

Outreach Meeting Landowners Invited

NRCS will be hosting an Outreach Meeting for Hancock County on June 20, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. at Andy Ladner's farm off of Rocky Hill Dedeaux Road (3200 Road 345, Kiln, MS) . We will be discussing the programs that are available through NRCS as well as looking at some of these practices on the ground (cross fencing, pasture planting, pond, critical area planting, and herbaceous weed control). Hancock County Soil and Water Conservation District, Farm Service Agency (FSA), FSA Loan Department, Mississippi State University Extension, and Alcorn State University Extension will be there to talk about what programs they have available.



Walking across the levy that has now provides the Andy Ladner farm animals with the much needed water resource showcases just how much the assistance provided from the local USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service benefits local landowners.

A perfect example of just how a working farm can gain that extra water resource—that cross fencing and pond management is this farm. Andy and his wife Lisa not only have cattle but also have goats that are being raised.

Plan on joining us for the Outreach Meeting on June 20th to see a real success story.

Directions:

From Hwy 603N turn onto (by blue water tower) Rocky Hill Dedeaux Rd —travel approximately 3.5 miles. Road 345 turns left—continue to site at 3200 Rd 345.

Map on page 7

More information contact:

Hcswcd: 228.255.3225

NRCS 601.795.4409 ext. 3

MSUES: 228.467.5456



Are You Ready for Hurricane Season

**Hancock Residents
can now sign up for
alerts**

June 1st marks the beginning of hurricane season—are you ready?

Katrina taught us that being unprepared is not an option here on the MS. Gulf Coast.

Hancock County Emergency Management Association (HCEMA) is preparing for the upcoming season. Keeping up with the latest technology and information is a year round effort for this team.

Brian T. Adam, Admin. EMA Director is asking residents to register with its Emergency Notification Service Provider, First Call.

For more information see article on page 5

Hancock County –Home to MS. State Auxiliary President and Vice– President



Providing guidelines through education..

Newly elected to the positions of Ms. State Auxiliary President is our own Vee Eastridge. She has served on the board at the local level since it was formed in 1988.

She provides the knowledge and understanding of how to develop and create new and innovative programs to enhance the important role the Auxiliary plays in local and state levels.

Newly elected MS. State Auxiliary Vice President is our life-long resident Betty Jo Seals.

She also has served on the local Auxiliary board since it's beginning. She provides the expertise and knowledge from many years of working at the many functions that both she and Ms. Vee have attended to represent Hancock County.

We are so very proud of these wonderful ladies and will work very closely with them to provide the support for all the many upcoming programs for the state and local events.



Hancock County Commissioners and Staff Attend Annual MACD Meeting



*Seated: Gayle Smotherman, Vee Eastridge, Betty Jo Seals.
Standing from left: Kenneth Seals, Glenn Dore', Norma Dore',
Marty Fulton*

Hancock County was well represented at the 63rd Annual Mississippi Soil & Water Conservation District's meeting in Jackson, MS.

Chairman Kenneth Seals, was joined by Betty Jo Seals, Vee Eastridge, Earth Team Volunteer (ETV) Gayle Smotherman, Admin. District Clerk Norma Dore', E.T.V. Glenn Dore' and NRCS Marty Fulton.

Learning about the valuable programs and projects that enhance the educational and environmental proved to be very interesting and informative.

Hancock County Soil & Water Conservation District Auxiliary provided door prizes and refreshments for the hospitality room from Area 3.

Our crew really enjoy the fellowship and connections made at these meetings and look forward to next year's meeting.

**“Making a Difference
by being involved”**

Hancock County Soil & Water Conservation District's Annual Arbor Day Tree Sale & Arbor Day Programs at all Elementary Schools

Hancock County Soil & Water Conservation District's Annual Arbor Day Tree Sale & Arbor Day Programs at all Elementary Schools was held in February.

Arbor Day celebration of trees was held at the new office location in the Kiln. Several varieties of trees were offered to the public at very reasonable prices. The sale of bare root seedlings provide the funding for the next years trees to be sold.

Joined by the Mississippi Forestry Commission – Hancock County Soil & Water Conservation District planted trees at every elementary school in Hancock County. Students, staff and principals of the schools joined the onsite plantings.

Planting trees at all the schools is enhancing the landscapes of the newest schools that are under construction and completed.

Hancock County Soil & Water Conservation District celebrates 68 years of conservation in Hancock County. Serving the people and watching the conservation programs become great success stories. Arbor Day celebrations are just one of the many projects that our District provides to the people of Hancock County. For more information: 228.255.3225



Kindergartners at Waveland Elementary found tree planting was very interesting. Promising to take care of this special gift and watch it grow they did not mind getting a little soil on their hands to plant the tree.

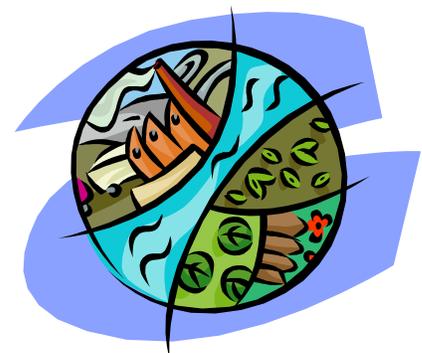
Hancock Tech Judges Science Fair



Hancock County Soil & Water Conservation Technician Kelvin Burge and Harrison County NRCS Dan Longino were invited to judge the local Science Fair in Hancock County.

