

**Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
Report To
Papio-Missouri River NRD Board
October 11, 2012
Neil Jensen, District Conservationist**



Expiration of Programs Authorized Under the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008

Many programs and policies of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) were authorized under the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008 (2008 Farm Bill) through September 30, 2012. These include a great number of programs impacting millions of Americans, including programs for farm commodity and price support, conservation, research, nutrition, food safety, and agricultural trade.

Beginning October 1, 2012 the authority or funding provided under the 2008 Farm Bill for USDA to operate a number of these programs is expired, and the authority and funding for additional programs will expire in the coming months. Because Congress has not passed a 2012 Food, Farm and Jobs Act, effective October 1 USDA can no longer make new commitments for programs for which the Department's authority or funding has expired.

NRCS cannot enroll any new acreage into the following programs in FY 2013:

- ❖ Wetland Reserve Program (WRP)
- ❖ Grassland Reserve Program (GRP)

FSA cannot enroll any new acreage into the following programs in FY 2013:

- ❖ Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)

USDA is committed to carrying out its program authority to the greatest extent possible, but upon expiration of the 2008 Farm Bill the Department's authority to deliver programs will remain very limited until Congressional passage of a new Food, Farm and Jobs Act or other statutory extension of USDA's program authority.

EMERGENCY WATERSHED PROGRAM (EWP) PROJECT COMPLETED

Cambridge Oaks Subdivision EWP Project on West Branch of the Papio Creek around 168th and Pacific is completed.



The Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Program was passed by Congress to relieve imminent threats to life and property caused by storms, flooding, and erosion. It is designed to assist groups of people with a common problem, but individuals who are sponsored by a local unit of government may also qualify.

Hispanic Heritage Month 2012 September 15 – October 15



NRCS 2012 Hispanic Heritage Month Poster

In September 1968, Congress authorized President Lyndon B. Johnson to proclaim National Hispanic Heritage Week, which was observed during the week that included September 15 and 16. The observance was expanded in 1988 by Congress to a month long celebration (September 15 – October 15), effective the following year. America celebrates the culture and traditions of those who trace their roots to Spain, Mexico and the Spanish-speaking nations of Central America, South America and the Caribbean.

September 15 was chosen as the starting point for the celebration because it is the anniversary of independence of five Latin American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on September 16 and September 18, respectively.



USDA is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

"The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all of its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, political beliefs, genetic information, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD)."

To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Stop 9410, Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call toll-free at (866) 632-9992 (English) or (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (English Federal-relay) or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish Federal-relay). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.