BLACKHAWK HILLS

Resource Conservation and Development

Report to Sponsors

Following is the latest news from Blackhawk Hills RC&D:

NW IL Grazing Conference – The Northwest Illinois Grazing Conference is planned for Tuesday, December 8, 2009, at Holy Cross Church, Stockton, IL. The conference will run from 9:45 a.m. to 2:40 p.m. with registration beginning at 9:30 a.m. The Northwestern Illinois Grazing Conference is an excellent workshop opportunity for livestock producers and others to fine-tune their knowledge about grazing through hearing from several successful beef, sheep and dairy grazers who have incorporated managed grazing in their operations. Given the rising cost of farm inputs, grazing may make greater sense in managing today's farm expenses. For more information on the conference visit website: http://jdc.extension.uiuc.edu or contact the RC&D Office.

Marketing – M45 developed a Marketing Plan for Blackhawk Hills RC&D Council. Some of the items that the Council decided to start working on are:

- Do presentations to our funders
- Create a RC&D Fact Sheet by County
- Create social networking sight (Facebook)
- Council get their own internet provider
- Develop a PowerPoint on what we do
- Do an E-newsletter six times a year
- Revise our brochure

If your organization would like someone from the RC&D Office to make a presentation at one of your meetings, please call the office.

Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant – Blackhawk Hills RC&D will receive approximately $750,000 to administer over the next two years for an Energy Efficiency Block Grant program. This program will get underway in early 2010.

Blackhawk Hills Broadband Project – We are still waiting to hear the status of our Broadband grant application. We have received a letter of support from Governor Pat Quinn. More than 140 applications representing Illinois were submitted and we are one of the top 18 that the Governor is recommending.

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