

Projects . Successes . Partnerships

 NRCS Louisiana  
**Conservation Update**  
United States Department of Agriculture . Natural Resources Conservation Service

United States Department of Agriculture . Natural Resources Conservation Service . Louisiana

October 2011

## **Saving the Farm**

**Ouachita Parish Farmer Benefits from  
Conservation Easement Program**

**McNeese Grooming  
Students for Careers  
With NRCS**

A cooperative partnership with local Soil and Water Conservation Districts and  
Resource Conservation and Development Councils (RC&D)

HELPING PEOPLE HELP THE LAND

## Table of Contents

**Quote of the Month** .....2  
 “The nation behaves well if it treats the natural resources as assets. . .”

**Notes from the State Conservationist** .....3  
 Kevin Norton shares his thoughts

**Saving the Farm** .....4  
 Mississippi River Basin Healthy Watersheds Initiative Wetlands Reserve Enhancement Program success

**Around the State** .....6  
 Conservation activities and events around the state

**McNeese Grooming Students for Careers With NRCS** .....7  
 Unique curriculum provides students hands-on experience with NRCS

**USDA’s Commitment to Equality** .....7  
 Referral guide for USDA settlements

**Contact Information** .....8  
 Call us with your questions

## On the Cover



Current economic conditions were about to take their toll on producer Donald Williams’ farming operation. Faced with these conditions and the future of his farming operation, Mr. Williams turned to the Natural Resources Conservation Service for help. See story on pages 4 and 5 to find out more.



## Quote of the Month

**“The nation behaves well if it treats the natural resources as assets which it must turn over to the next generation increased, and not impaired in value.”**

Theodore Roosevelt, 26th President of the United States and Conservationist



While our State Conservationist, Kevin Norton, continues his temporary assignment on Senator Debbie Stabenow's staff to help draft the language of our nation's next Farm Bill, Louisiana is very much on his mind . . .

W. Britt Paul  
Acting State Conservationist  
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service - Louisiana



## Notes from the State Conservationist

My how time passes—we're now into the second migratory season since last year's Deepwater Horizon tragedy. The incident is still fresh on the minds of those having lost loved ones and those most directly affected by oil related impacts that followed. Our hearts and attention are still focused on these fellow Louisianans and our natural resources.

One of several actions NRCS initiated during the incident was the Migratory Bird Habitat Initiative. We have long held the loss of our coastal wetlands and the corresponding decline of habitat for migrating birds as a priority concern. While the challenges of fighting against coastal erosion and the habitat loss seemed daunting, the threat of oil coming ashore with tropical storms and hurricanes could have wiped out critical food sources for millions of migrating shorebirds and waterfowl.

For the past few years, NRCS has been working with partners from state government, soil and water conservation districts, and the wildlife community to look for options for working agriculture lands. Working primarily with rice and crawfish production systems where the needed infrastructure already existed, systems were developed to enhance their residue and water management to expand wildlife use opportunity. When the Deepwater Horizon incident threatened oil impacts in the coastal wetlands, NRCS—working with our partners and farmers—mobilized to deliver the Migratory Bird Habitat Initiative. The response of the farmers was overwhelming.

The work of our employees and partners in every aspect of program delivery from developing the technical requirements, to outreach, contracting, implementation, and monitoring was tremendous. Many individuals dedicated themselves to success by working long hours, leaving their homes and offices to help in high workload offices, and accomplishing the bulk of the work within a very compressed two months.

In all this flurry of work, we were not alone—our Chief, other states, and national conservation leaders were rallying support and bringing financial resources to help us deliver the initiative to our farmers and the habitat for migrating birds. It remains a remarkable achievement at every level, from the field, farm, farmer, local offices all the way to our Nation's capital, and the benefits of this work continue to accrue to this day.

On September 14, 2011, Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack hosted the 63rd Annual Secretary's Honor and Awards Ceremony. NRCS's Migratory Bird Habitat Initiative was recognized with an Honor Award for Excellence. Chief Dave White received the award on behalf of the agency, and the states involved in the initiative. I am honored to receive the award on behalf of all Louisiana NRCS, our customers, and partners. I personally claim no ownership of this award, but for my small role in being a part of this great partnership. I continue to be humbled by the tremendous passion and energy each of you exhibit every day in this great work we do for our people and natural resources.

