

Subject: 11-4-11 eBlast from Utah NRCS



November 4, 2011

## UTAH CONSERVATIONISTS MEET AT UACD ANNUAL MEETING

On Wednesday and Thursday of this week conservationists from across the state gathered in St. George for the 2011 annual meeting of the Utah Association of Conservation Districts (UACD). The meeting theme, "Play to Win—Conserving Natural Resources For Our Future," was introduced by Keynote Speaker Thurl Bailey, who related some of his hard lessons on the road to an NBA

basketball career to our quest for conservation success. Lieutenant Governor Greg Bell reported on a statewide effort to preserve important farmland being developed by the Governor's Taskforce on Agriculture Sustainability, which he co-chairs. And Louisiana Farmer Earl Garber, first vice president of the National Association of Conservation Districts, encouraged local conservation district supervisors to weigh in on the development of a new Farm Bill and become more involved at the grass-roots level.



The coveted Graham Quate Conservation Award was presented to NRCS District Conservationist Jon Hardman (see accompanying photo) and Weber County Extension Agent James Barnhill by Utah Ag Commissioner Leonard Blackham. During the two-day meeting there were good

opportunities to exchange ideas and tour local conservation practices in the St. George area. The accompanying photo (top) shows UACD President Wendell Stembridge (left) visiting with NRCS Area II Conservationists Travis Thomason and District Conservationist Craig McKnight. In the background, NRCS State Conservationist Dave Brown and Area III Conservationist Barry Hamilton visit.

To learn more about Utah's conservation districts, visit the UACD Web site at <http://www.uacd.org/>.

*Periodic news reports from NRCS Utah*



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