

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 16, 2014**

## **Soil Health, Conservation & USDA Programs Workshop scheduled for May 8**

Gary O'Neill, Oklahoma State Conservationist for the USDA- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has announced that NRCS, the Oklahoma Tribal Conservation Advisory Council (OTCAC) and the Ottawa County Conservation District are sponsoring a free conservation workshop and luncheon on, **May 8, 2014**. The workshop will be held at the Inter-Tribal Council Complex, located at 21 N 8 Tribes Trail, in Miami, Oklahoma. **Pre-registration will begin at 9:30 AM. The workshop will begin @ 10:00 AM and conclude by 1:30 PM.** Local farmers, ranchers, Tribes, tribal members and women in agriculture are encouraged to attend in order to receive valuable information regarding USDA programs and conservation training. The workshop is open to the public.

An agenda has been developed to provide attendees with valuable information regarding the importance of soil health, best management practices for pasture and rangeland, how to get a good soil test and funding opportunities through USDA Farm Bill programs. Representatives from the USDA NRCS, Farm Service Agency (FSA), Rural Development (RD), Risk Management Agency (RMA), National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) and the Ottawa County Conservation District will be available to answer your questions and provide you with valuable information on their conservation programs and community based funding opportunities. There is no registration fee to attend; however, RSVP is requested, as lunch will be provided. If you are interested in attending this workshop, **please RSVP by noon, April 30, 2014**, to the NRCS Miami Field Office at 918-542-4576 to ext. 3 or email RSVP may be sent to [steven.davied@ok.usda.gov](mailto:steven.davied@ok.usda.gov) or [carol.crouch@ok.usda.gov](mailto:carol.crouch@ok.usda.gov). Please plan to join us for lunch and a very informative conservation workshop.

###

NRCS is an equal opportunity provider and employer. All programs and services of NRCS are provided in a nondiscriminatory manner. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all of its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, political beliefs, genetic information, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).