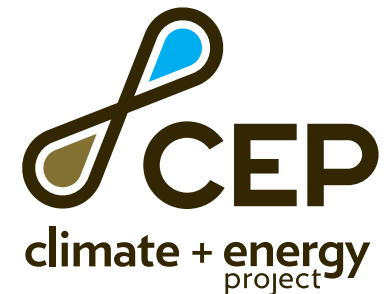


Making Progress with Water and Energy In the Heartland

Rachel Myslivy, Climate + Energy Project

February 24, 2016





The Climate & Energy Project
seeks to dramatically reduce greenhouse gas emissions in
America's Heartland through the ambitious deployment of
energy efficiency and renewable energy, in policy and practice.

Half full.
Awesome.



Ugh. Half
empty.

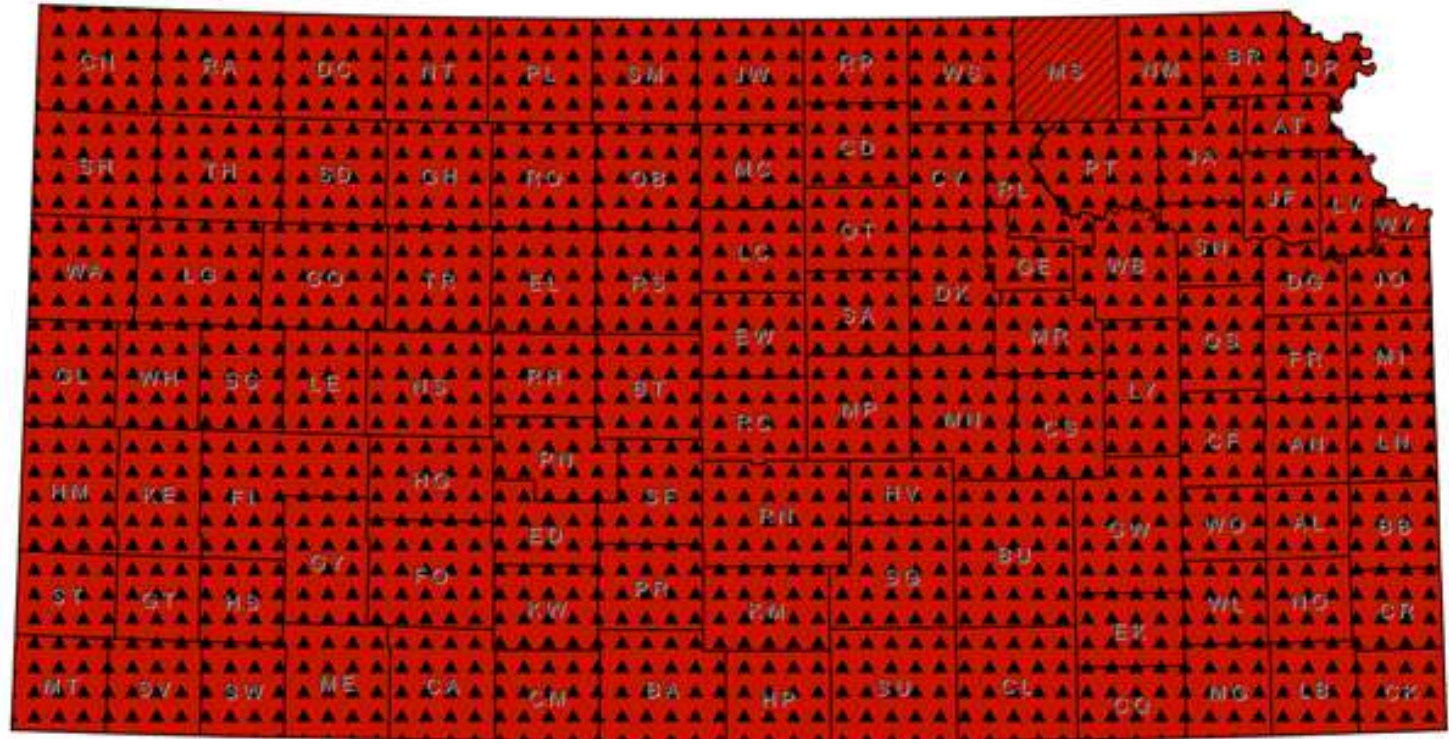




WATER + ENERGY PROGRESS


STEWARDSHIP. INNOVATION. SUCCESS.

