

Tip the cream cheese and sugar into a large bowl, squeeze in a few drops of lemon juice and beat with a wooden spoon until smooth and creamy (you can do this an hour or two ahead).

Gently stir in raspberries until they begin to break up and mixture is streaked pink; taste and add a little more lemon juice if liked.

Spoon into glasses and serve

MONTHLY BOARD MEETINGS

Monthly board meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 9:00 a.m. at the NRCS office at 600 Main St. Suite Q.