

Griffin takes on district conservationist role in Hardin County, receives Earth Team Special Recognition



By Katherine K. Burse, state public affairs officer

Martha Griffin has been serving as a district conservationist in Savannah, Tennessee, for just over a month and is enjoying the work that she is doing to help producers in the area with technical and financial assistance. She became the acting district conservationist in Hardin County in April before being elevated permanently to the prominent role as the district conservationist in the county.

Griffin said she enjoys her job and serving her customers by providing them with assistance with Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) programs and helping them make sound conservation decisions.

In her collateral duties, Griffin also serves as the State Earth Team Volunteer Coordinator and was recently received the “NRCS Earth Team Special Recognition 2021” award for her dedication to the Earth Team Volunteer program in Tennessee. She has been involved in the program since 2011.

Griffin began her career with the Hardin County Soil and Water Conservation District in 2010 as the district secretary. She served in that role for a couple years prior being challenged to seek a

career within NRCS by Mike Hansbrough, currently the area resource biologist in the Jackson Area Office.

After the seed was planted by Hansbrough, Griffin began inquiring about positions within NRCS and getting out in the field to learn about the scope of work. Griffin finally decided that this was the direction she wanted to go in her career, so she started working on her degree in agriculture at the University of Tennessee-Martin with the goal of becoming a soil conservationist with NRCS.

A non-traditional student in her agricultural career journey, Griffin obtained her degree in agriculture in 2015 and secured a position as an intern. In 2016, she applied and was hired as a recent graduate soil conservationist in Gibson County before being transferred to Henderson/Decatur County in 2018.

Griffin resides in West Tennessee with her husband. She has two daughters and two grandchildren. Her favorite Bible verse is “Then the land will yield its harvest, and God, our God will bless us.” – Psalm 67:6