Kansas Drought Designations August 15, 2012




Kansas Water Office
August 16, 2012

Kansas Drought

 Emergency

Federal Disaster due to Drought

 Primary

 Contiguous





Rising energy costs and pressing water worries in the Heartland combine to bring diverse agriculture, water, natural resource, and energy organizations together around positive actions that everyone can applaud.



Steering Committee

*KSU Research & Extension
Groundwater Management #4
Kansas Center for Agricultural
Resources & the Environment
Kansas Center for Sustainable
Agriculture & Alternative Crops
Kansas Department of
Agriculture, Division of
Conservation
Kansas Electric Cooperatives
Kansas Electric Power
Cooperative, Inc.
Kansas Farmer's Union
Kansas Grazing Lands Coalition
Kansas Natural Resources Council*

*Kansas Rural Center
Kansas Sustainable Agriculture
Research & Education
Kansas Water Office
Kansas Water Resources
Institute
Midwest Energy, Inc.
National Resource
Conservation Service
Kansas Farm Bureau
No-Till on the Plains
Sustainable Cropping Systems,
KSU Research & Extension
USDA Rural Development*



Standards for Innovations

Saves water.

Saves energy.

Affordable or funding available.

Replicable, scalable, appropriate.

Saves money.

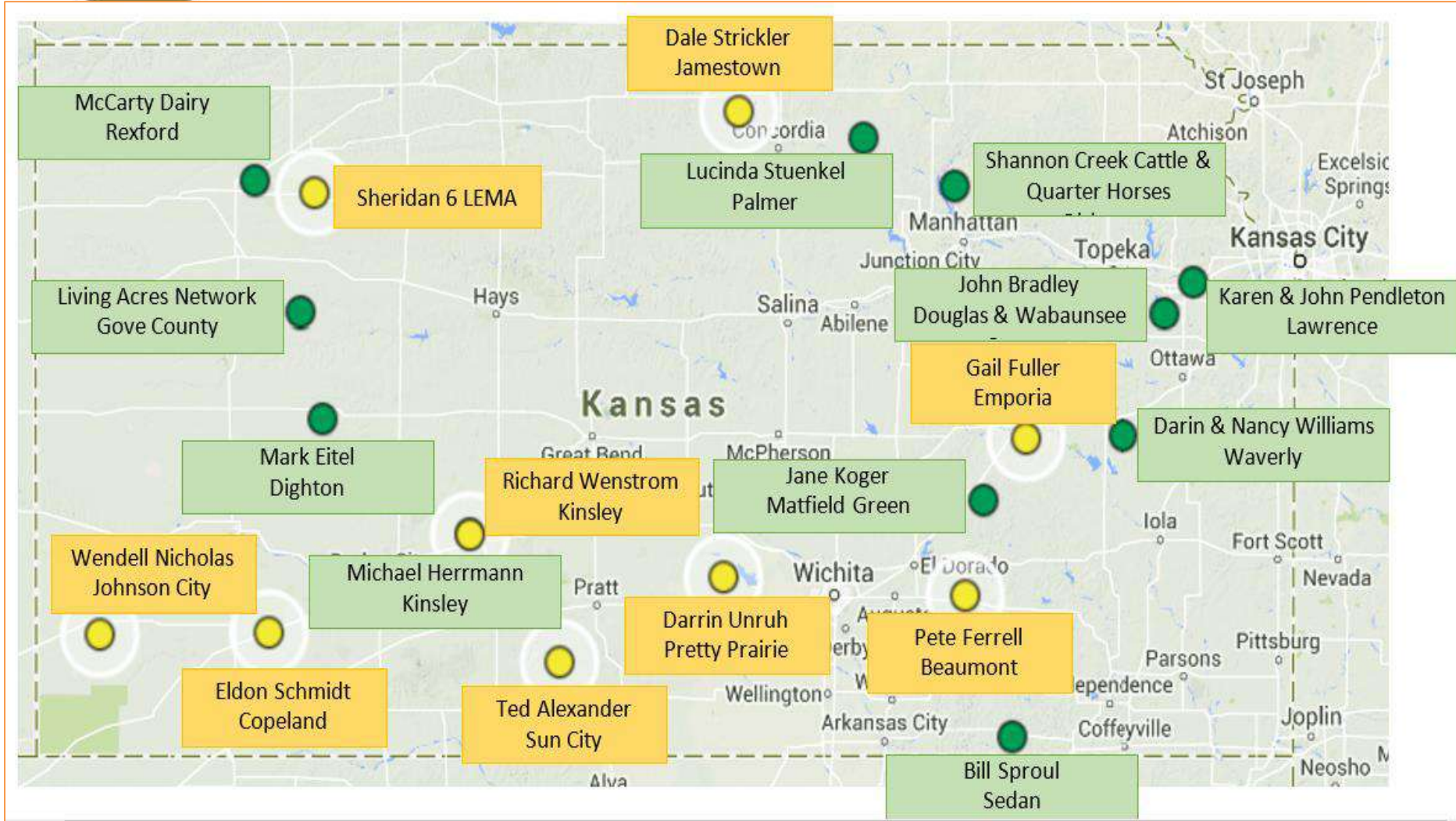
Preserves or enhances soil quality.

