

Benton County Rural Living Handbook

Practical information for new and current residents of rural Benton County.

The Benton Soil and Water Conservation District created this document to assist rural property owners in understanding and implementing conservation practices. We hope the information in this guide encourages greater participation in proactive land stewardship and makes life more rewarding for new and long-term residents in Benton County.

Access the Handbook on our website:

www.bentonswcd.org/resources/rural-living



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Handbook Highlights

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Buying and Developing Rural Property:

Includes land use and zoning, legal issues, and other key considerations.

The Rural Experience: Shares tips for being neighborly and outlines the right to farm law.

Land Management: Covers management plans, conservation practices, weed management, rural roads, and fire prevention. Shares tips on habitats and living with nature.

Soil and Water: Outlines the importance of soil, soil management, and soil quality. Contains information on watersheds, water rights, water storage, irrigation, ground water, and water quality.



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Agriculture: Includes helpful tips about small farms and agricultural certification programs.

Livestock Management:

Describes the requirements of different species, fencing, and management of pastures, grazing, manure, and mud.

Forestry: Provides an overview of the state forest protection act, small woodland management, and permit requirements.

Resource Directory: Lists contact information for local groups and agencies.



Benton Soil and Water
CONSERVATION DISTRICT