Thank you and congratulations for being recognized for your excellence in conservation.

Kevin D. Norton  
State Conservationist  
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service - Louisiana



The **Conservation Update** is distributed monthly by mail and e-mail.

If you would like to receive monthly issues of the **Conservation Update**, please send your mailing address or e-mail address to:

Holly Martien  
State Public Affairs Specialist  
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service  
3737 Government Street  
Alexandria, Louisiana 71302  
or  
holly.martien@la.usda.gov

The Mississippi River Basin Healthy Watersheds Initiative (MRBI) was announced on September 24, 2009. MRBI will provide approximately \$320 million in USDA financial assistance over a four-year span for voluntary projects in priority watersheds in Arkansas, Kentucky, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Ohio, Tennessee and Wisconsin to help producers implement conservation and management practices to prevent, control and trap nutrient runoff from agricultural land.

The three initial focus areas in Louisiana for MRBI are: the Lower Mermentau Watershed in Calcasieu, Jefferson Davis, Acadia, Lafayette, Cameron, and Vermilion Parishes; the Bayou Macon Watershed in West Carroll, East Carroll, Richland, Madison, Franklin, and Catahoula Parishes; and the Boeuf River Watershed in Morehouse, West Carroll, Ouachita, Richland, Caldwell, Franklin, and Catahoula Parishes.

The Bayou Lafourche MRBI Wetlands Reserve Enhancement Program was established to help agricultural producers in the Boeuf River Watershed (Richland, Ouachita, and Caldwell Parishes) protect and enhance critical wetland habitats on private lands by reducing erosion, sediment load and subsequent water quality issues.



## Saving the Farm

### Current economic conditions

were about to take their toll on producer Donald Williams' farming operation.

Faced with these conditions and the uncertain future of his farming operation, Mr. Williams turned to the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) for help.

Local NRCS District Conservationist James Shivers was able to offer Mr. Williams a solution to his economic problems as well as an opportunity to make a difference in the Mississippi River Basin ecosystem—the **Bayou Lafourche Mississippi River Basin Healthy Watersheds Wetlands Reserve Enhancement Program (MRBI WREP)**.

The Bayou Lafourche MRBI WREP was established to help agricultural producers in Louisiana's Boeuf River Watershed protect and enhance critical wetland habitats on private lands by reducing erosion, sediment load and subsequent water quality issues. The lead sponsor for this project is the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry-Office of Soil and Water Conservation.

"In the short term—we gain financially," said Williams. "In the long term—we gain a legacy of healthy land and clean water—for my family and other families in the Mississippi River Basin."

Mr. Williams enrolled 90 acres of marginal cropland into the MRBI WREP, and thanks to the financial assistance provided through the initiative; Mr. Williams will be able to continue farming, while converting the offered land into a bottomland hardwood forest that his children and grandchildren will be able to enjoy.

"I have always wanted to leave my farm to my grandchildren," said Williams. "Setting a part of it aside in this program helps me reach that goal."



# Bayou Lafourche Mississippi River Basin Healthy Watersheds Initiative Wetlands Reserve Enhancement Program

## MRBI WREP



*“ . . . we gain a legacy of healthy land and clean water. . . ”*



The benefits that will result from this restoration project will echo from his land, down the Mississippi River—reducing sediment loads and water turbidity from seasonal cultivation practice, restoring declining wetland wildlife habitat, reducing the risk of surface water and ground water contamination from nutrients and pesticides, and serving as a carbon sink as the habitat moves to a climax community.

To find out more about the **Mississippi River Basin Healthy Watersheds Wetlands Reserve Enhancement Program (MRBI WREP)**, visit or call your local Natural Resources Conservation Service or soil and water conservation district office. Contact information is included on the back cover of this publication.