Preserves or enhances water quality.

Incorporates renewable energy.

WATER + ENERGY PROGRESS

STEWARDSHIP. INNOVATION. SUCCESS.



2015 Award Winners!



We face tremendous challenges with water issues in the state of Kansas. These producers practice stewardship of water, soil, and energy on a daily basis. They are the leaders of the pack of innovation.” – USDA Director Patty Clark

MODELS OF INNOVATION

2015 Innovators

2013 Innovators

Resources

ABOUT WATER + ENERGY PROGRESS

NOMINATIONS

Sustainable, Profitable, and Holistic Management

The Shannon Creek Cattle and Quarter Horse ranch is located on 3,000 acres of tallgrass prairie near Olsburg, KS. The Hubbards own about 500 acres and rent an additional 2,500 where they graze 150 of their own Hereford cows, 45 brood mares in a mare band, five stallions, 250 ewes and 75 nanny goats. Additionally, they custom graze another 160 cows. Managing all of these grazing patterns requires good fencing and reliable water sources. They sought out alternative watering systems that were low-cost, requiring more labor to install but were less expensive. As an added bonus, the watering systems they installed improve water quality and use little to no energy.

The Hubbard family's unique approach to land management is based on 12 Ranch Philosophies that emphasize working with the land and the entire community. Read on to learn more about this great example of innovation in Kansas!

Or [download the full case study here!](#)

Video: Rotational grazing practices on the Hubbard ranch



Video: Alan & Joseph Hubbard discuss Fencing



35

Videos

3

Likes

1

Following

1

Group

5

Channels

0

Albums

Featured Videos



Living Acres Network: Soil, Water, and Energy
3 weeks ago



Check out
[Vimeo.com/
ClimateAndEnergy](https://vimeo.com/ClimateAndEnergy)



Follow

Message

The Climate & Energy Project seeks to dramatically reduce greenhouse gas emissions in America's Heartland through the ambitious deployment of energy efficiency and renewable energy, in policy and practice. CEP is a Kansas-based non-partisan 501(c)3 working to find practical solutions for a clean energy future.

Climate + Energy Project - The Climate + Energy Project
Water + Energy Progress - Water + Energy Progress

Start Download

Convert Any File to a PDF - Word, Jpeg, Gif, Rtf - Free Download!



