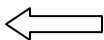


**COST SHARE AVAILABLE FOR INSTALLATION OF BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES**

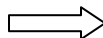
are pictures and descriptions of several best management practices that are eligible for 50-75% assistance through the NC Agriculture Cost Share Program (NCACSP) and the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). This is only a partial listing of best management practices, for more information contact the soil & water office at 336-593-2846 ext. 3.



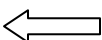
**HEAVY USE AREA** – The stabilization of areas frequently and intensively used by livestock. Benefits include, reduction of soil erosion, improved water quality and improved livestock health.



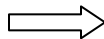
**WATERING FACILITY** – A device (tank, trough, or other watertight container) for providing animal access to water. Benefits include, erosion control, enhanced vegetation and reduced health hazards to livestock.



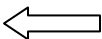
**STOCK TRAILS** – A travel facility for livestock to provide movement through difficult or sensitive terrain. Benefits include, improved grazing efficiency, erosion control and improved access to forage, water and/or shelter.



**GRADED WATERWAYS** – A natural or constructed channel that is graded or graded to required dimensions and established with vegetation. Benefits include, reduction of gully erosion and improvement of water quality.



**NO-TILL** – Planting all crops for at least 5 consecutive years in 80% or more of the field with residue from the existing crops and/or cover crops with no soil surface disturbance greater than 25% of the row spacing. Benefits include reduction of runoff, soil erosion and sedimentation and improved water quality ♦



**CROPLAND CONVERSION 2006 GRANT** – The Stokes Soil & Water District has received grant money from the Foundation for Soil & Water Conservation District's to fund application and conversion of existing tobacco fields to hayland/pastureland. The purpose of this request is to assist interested applicants for the cropland conversion that we cannot accommodate through the standard programs due to funding restrictions. The cost share rate will be 75% of average statewide cost of establishing grassland. The office staff will certify practice completion before payment. The District Board members along with staff will perform annual spotchecks for ten years to see that practices are maintained according to standards and specifications. If you are interested in submitting an application for funding through this project, please contact the soil & water office today ♦



Mark your calendars – **FARMER APPRECIATION EVENT** to be held at Stokes High School on Thursday, March 30, 2006 from 6-9 PM. FREE BBQ (BBQ or Chicken and all the fixins'), ENTERTAINMENT & DOOR PRIZES. The Soil & Water Office will be raffling off a Stihl Back Pack BR 550 Leaf Blower and a Stihl FS 45 Weedeater at 8:00 p.m. All proceeds go toward our Education Fund. Raffle tickets are available at the soil & water office.

Please call 593-8179 or 593-2846 ext. 3 if you plan to attend Farmer Appreciation Event.

(1<sup>st</sup> place), Paige Beck (honorable mention) **SPEECH CONTEST** 6<sup>th</sup> Grade – Amy Bennett, Natalie Ashby (honorable mention) **SPEECH CONTEST** 7<sup>th</sup> Grade – Kelsey Windham, Michael Jones (honorable mention) 8<sup>th</sup> Grade – Cecelia Courville (1<sup>st</sup> place), Kara Williams (honorable mention) All first place students will advance to the regional competition which includes students in northwest North Carolina. Congratulations to you all ♦



*Elaine Styers, Master Beekeeper explains the many uses of honeybees.*

**ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS DAYS** – Each spring the Stokes Soil & Water Conservation District sponsors an environmental field day for all 5<sup>th</sup> graders in Stokes County at Hanging Rock State Park. This year's event is scheduled for April 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>. The Soil & Water office has offered this program for more than 20 years to bring awareness of the environment to our young citizens. Topics taught include plant identification, water quality and conservation, soil geology, honeybees, soils, wildlife and recycling. The program works well for 5<sup>th</sup> graders as it applies to the NC Standard Course of Study ♦

**Conservation Farm Family of the Year** – Each year the Stokes Soil & Water Conservation District recognizes a Farm Family that has demonstrated sound conservation on their farm. These farms then share their knowledge with the community due to the extra efforts put forth to conserve our natural resources. **This year's award goes to the Boyles Family of Pinnacle** which includes Craig Boyles his wife Debbie and their sons Jeff and Brett along with his brother Eddie. The Boyles family have a 140 acre farm which includes a mix of pasture and hayland. They also manage 65 head of cattle. Over the years they have implemented sound management practices such as: heavy use areas, stock trails, fencing, wells, watering facilities, critical area seeding and pasture/hayland planting. The Boyles family will advance to the regional competition in Raleigh. Congratulations on a job well done ♦

**Erosion Control Products** – The soil & water office sells the highest quality erosion control fabric (2 1/2' x 360' roll (500 sq. yd.) for 90 cent a square yard plus you receive a free box of pins with your order. Call our office to get information on **other erosion control products available** or to purchase (Erosion Control Blankets & Mulch Netting also for sale) ♦

**Conservation Farm Tour** – On October 20, 2005 the Stokes Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors and office staff hosted a tour for elected officials displaying best management practices installed with cost share assistance from the NC Agriculture Cost Share Program and the Environmental Quality Incentives Program. **The following practices were viewed: poultry incinerator, manure storage structure, strip-cropping, grass waterways, field borders, critical area seeding, livestock watering facility, critical area seeding, stock trails, heavy use areas, stream crossing, fencing, roof runoff management, no-till cropping, a manure control structure and a local vineyard.** Those in attendance were NC State Representative – Don East, NC House of Representative – Bryan Holloway, NC Dept. of Agriculture – Jim Cummings, Stokes County Sheriff – Mike Joyce, County Commissioners – John Turpin, Leon Inman, Joe Turpin, Sandy McHugh, Jimmy McHugh, County Manager – Rick Morris and Clerk to the Board – Darlene Bullins ♦



**SOIL & WATER  
CONSERVATION**

Stokes Soil & Water Conservation District  
Box 98  
Stokesbury, NC 27016