# Donald Williams Conservationist

# Around the State

## Sep 14

### Southern University Career Fair

On September 14, 2011, area and field office staff participated in the Southern University and A&M College Career Fair in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Approximately 23 students stopped by the NRCS recruitment booth, and staff instructed students about how to apply for federal employment and provided information about NRCS' mission.

## Sep 20-21

### Forestry Awareness Days

The Mansfield Field Office participated in Forestry Awareness Days in DeSoto Parish. The event took place on September 20-21, 2011, and all 6th grade students in DeSoto Parish schools attended. Field office staff visited with about 480 students over the two days. The goal of the event was to make students aware of ways to protect and conserve natural resources. Staff demonstrated how soil erosion occurs and how it can be prevented with several different types of vegetative covers. The students enjoyed the presentation and interacted very well.



## Oct 5

### Longleaf Restoration Field Day

On October 5, 2011, private landowners and forestry/wildlife professionals participated in a field day to learn about longleaf pine restoration and wildlife management. Information was presented on state and federal cost share programs that can help restore longleaf pine stands. This event was hosted by the Texas-Louisiana Longleaf Task Force and the National Wild Turkey Federation. Other sponsors included U.S. Forest Service Southern Research Station, Louisiana Society of American Foresters, Louisiana Forestry Association, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and

Fisheries, Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, LSU AgCenter, The Nature Conservancy, Larson and McGowin Forest Managers and Consultants, and the Southern Forest Heritage Museum.



## Oct 6-7

### 27th Annual Coastal Resources Committee Meeting

On October 6-7, 2011, the Louisiana Association of Conservation Districts Coastal Resources Committee conducted their 27th annual meeting at Fontainebleau State Park in Mandeville, Louisiana. Presentations included "Conservation Planning for Tax Purposes" and "the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation's Multiple Lines of Defense." Committee members also toured the Fritchie Marsh Restoration Project near Slidell, Louisiana.

## Oct 8

### 1st Annual Conservation Trail Ride

The 1st Annual NRCS-Louisiana Trail Ride was held at Gum Springs Horse Camp eight miles west of Winnfield, Louisiana.



The weather was beautiful—breezy and sunny! David Morris, Soil Conservation Technician from the Ferriday Field Office, was the cowboy chef. An amazing trail meal of cowboy stew, veggie salad, tea and an unbelievable white chocolate bread pudding was waiting for the participants after their 5.6 mile ride. Watch the Conservation Update for dates of future Conservation Trail Rides in other parts of the state.

## Oct 12-16

### Rapides Parish Fair

On October 12-16, 2011, the Rapides Soil and Water Conservation District and NRCS provided conservation program information, Sammy Soil coloring books, and balloons to attendees of the Rapides Parish Fair.



## Oct 13

### Area III FFA Forestry Judging Contest

On October 13, 2011, the Evangeline Soil and Water Conservation District, NRCS, and FFA Area III officers hosted the Area III Forestry Judging Contest. The Evangeline Soil and Water Conservation District strives each year to provide conservation education to youth in Evangeline Parish through this FFA Forestry Judging Contest.



## McNeese Grooming Students for Careers With NRCS

### Ground Breaking Class Gives Students Real Life Hands-On Experience

Although some of Louisiana's universities are losing agriculture departments, McNeese University in Lake Charles, under the guidance of Dr. Eddie Lions, is heading in another direction.

Dr. Lions contacted NRCS District Conservationist Corby Moore in the DeRidder Field Office before the semester started to explain that he wanted to develop a curriculum that was geared towards preparing his students for a career with NRCS. Following this contact, Dr. Lions developed a course that involved each student writing a wildlife management plan for the Brandon Habetz Farm in Ragley, Louisiana. At the initial class meeting, the DeRidder Field Office supplied students with a vicinity plan map and a spreadsheet of Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program conservation practices and financial incentive payments. The landowner and district conservationist gave a detailed overview of the landowner's objectives and discussed the landowner's resource management goals. One of the landowner's objectives was to have a few wildlife ponds constructed on his property.