WATER + ENERGY PROGRESS
STEWARDSHIP. INNOVATION. SUCCESS.

Mark Eitel, Dighton Wise use of Water, Soil, and Wind

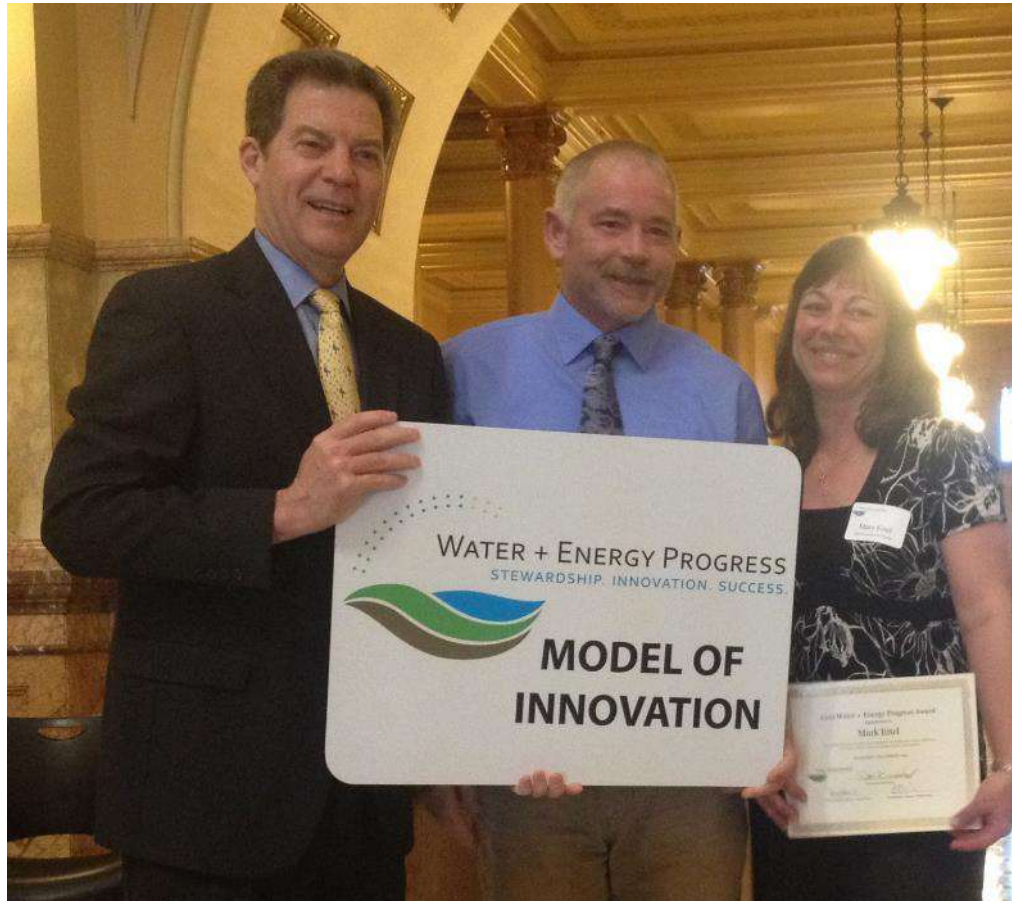


My family has lived in this area for over a hundred years now. I feel like it is my heritage and my responsibility to try to keep the family farm running as long as possible."



WATER + ENERGY PROGRESS
STEWARDSHIP. INNOVATION. SUCCESS.

Mark Eitel, Dighton Wise use of Water, Soil, and Wind



ENERGY PROGRESS
JOBS. PROSPERITY. SECURITY.



