

WATERSHED NEWS



Stream Model

The stream model trailer was shared during the soil sedimentation event held on July 1, 2024. The trailer demonstrated water erosion. The trailer is used for education purposes for not only children but adults.

Thanks! Soil Health Alliance

This event was made possible by partnering with Soil Health Alliance and others to bring you a great field day.

Soil Sample

Soil cores were gathered demonstrating the change in soil types. These were taken from the refuge area around Hartford. You can see the difference is soil as you work your way down the field. Want to know more, give Derek a call!



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THANK YOU TO ALL THAT ATTENDED AND SPONSORED THE SOIL HEALTH EVENT.

Thanks to all who made the Managing Sediment Loss through Soil Health event on July 1, 2024 a great success!

It was a busy day packed with information highlighting the history, impacts, and costs of soil erosion in the John Redmond Watershed. From insightful presentations, honest in-field testimonials, eye opening demonstrations and finally an engaging and entertaining panel discussion, there was something that everyone could learn from and take with them.

A day like this wouldn't be possible without the combined effort of everyone involved. Our thanks go out to the staff from the Kansas Soil Health Alliance, Flint Hills National Wildlife Refuge, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas Water Office, NRCS, K-State, Flint Hills Technical College, Kansas Alliance for Wetlands and Streams, WRAPS and Gourmet to Go for catering the event.

A special thanks to Kevin Wellnitz with Plum Creek Ranch for opening his operation to us for both sampling sites as well as his efforts and experiences. Another special thanks to our producer panel members, Rob and Justin Dieker as well as Kevin and Randall Karr, for sharing their insights and advice to all in attendance.





TOP NEWS

- Soil Health Event
- Projects funds available
- Join us as an SLT member

SLT Members

The Stakeholder Leadership Team meet regularly to discuss projects in the priority area. We use these meetings to discuss and prioritize practices that we use in our programs. This group shares feedback to help determine how our programs run.

If you would like to join to attend these meetings and get your opinions heard, give us a call. Next meeting will held in October or November depending on fall harvest. Call Derek or Keila to learn more.

FUNDS AVAILABLE NOW FOR COVER CROPS!

Year three of the grant began on July 1, 2024. Funds are available for landowners in the John Redmond drainage area. Projects are to be completed in the current grant year. Cover Crops and many other TMDL practices are an option. Call or email for more information. derek.haines@kaws.org



FY 2025 UPDATE

The Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS) offers planning and financial assistance to address water quality and soil erosion concerns on farms and ranches. Both Fall River and Toronto WRAPS have similar goals-reduce sedimentation and nutrient loads in streams and the two federal reservoirs. Funding for WRAPS is provided through 3-year grants from Section 319 of the Clean Water Act. Kansas Alliance for Wetlands & Streams (KAWS) is the sponsor for this WRAPS and has been the sponsor for the last 11 years.

Examples of landowner projects include: Planting cover crops on cropland for soil improvement and livestock forage Planting cropland to permanent grass for livestock forage, hay production and erosion control

Construction of alternative livestock water supplies (tanks and pipelines) Limiting access to streams by livestock

Construction of a hardened feeding site for livestock

There are available funds to assist landowners. If you have land in John Redmond Watershed, WRAPS may be able to help you improve the efficiency of your operation while improving water quality. The map included with this information shows the Priority Areas within each watershed, land within ½ mile of streams and rivers. It is within these Priority Areas that



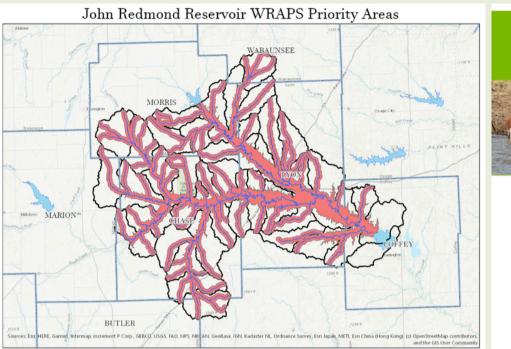
WRAPS funds are targeted. However, if your land is outside these priority areas, other funds may be available to assist you, so please contact us. Current priority best management practices include providing alternative water sources for livestock and relocating feeding sites that are adjacent to streams or rivers and increasing soil health practices. Converting cropland to grassland for having or grazing remains a high priority also. These practices can reduce nutrient loads in streams, reduce erosion from excessive runoff by improving water infiltration and provide economic benefits to the landowner/producer. This is not a complete list shown here.

In addition to funding best management practices, WRAPS offers and assists with a variety of workshops, information and education within the watershed aimed at water quality and soil health. The local County Conservation Districts, Natural Resource Conservation Service, Kansas State Extension Service and Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks often partner in the delivery of these workshops and programs.

Contact Derek Haines, John Redmond WRAPS coordinator, for more information at 785-219-1855. You may also contact Keila Sherman, Outreach Specialist, by calling her at 620-750-0309 for more information.



JRR PRIORITY AREA



Providing financial and technical assistance on best management practices to reduce sedimentation, nutrients, and bacteria impairments in local watersheds



Alternative Livestock Watering Sites Cover Crops for Grazing Exclusion Fencing Permanent Vegetation

Relocate Feeding Sites Vegetated

Filter Strips

...and MORE!





Kansas Alliance for Wetlands and Streams (KAWS) is a private non-profit company dedicated to education and implementing projects that ensure the future of wetlands, streams, and their adjacent riparian areas as an integral part of our Kansas heritage and landscape. This project has been funded through Section 319 of the Clean Water Act.