Students from Hancock North Elementary showcased the wonderful posters and displays about science, environmental issues, social issues and natural resources.

Good job and great students.



*Nothing is impossible—the word it's self says I'm possible—
Audrey Hepburn*

Peanut Brittle

Recipe adapted from Georgia Cooking in an Oklahoma Kitchen by Trisha Yearwood (c) Clarkson Potter 2008

Prep Time:5 min Inactive Prep Time:40 min Cook Time:15 min

Level: Intermediate

Serves: 3 pounds

Ingredients

1 teaspoon vanilla extract
 1 teaspoon baking soda
 1 teaspoon salt
 3/4 cup (1 1/2 sticks) butter
 3 cups sugar
 1 cup light corn syrup
 3 cups shelled raw peanuts

Directions

Measure the vanilla into a small bowl and set aside. Combine the baking soda and salt in another small bowl and set aside. Butter 1 cookie sheet with sides or jelly roll pan liberally with 1/2 stick of the butter. Set aside.

Combine the sugar, corn syrup and 1/2 cup water in a large saucepan. Bring the mixture to a boil, attach a candy thermometer and cook over medium-high heat until the syrup spins a thread when poured from a spoon or reaches 240 degrees F on the thermometer. Stir in the peanuts and continue cooking and stirring until the candy becomes golden brown or reaches 300 degrees F.

Remove from the heat immediately and quickly add the remaining 1 stick butter and the vanilla, baking soda and salt. Stir only until the butter melts, and then quickly pour the brittle onto the cookie sheet, spreading the mixture thinly. When the brittle has complete-

**Hot Crab Dip****INGREDIENTS**

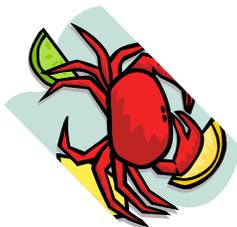
1 (8-ounce) package cream cheese, softened
 1 medium onion, finely chopped
 3 tablespoons dry sherry
 2 tablespoons milk
 2 tablespoons prepared horseradish, drained
 2 tablespoons mayonnaise
 1 1/2 teaspoons TABASCO brand Original Red

Sauce

1/2 teaspoon dry mustard
 1 cup fresh or canned crab meat, picked over
 Salt to taste
 1/4 cup sliced almonds, toasted

PREPARATION

Preheat oven to 375°F. Combine all ingredients except almonds in a medium bowl and mix well. Spoon into a shallow baking dish. Bake 10 to 15 minutes until heated through. Top with toasted almonds and serve with crackers or sour dough bread slices. Makes about 2 cups.

**Chocolate Covered Strawberries****Ingredients**

8 ounces semisweet chocolate, finely chopped
 1 pound large strawberries (about 20), washed and dried well
 1/3 cup finely chopped pistachios (optional)

Directions

Place chocolate in a bowl set over (not in) a saucepan of simmering water. Stir occasionally, until melted, 3 to 5 minutes. Remove from heat.

Line a baking sheet with waxed paper. One at a time, dip each strawberry in chocolate, twirling to coat; then sprinkle chocolate-covered portion with pistachios, if using, and place on waxed paper.

Chill chocolate-dipped strawberries at least 15 minutes to set chocolate. (Strawberries should not be stored in refrigerator longer than 1 hour as condensation drops may collect on the chocolate.)





Residents of Hancock County can now sign up for alerts

The following is a news release from Hancock County Emergency Management Agency:

Hancock County Emergency Management Agency is asking residents to register with its Emergency Notification Service Provider, FirstCall. The FirstCall Emergency Notification Service can immediately deliver emergency alerts to citizens and first responders. It gives Hancock County the ability to provide the community with important, timely information about hurricanes and other high profile events occurring in the area.

This is done using an Emergency Notification Service to landlines, cell phones, SMS text messaging devices and email. Mass numbers of residents can be alerted with important information in five minutes or less.

To ensure you receive these emergency notifications to

your cell phone, email, and/or SMS texting device, residents must sign up for the service. Residents can now register on line at <https://alertregistration.com/hancockcoms/> or feel free to call 228-255-0942.

Brian T. Adam
EMA Director

Hancock County Emergency Management Agency

18335 Hwy 603

Kiln, MS 39556

Office: 228.255.0942

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Caring for the Hummingbird

Hummingbirds are a useful--and fascinating--addition to any wildlife garden, not only for their pollination skills, but also for their amazing wingspan and maneuvering. These tiny miracle birds feed on nectar from flowers, so providing native plants with red, tubular flowers is best.