A second field day was scheduled with Dr. Lions' class, and Dustin Farmer, District Conservationist in Vernon Parish, and Corby Moore presented a class on pond construction and design. The class was instructed on soil texture analysis via soil borings, and they were introduced to the design and layout of NRCS standards and specifications for pond construction. Using the information gained



from NRCS, the students planned a wildlife management plan including recommended NRCS practices and the financial assistance that the landowner would receive.

Dr. Lions' natural resource management course is providing students a distinct advantage over other students in real world experience with conservation planning.

Whether his students choose to come on board with NRCS or work with one of NRCS' partner agencies, Dr. Lions is providing them the competitive edge they need to enter today's workforce.

*Submitted by: Corby Moore, District Conservationist, DeRidder Field Office*

## USDA's Commitment to Equality

USDA believes every farmer and rancher should be treated equally and fairly, and we are committed to resolving all cases involving allegations of past discrimination by individuals.

### Referral Guide for USDA Settlements and Claims Adjudication Process

#### Women and Hispanic Farmers and Ranchers Claims Adjudication Process

If you believe that USDA improperly denied farm loan benefits to you for certain time periods between 1981 and 2000 because you are a female or because you are Hispanic, you may be eligible to apply for compensation. To request a claims package by telephone, call 1-888-508-4429. To request a claims package online, please visit [www.farmerclaims.gov](http://www.farmerclaims.gov)

#### Native American Farmer and Rancher Class Action Settlement (Keepseagle v. Vilsack)

If you are a Native American who was denied a farm loan or loan servicing by the USDA between January 1, 1981, and November 24, 1999, you may be eligible for benefits from a Class Action Settlement. To request a claims package by telephone, call: 1-888-233-5506. To request a claims package online, or for more information, please visit: [www.indianfarmclass.com](http://www.indianfarmclass.com)

#### African American Farmer and Rancher Class Action Settlement (Pigford II)

If you are an African American farmer (a) who submitted a request to file a late claim on or between October 13, 1999, and June 18, 2008, under the 1999 USDA settlement in the earlier class action known as Pigford v. Glickman ("Pigford") and (b) who did not receive a merits determination on your discrimination claim, you may be eligible for benefits from a Class Action Settlement. To hear information by telephone, call 1-866-950-5547 or 1-866-472-7826. To find information online, please visit: [www.blackfarmercase.com](http://www.blackfarmercase.com)