Mark Eitel, Dighton Wise use of Water, Soil, and Wind

2015 Annual Water Level Measurement Program
of the
Kansas Geological Survey
The University of Kansas
1930 Constant Avenue
Lawrence, Kansas 66047
and the
Division of Water Resources
Kansas Department of Agriculture
109 N. Ninth Street, 2nd Floor
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1283

Tag # **151826**

WELL INFORMATION
Land owner Carm H Eitel
Well location/ID # 175 20w 34080

Depth to water
2015 98.71 2014 97.96 2013 99.27

Measured by ME Date 11/6/15

KGS DWR

Measurement easy difficult
Oil on water no yes
Weighted tape measure yes no
Chalk out excellent good fair

NOTES (include tape restriction depths)
Re-measured on 3-24-15
2015 reading is 97.45
Per Mitch

26 Please contact Mary Brohammer at 785-804-2178 for any additional information.

Measurement indicates the actual distance from the ground to the water level

2013 – 99.27
2014 – 97.96
2015 – 97.45

Distance to water is less, so water quantity in well is higher.

Eitel's practices are actually replenishing water levels in his wells.



WATER + ENERGY PROGRESS
STEWARDSHIP. INNOVATION. SUCCESS.

Dale Strickler, Jamestown Growing the Soil



Dale Strickler, Jamestown Growing the Soil



I wanted to improve my soil. I wanted to improve the wild life. I wanted to reduce the amount of fossil fuel. I wanted a more of a regenerative type of enterprise. I wanted to use cattle to recycle and put that organic matter back on the ground.





WATER + ENERGY PROGRESS
STEWARDSHIP. INNOVATION. SUCCESS.

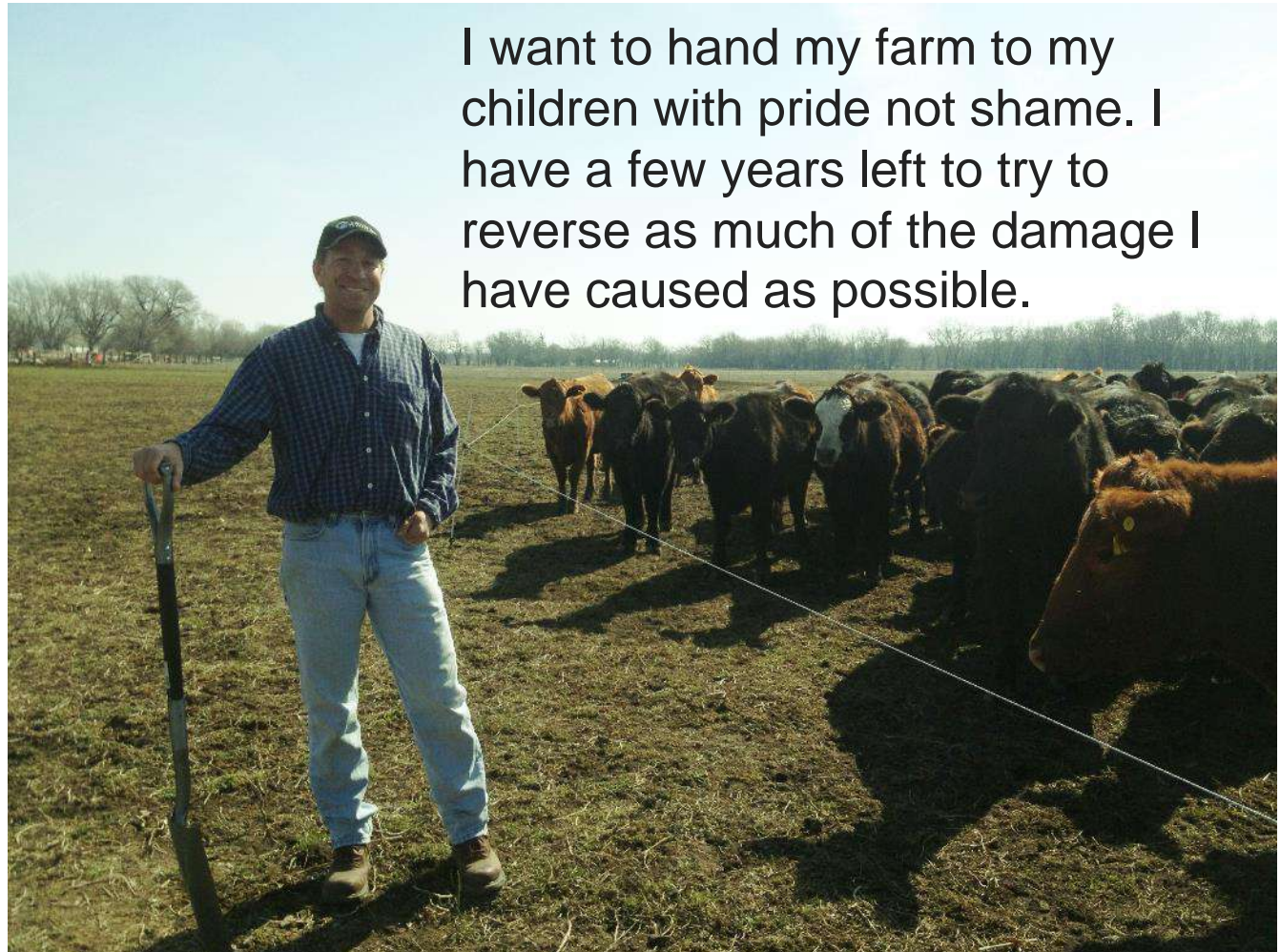
Dale Strickler, Jamestown Growing the Soil

