

June 6, 2008

Dear RC&D Partner:

In an effort to assist the Big Springs RC&D Council in updating this area's long range plan and improve its programs, could you take a small amount of time to answer these questions and mail it to: Big Springs RC&D, P.O. Box 747, Van Buren, MO. 63965. Thank You!

The major program categories are listed below, these are the required elements from the NRCS that must be addressed. Please rate these as far as importance in your county, community or area. Please list the county you are from. _____

A. Land Conservation & Management: Needs and Opportunities, Please rank these from 1 to 11; 1 = highest priority, 11 = lowest priority

1. Bio-Fuels Development _____
2. Protect and Improve Fish and Wildlife Habitats _____
3. Land Use-Unregulated Development _____
4. Forest Management Practices _____
5. Loss of Farmland/Preserve Agriculture _____
6. Invasive Species Control/Management _____
7. Crop & Forest Diseases and Pests _____
8. Energy Conservation _____
9. Pasture Management _____
10. Streambank Erosion Control _____
11. Sedimentation in Lakes & Streams _____

B. Water Conservation and Management: Needs and Opportunities, Please rank these from 1 to 7; 1 = highest priority, 7 = lowest priority

1. Groundwater Protection _____
2. Storm Water Management _____
3. Watershed Planning _____
4. Wetland Protection and Restoration _____
5. Riparian Corridor Protection and Management _____
6. Flood Protection _____
7. Water Conservation _____

C. Community Development: Needs and Opportunities, Please rank these from 1 to 14; 1 = highest priority, 14 = lowest priority

1. Forest Economy _____
2. Development of Resource Based Industries _____
3. Green Space Development, Access to Trails & Rivers, etc _____
4. Recycling/Hazardous Waste Management _____
5. Natural Resource Based Tourism Promotion _____
6. Improvement of Recreational Facilities _____
7. Fire Protection _____
8. Energy Conservation _____
9. Access to Health Care _____
10. Small & Home Based Business Assistance _____
11. Natural Disaster Planning _____
12. Historical Preservation _____
13. Community Beautification _____
14. Development of Farmers Markets _____

Are there other areas of concern or problems that are not being met in our RC&D Area?

- A. Technical Services _____
- B. Grant Writing _____
- C. Natural Resource Education _____
- D. Rural Services _____
- E. Livestock _____
- F. Crops _____
- G. Community Facilities _____
- H. Other Concerns _____

Are there any new programs or projects that you would like to see the RC&D Council adopt or consider sponsoring? Please list any and all ideas, we will be considering many new projects.

Do you have any suggestions on fundraising projects which could be sponsored by our RC&D Council to help provide more dollars for local rural development projects?

Thanks for your assistance; your input is greatly appreciated!