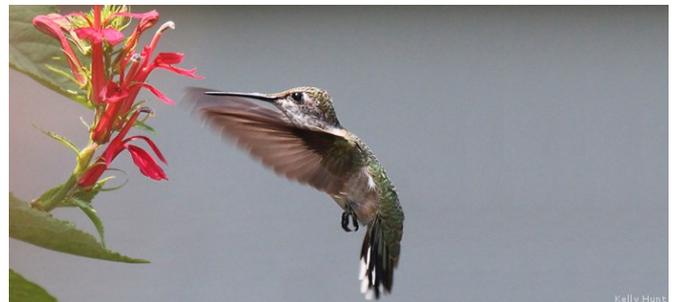
Feeders designed to hold sugar water "nectar" will be used by hummingbirds too. Most models are colored red to mimic their favorite flowers.

How to Mix Your Own Hummingbird Feeder Nectar

1. Dissolve one part white sugar in four parts hot water.
2. Boil the water if you plan to store the nectar in the refrigerator.
3. Never use honey, which ferments easily, or artificial sweeteners, which have no food value for birds. Red food coloring is not recommended as it may be harmful to birds.
4. Let the solution cool to room temperature before putting it in your feeder. You can store homemade

nectar for up to a week in the refrigerator.

Once you fill your feeder, don't forget to empty, rinse and refill your feeder every two to three days (especially in warm weather) to prevent spoiling. This ensures that hummingbirds won't become sick from drinking bad nectar.



Interesting facts:

Hummingbirds can fly backwards

The smallest hummingbird weighs the same as a penny.

Texas has one of the largest populations of hummingbirds to migrate to feed before they make the journey across the Gulf Of Mexico.



Dangers in Hidden Places

Brown recluse spiders are usually between 6–20 mm (1/4 in and 3/4 in), but may grow larger. While typically light to medium

brown, they range in color from cream-colored to dark brown or blackish gray. The cephalothorax and abdomen may not necessarily be the same color. These spiders usually have markings on the dorsal side of their cephalothorax, with a black line coming from it that looks like a violin with the neck of the violin pointing to the rear of the spider, resulting in the nicknames fiddleback spider, brown fiddler, or violin spider.

Habitat: Brown recluse spiders build irregular webs that frequently include a shelter consisting of disorderly thread. They frequently build their webs in woodpiles and sheds, closets, garages, plenum

spaces, cellars, and other places that are dry and generally undisturbed. When dwelling in human residences they seem to favor cardboard, possibly because it mimics the rotting tree bark which they inhabit naturally. They have also been encountered in shoes, inside dressers, in bed sheets of infrequently used beds, in clothes stacked or piled or left lying on the floor, inside work gloves, behind baseboards and pictures, in toilets, and near sources of warmth when ambient temperatures are lower than usual. Human-recluse contact often occurs when such isolated spaces are disturbed and the spider feels threatened. Unlike most web weavers, they leave these lairs at night to hunt. Males move around more when hunting than do females, which tend to remain nearer to their webs.

For more information on these dangerous spiders : MSUCARES.com

Knowing like most of us that are happy to be outside gardening and pulling weeds—the one thing that we all need to consider is that there are hidden dangers in and under those beds you are weeding.

So keep alert when pulling those weeds, look for those snakes, wasps, yellow jackets, hornets nests and for goodness sake –watch out for those fiery biting get all over you in a hurry—Fire Ants..

KNOW the Differences -

Wait—Don't Kill This Helpful Snake— Our Common King Snake



Common King snake—helps control rats, and other venomous snakes. So don't break out the shovel or gun to kill this one.

Beware of the Cotton Mouth Aggressive and Deadly



Known locally as the Water Moccasin— habitat is waterways or marsh area. If bitten –Immediately get medical attention. And remember that baby snakes are as poisonous as the adults.



Sunflower Grain Drill

Planting season coming up fast.. Hancock landowners can take advantage of the new grain drill for better conservation practices.

To lease the grain drill, a lease agreement and refundable equipment deposit must be in the District office prior to use. Rental fee is \$4 per acre based on acre meter reading plus \$10 per day.

No wildlife plots or new ground are allowed

HCSWCD Technician Kelvin Burge will be handling the equipment schedule for use. If you are interested in scheduling this equipment please contact the District office at 228.255.3225 or hcsxcd.kiln.ms@att.net

June 20th, 2013 Outreach Meeting
 Andy & Lisa Ladner Farm
 3200 Rd 345, Kiln, MS
 .5 miles off Rocky Hill Dedeaux, RD

Look for signs

From Picayune - Hwy 43S turn onto Hwy 603N for 3.5 miles turn right onto Rocky Hill Dedeaux Rd. Travel 3.5 miles - Rd 345 on left. Approximately 30 minutes

From Poplarville- Take 53S to Hwy 603S. Turn onto Rocky Hill Dedeaux Rd. 3.5 miles—rd 345 on left. Approximately 30 minutes.

From Bay St. Louis -take Hwy 603 N approximately 15 miles. Turn onto Rocky Hill Dedeaux Rd. Travel 3.5 miles -rd 345 on left.

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NRCS District Conservationist

Marty Fulton- Soil Conservationist

MSWCC Staff: Lance Middleton

The Hancock County Soil & Water Conservation District holds a regular meeting on the first of each month. This meeting is open to the public and is held at the District office. The board meets to administer the programs and projects of soil conservation in Hancock County.