*Nothing I do creates fertility;
it recycles fertility. Once
you create a fertile soil,
you can just coast for years and
years as it cycles back.*



Gail Fuller, Emporia Farming in Nature's Image

I want to hand my farm to my children with pride not shame. I have a few years left to try to reverse as much of the damage I have caused as possible.





WATER + ENERGY PROGRESS
STEWARDSHIP. INNOVATION. SUCCESS.

Gail Fuller, Emporia Farming in Nature's Image



Gail Fuller, Emporia Farming in Nature's Image

“The earth will survive, that is not in doubt. What is in doubt is who will be the tenant.

With the extreme weather we are seeing, Mother Nature is making it very clear that she is not happy with who is in charge today.”

- Gail Fuller, Emporia, Ks





WATER + ENERGY PROGRESS
STEWARDSHIP. INNOVATION. SUCCESS.

Ted Alexander, Sun City A Used Sunlight Salesman



I make art. I'm in the process of turning sunlight into protein. Figuring out the interaction between the birds and lizards and sagebrush and cattle can all exist and we can all exist together. It's kind of fun.



Ted Alexander, Sun City **A Used Sunlight Salesman**

“I have streams that are flowing and we’re in the worst drought since the 1950’s. I have water flowing out of canyons that 30 years ago were dry. I got rid of the cedar trees, I apply principles of grazing management, watch my stock rate, watch the rainfall, and adjust my stocking rate according to the rainfall.” – Ted Alexander



WATER + ENERGY PROGRESS
STEWARDSHIP. INNOVATION. SUCCESS.

Pete Ferrell, Beaumont

What's good for Ecology is good for the Economy



“The wind
blows even in
a drought.”
- Pete Ferrell



WATER + ENERGY PROGRESS
STEWARDSHIP. INNOVATION. SUCCESS.

Pete Ferrell, Beaumont

What's good for Ecology is good for the Economy



We've got to find a way to earn more per unit because I can't run as many units. The potential of frequent drought is forcing me to change my economic model.

