

## Conservation District promotes Stewardship Week

As a part of Rockcastle County since 1944, the Rockcastle County Conservation District wants to remind you that each of us has a connection to natural resources. The National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) is celebrating

the 58th year of Stewardship week April 28 – May 5, 2013. The 2013 Stewardship Week is themed, "Where does your water shed?"

Clean water is important to everyone, "says National Association of Conserva-

tion Districts President Earl Garber." "Watersheds come in all shapes and sizes. They cross county, state and national boundaries. Every inch of land on planet Earth is part of a watershed. In the continental U.S., there are 2,100 watersheds; if we include Hawaii, Alaska and Puerto Rico, the count rises to 2,267. No matter where you are right now, you are in a watershed."

Less than 1-percent of all of the water on our planet is fresh water. The average citizen in the United States uses 70 gallons of water every day; and this does not include the water it takes to manufacture the automobiles, clothing, and food we depend on each and every day. Take time to learn about your local community water supply sources, and volunteer for river, stream or beach clean-up days. You can make a difference.

The Rockcastle County Conservation District will supply "Where does your Water Shed?" bookmarks to the public library and posters to the elementary schools in observation of Stewardship Week.

To find out more about your local watershed, including an app for your computer and smart phone, visit: [www.epa.gov/mywaterway](http://www.epa.gov/mywaterway).

Rockcastle County Conservation District is a member of the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) which oversees the Stewardship Week program. Stewardship Week is one of the largest national annual programs to promote conservation. NACD represents the nation's 3,000 conservation districts, which were established to encourage resource conservation across the country.

The National Association of Conservation Districts is the non-profit organization that represents the nation's 3,000 conservation districts, their state associations and the 17,000 men and women who serve on their governing boards. For almost 70 years, local conservation districts have worked with cooperating landowners and managers of private working lands to help them plan and apply effective conservation practices. NACD's website is at [www.nacdn.org](http://www.nacdn.org).

## Nominations being accepted for entrepreneurship awards

The 2013 Excellence in Entrepreneurship Awards (EIEA) program is accepting online nominations through May 23 for the region's top small business leaders and entrepreneurs who have launched and are managing a successful business enterprise in Rockcastle County.

The top three finalists in each of the five EIEA categories will be recognized—and the award winners announced—on Sept. 9 at the 2013 EIEA awards luncheon hosted at The Center for Rural Development in Somerset. "What makes America great is the can-do attitude of its entrepreneurs," said EIEA committee chair Stephen Taylor. "Their vision, calculated risk taking, energy, drive and perseverance to build and rebuild business enterprises despite adverse circumstances form the foundation of our local and national economies."

Online nominations will be accepted in the following EIEA award categories:

- Business (in existence five or more years with greater than 25 employees)
- Small Business (in existence five or more years with 25 or fewer employees)
- Start-Up (in existence less than five years)
- Not-for-Profit Entity (in existence at least six months)
- Young Entrepreneur (for businesspeople who are 25 years of age and younger)

To nominate a small business leader or entrepreneur for the EIEA program, visit [www.eiea.eku.edu](http://www.eiea.eku.edu).

"The EIEA program celebrates the brave entrepreneurial individuals or teams whose success and failures make a positive difference in their communities," said Taylor. "When people willingly trade their hard-earned wages for products and services offered by an entrepreneur, then everyone benefits."

The EIEA program recognizes small business leaders and entrepreneurs in 55 Southern and Eastern Kentucky counties for exemplifying America's spirit of entrepreneurship. Nominees are judged on the economic success of the enterprise, contributions to the community, job creation, and entrepreneurial and business operational achievements.

The program, celebrating excellence in entrepreneurship since 2001, is sponsored by Eastern Kentucky University's College of Business and Technology, Kentucky Highlands Investment Corporation, Southeast Kentucky Economic Development (SKED), and The Center for Rural Development.

For more information about the EIEA program or the nomination process, call 859-622-2334 or email [cbt.eiea@eku.edu](mailto:cbt.eiea@eku.edu).



Mt. Vernon Mayor Mike Bryant swore-in former Deputy Sheriff Joe Rush as a police officer for the Mt. Vernon Police Department. Rush's last day at the Sheriff's Department was Monday, May 5th. Shown above, from left, is Mayor Mike Bryant, Rush and Mt. Vernon Police Chief Brian Carter.



It's Springtime and Grandmas for Awareness have a beautiful scarf and bracelet available for sale with proceeds going to different community projects. Shown in the above photo, displaying the scarves are, from left: Gayla Winstead, Sue Hamm, Carol Pybas and Bonnie Neeley. Contact any of these "Grandmas" to purchase the scarf and bracelet.

All current 5<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to attend



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