## Contact Our Offices

Parish	Field Office	Soil and Water Conservation District	Address	Telephone
Acadia	Crowley	Acadia SWCD	157 Cherokee Drive, Suite C, Crowley, LA 70526	(337) 783-5823, ext. 3
Allen	Oberlin	Allen SWCD	309 North 1st Street, Suite 1, Oberlin, LA 70655	(337) 639-4850, ext. 3
Ascension	Donaldsonville	Lower Delta SWCD and New River SWCD	2274 Highway 70, Suite C, Donaldsonville, LA 70346	(225) 473-7638, ext. 3
Assumption	Donaldsonville	Lower Delta SWCD	2274 Highway 70, Suite C, Donaldsonville, LA 70346	(225) 473-7638, ext. 3
Avoyelles	Marksville	Avoyelles SWCD	629 Tunica Drive West, Marksville, LA 71351	(318) 253-9445, ext. 3
Beauregard	DeRidder	Calcasieu SWCD	597 Mahlon Street, Suite B, DeRidder, LA 70634	(337) 463-8555, ext. 3
Bienville	Minden	Saline SWCD	216B Broadway, Minden, LA 71055	(318) 377-3950, ext. 3
Bossier	Benton	Bodcau SWCD	200 Burt Boulevard, Suite 101, Benton, LA 71006-4901	(318) 965-2185, ext. 3
Caddo	Shreveport	Caddo SWCD	1402 Hawn Avenue, Shreveport, LA 71107	(318) 676-3461, ext. 3
Calcasieu	Lake Charles	Gulf Coast SWCD	1400 Highway 14, Suite B, Lake Charles, LA 70601	(337) 436-5020, ext. 3
Caldwell	Columbia	Boeuf and Dugdemona SWCD	7128 Highway 165 South, Suite 2, Columbia, LA 71418	(318) 649-2651, ext. 3
Cameron	Lake Charles	Gulf Coast SWCD	1400 Highway 14, Suite B, Lake Charles, LA 70601	(337) 436-5020, ext. 3
Catahoula	Jonesville	Catahoula SWCD	3545 4th Street, Jonesville, LA 71343	(318) 339-4239, ext. 3
Claiborne	Minden	D'Arbonne SWCD	216B Broadway, Minden, LA 71055	(318) 377-3950, ext. 3
Concordia	Ferriday	Tensas-Concordia SWCD	8331 Highway 84, Ferriday, LA 71334	(318) 757-8366, ext. 3
DeSoto	Mansfield	DeSoto SWCD	211 Washington Avenue, Mansfield, LA 71052	(318) 872-4949, ext. 3
East Baton Rouge	Denham Springs	Capital SWCD	2191 Tower Drive, Denham Springs, LA 70726	(225) 664-1430, ext. 3
East Carroll	Lake Providence	East Carroll SWCD	406 Lake Street, Suite C, Lake Providence, LA 71254	(318) 559-2604, ext. 3
East Feliciana	Clinton	Feliciana SWCD	9752 Plank Road South, Clinton, LA 70722	(225) 683-5496, ext. 3
Evangeline	Ville Platte	Evangeline SWCD	205 Court Street, Ville Platte, LA 70586	(337) 363-6020, ext. 3
Franklin	Winnsboro	Northeast SWCD	616 Riser Road, Winnsboro, LA 71295	(318) 435-6743, ext. 3
Grant	Colfax	Grant SWCD	510 Main Street, Colfax, LA 71417	(318) 627-9903, ext. 3
Iberia	New Iberia	Iberia SWCD	2617 Northside Road, Suite 600, New Iberia, LA 70563	(337) 369-6623, ext. 3
Iberville	Addis	Lower Delta SWCD	7747 Highway 1 South, Addis, LA 70710	(225) 687-2184, ext. 3
Jackson	Ruston	Dugdemona SWCD	1412 Celebrity Drive, Ruston, LA 71270	(318) 255-3136, ext. 3
Jefferson	Boutte	Crescent SWCD	14246 US Highway 90, Boutte, LA 70039	(985) 758-2162, ext. 3
Jefferson Davis	Jennings	Jefferson Davis SWCD	2003 Port Drive, Jennings, LA 70546	(337) 824-0975, ext. 3
Lafayette	Lafayette	Lafayette SWCD	905 Jefferson Street, Suite 310, Lafayette, LA 70501-7913	(337) 262-6601, ext. 3
LaFourche	Thibodaux	LaFourche-Terrebonne SWCD	143 Laura Drive, Thibodaux, LA 70301	(985) 447-3871, ext. 3
LaSalle	Jonesville	LaSalle SWCD	3545 4th Street, Jonesville, LA 71343	(318) 339-4239, ext. 3
Lincoln	Ruston	D'Arbonne SWCD	1412 Celebrity Drive, Ruston, LA 71270	(318) 255-3136, ext. 3
Livingston	Denham Springs	Capital SWCD	2191 Tower Drive, Denham Springs, LA 70726	(225) 664-1430, ext. 3
Madison	Tallulah	Madison SWCD	1900 Crothers Drive, Tallulah, LA 71282	(318) 574-4158, ext. 3
Morehouse	Bastrop	Morehouse SWCD	9604 Marlatt Street, Bastrop, LA 71220	(318) 283-7626, ext. 3
