

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Donna Isaacs, Executive Director, 318-332-7791, donna@camptifieldofdreams.org

See the Power of Rain: Louisiana NRCS Rainfall Simulator Demonstration

Campti, LA, 7/18/2015 – Please join Louisiana NRCS State Agronomist, Chris Coreil, Area Rangeland Specialist, Chris Ebel and State Soil Scientist, Dr. Mike Lindsey as they demonstrate the Louisiana NRCS Rainfall Simulator. The interactive mobile education display shows, on a small scale, the impacts of rainfall and runoff on conservation and land management practices. The demonstration along with a conservation and land management planning tour will be featured at the Conservation and Soil Health Field Day being hosted by Campti Field of Dreams. The event, which is free and open to the public, will be held at 4:00 p.m., Monday, July 27, at the Campti Historic Museum, located at 211 Edenborn Street, in Campti, Louisiana and at 5:30 pm will move to the Sustainable Agriculture Demonstration Farm located at 681 Campti Bayou Road, roughly 4 miles from the museum.

Campti Field of Dreams aims to increase awareness among farmers and value-added producers of the financial and technical assistance available from USDA agencies. “No farm is too small and programs are available to assist children as young as 10 years old to start their own agribusiness. If you currently generate \$1,000 or more from your property, OR would like to generate \$1,000 or more in supplemental income in Natchitoches, Red River, Grant, De Soto, Rapides or other surrounding parish, then this is the event for you,” said executive director, Donna Isaacs.

NRCS provides technical support to help you get the most out of your land while conserving our natural resources. The simulator can simultaneously distribute rainfall on several surfaces. The runoff from these scenarios is collected in glass jars that clearly show the results. For example, the rainfall simulator can highlight how keeping various amounts of residue, such as corn stubble, on the land surface can reduce sediment loss. The simulator also shows how cover crops can be effective, or how much runoff occurs on a solid surface such as a road or parking lot. It provides farmers, local watershed groups, and residents’ scientific information directly applicable to their land and helps inform neighbor-to-neighbor conversations related to water quality.

In addition to NRCS, there will be representatives from Farm Service Agency (FSA) and Louisiana Land Bank to share their knowledge with the community. These programs are designed to improve the economic stability of rural communities, businesses, residents, farmers and ranchers and improve the quality of life in the Red River area. After the presentations at the museum, the specialists will conduct a guided tour of the Sustainable Agriculture Demonstration Farm and demonstrate the Louisiana NRCS Rainfall Simulator.

The evening will conclude with a healthy meal made from locally grown produce sponsored by Louisiana Land Bank.

About Campti Field of Dreams, Inc.

Campti Field of Dreams, Inc. is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life in underserved communities through cultural heritage, green rehabilitation, local food production, and sustainable entrepreneurship initiatives. For more information, visit: www.camptifieldofdreams.org

###