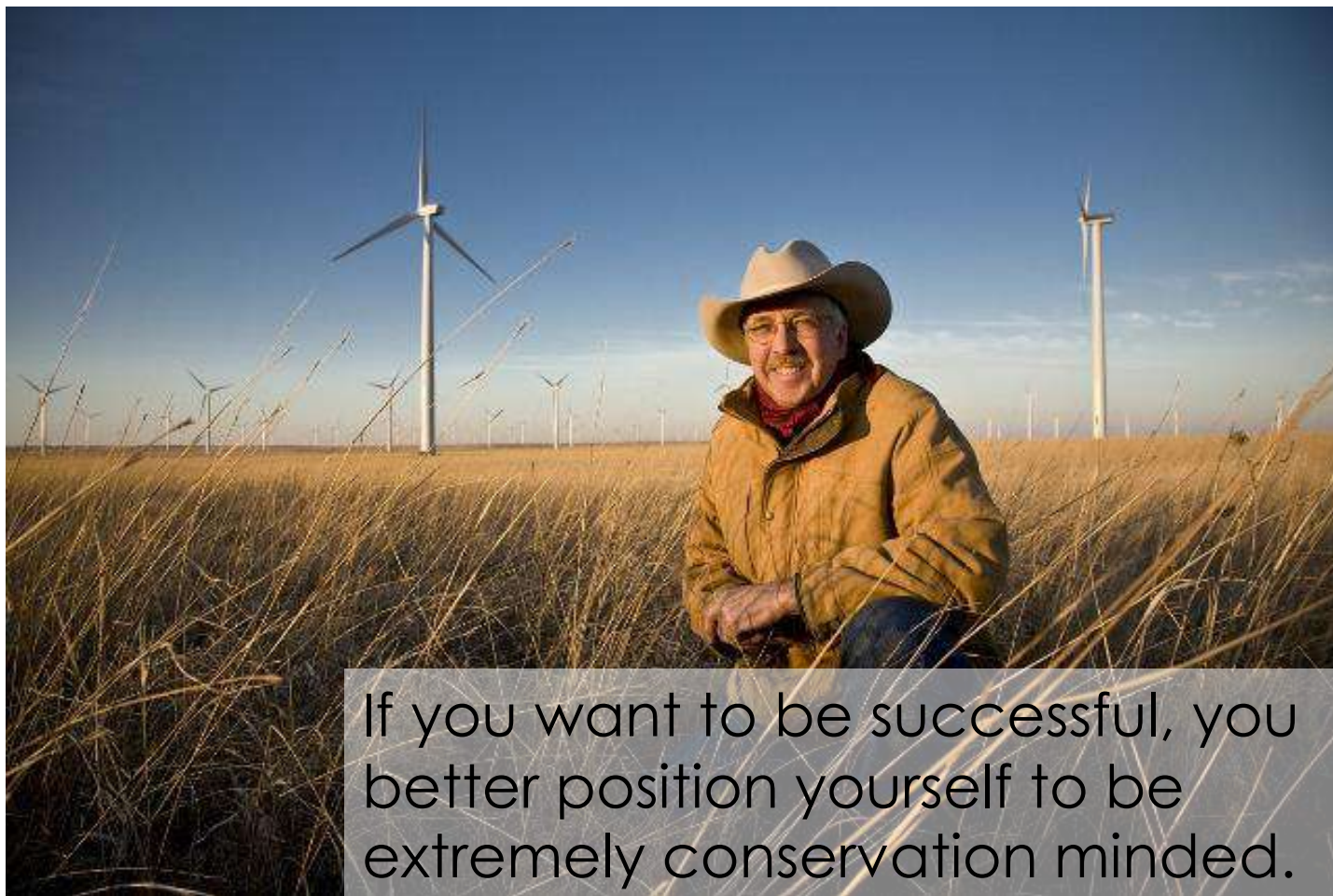




WATER + ENERGY PROGRESS
STEWARDSHIP. INNOVATION. SUCCESS.

Pete Ferrell, Beaumont

What's good for Ecology is good for the Economy



If you want to be successful, you better position yourself to be extremely conservation minded.



Living Acres Network Networking for Soil Health

A screenshot of a Vimeo video player. The video content shows a field of sunflowers under a blue sky. Overlaid on the video is a semi-transparent white box containing the text:

Living Acres Network
Soil Health, Water, & Energy
www.WaterAndEnergyProgress.org

The video player interface includes the Vimeo logo, navigation buttons (Join, Log In, Create, Watch), a search bar, an Upload button, and a video control bar at the bottom with a play button, a progress indicator showing 06:10, and an HD icon.