Natchitoches	Natchitoches	Natchitoches SWCD	6949 Louisiana Highway 1 Bypass, Natchitoches, LA 71457	(318) 357-8366, ext. 3
Orleans	Boutte	Crescent SWCD	14246 US Highway 90, Boutte, LA 70039	(985) 758-2162, ext. 3
Ouachita	Monroe	D'Arbonne/Boeuf River SWCD	2410 Old Sterlington Road, Suite B, Monroe, LA 71203-2668	(318) 343-4467, ext. 3
Plaquemines	Boutte	Plaquemines SWCD	14246 US Highway 90, Boutte, LA 70039	(985) 758-2162, ext. 3
Pointe Coupee	New Roads	Upper Delta SWCD	180 East Main Street, New Roads, LA 70760	(225) 638-7746, ext. 3
Rapides	Alexandria	Rapides SWCD	3734 Government Street, Building C, Alexandria, LA 71303	(318) 473-7856, ext. 3
Red River	Coushatta	Red River SWCD	1311 Ringgold Avenue, Coushatta, LA 71019	(318) 932-4352, ext. 3
Richland	Rayville	Boeuf River SWCD	141 Industrial Loop, Rayville, LA 71269	(318) 728-4451, ext. 3
Sabine	Many	Sabine SWCD	570 Highway 171 By Pass, Many, LA 71449	(318) 256-3491
St. Bernard	Boutte	Crescent SWCD	14246 US Highway 90, Boutte, LA 70039	(985) 758-2162, ext. 3
St. Charles	Boutte	Crescent SWCD	14246 US Highway 90, Boutte, LA 70039	(985) 758-2162, ext. 3
St. Helena	Amite	Tangipahoa-St. Helena SWCD	805 West Oak Street, Suite 1, Amite, LA 70422-2820	(985) 748-8751, ext. 3
St. James	Donaldsonville	Lower Delta SWCD and New River SWCD	2274 Highway 70, Suite C, Donaldsonville, LA 70346	(225) 473-7638, ext. 3
St. John	Boutte	Crescent SWCD	14246 US Highway 90, Boutte, LA 70039	(985) 758-2162, ext. 3
St. Landry	Opelousas	St. Landry SWCD	5832 I-49 North Service Road, Opelousas, LA 70570	(337) 942-2530, ext. 3
St. Martin	Lafayette	St. Martin SWCD	905 Jefferson Street, Suite 310, Lafayette, LA 70501-7913	(337) 262-6601, ext. 3
St. Mary	Franklin	St. Mary SWCD	500 Main Street, Franklin, LA 70538	(337) 828-1461, ext. 3
St. Tammany	Franklinton	Bogue Chitto-Pearl River SWCD	1111 Washington Street, Franklinton, LA 70438	(985) 839-5688, ext. 3
Tangipahoa	Amite	Tangipahoa-St. Helena SWCD	805 West Oak Street, Suite 1, Amite, LA 70422-2820	(985) 748-8751, ext. 3
Tensas	St. Joseph	Tensas-Concordia SWCD	1223 Plank Road, St. Joseph, LA 71366	(318) 766-3502, ext. 3
Terrebonne	Thibodaux	LaFourche-Terrebonne SWCD	143 Laura Drive, Thibodaux, LA 70301	(985) 447-3871, ext. 3
Union	Farmerville	D'Arbonne SWCD	604 East Water Street, Farmerville, LA 71241	(318) 368-8021
Vermilion	Abbeville	Vermilion SWCD	3221 Veterans Memorial Drive, Suite H, Abbeville, LA 70510	(337) 893-5664, ext. 3
Vernon	Leesville	Calcasieu SWCD	1100-C South Third Street, Leesville, LA 71446	(337) 239-2193
Washington	Franklinton	Bogue Chitto-Pearl River SWCD	1111 Washington Street, Franklinton, LA 70438	(985) 839-5688, ext. 3
Webster	Minden	Dorcheat SWCD	216B Broadway, Minden, LA 71055	(318) 377-3950, ext. 3
West Baton Rouge	Addis	Upper Delta SWCD	7747 Highway 1, South, Addis, LA 70710	(225) 687-2184, ext. 3
West Carroll	Oak Grove	West Carroll SWCD	208 South Constitution Street, Oak Grove, LA 71263	(318) 428-9303, ext. 3
West Feliciana	Clinton	Feliciana SWCD	9752 Plank Road South, Clinton, LA 70722	(225) 683-5496, ext. 3
Winn	Natchitoches	Dugdemona SWCD	6949 Louisiana Highway 1 Bypass, Natchitoches, LA 71457	(318) 357-8366, ext. 3

Visit our web site at: [www.la.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.la.nrcs.usda.gov)

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all 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, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or a 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, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

