



KANSAS RURAL CENTER
P.O. Box 133
Whiting, KS 66552
(785) 873-3431 FAX (785) 873-3432
E-mail: ksrc@rainbowtel.net
Website: www.kansasruralcenter.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 20, 2012

NEWS RELEASE For more information, contact Mary Fund, 785-873-3431, ksrc@rainbowtel.net

Livestock Producer Meetings to be Held April 2 in Linn and Marysville, Ks.

Livestock producers in the Milford and Tuttle Creek Watersheds are invited to attend one of two meetings that will focus on Best Management Practices (BMPs) for livestock operations.

Both will be held April 2, 2012. The first will be at the Linn American Legion, 100 5th St, Linn, KS, 10:00 a.m.– 2:00 p.m. and the second will be at the Marysville City Building, 209 N 8th Street, 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. Lunch or supper are free and will be served at the meetings. RSVP's are required by noon Friday, March 30.

Confined winter livestock feeding operations often contribute to high levels of bacterial contamination in streams from November to May when livestock are brought closer to home for feeding. Unfortunately, significant storm events wash the manure and churned topsoil into local streams— contaminating the water and washing away topsoil and valuable nutrients. With a few changes in herd management and feeding procedure, the manure and sediment that relocates from feeding sites to streams will be greatly reduced.

The workshop presentations will offer alternative winter- feeding options that improve health and decrease the harmful impacts on farm and ranch water sources. Speakers include:

* Dale Strickler on “The ABC’s of Extending the Grazing Season and Amazing Benefits of Cover Crops”;

*Dr. Joel DeRouchey, KSU, “Water Still Runs Downhill --Taking Topsoil, Sediment, Nutrients, and Bacteria”;

*Will Boyer, KSU Watershed Specialist, “The Good, The Bad and The Ugly of Winter Feeding - Site Relocation and Options”;

*Josh Roe, KSU, and Barbara Donovan, Tuttle Creek WRAPS Coordinator, “Watershed Opportunities” currently available to producers in the watershed.

Registration is requested by noon on Friday March 30 for meals (and handouts) by calling:
Washington County Extension 785- 325-2121; Marshall County Extension 785-562-3531;or Mary Howell at
marshallcofair@gmail.com or 785- 562-8726.

The meetings, which are free and open to the public, are sponsored by the Milford and the Tuttle Creek WRAPS (Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy) watersheds. The workshop is funded in part by EPA 319 funds administered through the Kansas Department of Health and Environment to the WRAPS watersheds. -30-