WATER + ENERGY PROGRESS
STEWARDSHIP. INNOVATION. SUCCESS.

Living Acres Network Networking for Soil Health



“As farmers, we have a moral obligation for these resources. We’ve been given this ability to take care of water and soil. We need to do that. We have to do the right thing to take care of these resources for generations to come, for our cities and towns, for life in western Kansas.” –Daniel Schultz





WATER + ENERGY PROGRESS
STEWARDSHIP. INNOVATION. SUCCESS.

Living Acres Network Networking for Soil Health

“Because it takes such a long time to improve your soil health . . . If we all do this together, we can just accelerate this so fast.” – Larry Manhart



Outcomes

- Focusing on positive stories that save water and energy can engage effectively
- Sharing homegrown solutions encourages collaboration and innovation.



Outcomes

- Increasing networks for renewable energy
- Making connections, focusing on solutions, presenting balanced facts, and incorporating diverse voices.



Outcomes

“Rising temperatures are leading to increased demand for water and energy. In parts of the region, this will constrain development, stress natural resources, and increase competition for water. New agricultural practices will be needed to cope with changing conditions.” -

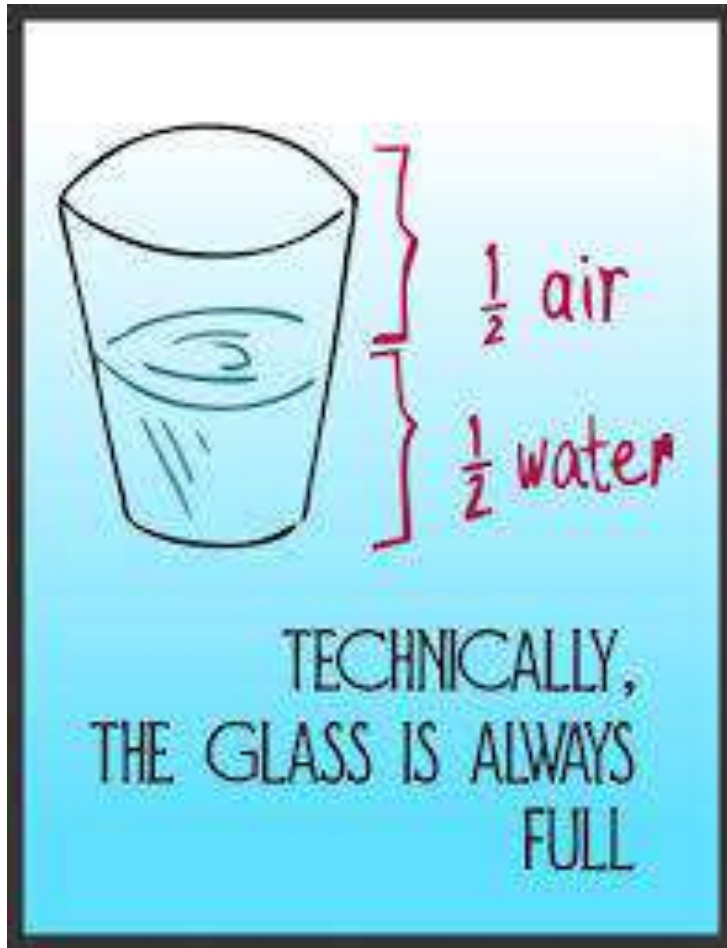
2014 National Climate Assessment, [Great Plains Region](#).



2013 Award Winners!



"In the future, we will have to produce more with less inputs, and that will take solutions that make pragmatic sense." Gov. Brownback at the 2013 Water + Energy Progress Awards



Water + Energy Progress

Rachel Myslivy, Program Director

Myslivy@climateandenergy.org

785-424-4115

