



# MEDIA ADVISORY

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**TOP USDA OFFICIALS TO PARTICIPATE IN NEXT WEEK'S WHITE HOUSE  
CONFERENCE ON COOPERATIVE CONSERVATION**  
*Agriculture Secretary Johanns to make keynote address opening day*

WASHINGTON, Aug. 25, 2005 – Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns and senior USDA officials will continue a national dialogue and partnership with public land managers and the American people when they convene in St. Louis, Mo., next week to participate in the White House Conference on Cooperative Conservation. This conference is the first of its kind in 40 years and will represent the largest group assembled to enlist the American people's commitment to restore and conserve our natural heritage.

**WHAT:** White House Conference on Cooperative Conservation

**WHO:** Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns  
Agriculture Under Secretary Mark Rey for Natural Resources and Environment  
Agriculture Deputy Under Secretary David Tenny for Natural Resources and Environment  
Agriculture Deputy Under Secretary Merlyn Carlson for Natural Resources and Environment  
Agriculture Deputy Under Secretary Floyd Gaibler for Farm And Foreign Agricultural Services  
Farm Service Agency Administrator James Little  
Forest Service Chief Dale Bosworth  
Natural Resources Conservation Service Chief Bruce Knight

**WHEN:** Mon., Aug. 29, 2005 to Wed., Aug. 31, 2005  
Secretary Johanns' speech Mon., Aug. 29, approximately 4:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** St. Louis Convention Center (America's Center)  
701 Convention Plaza  
St. Louis, MO

**HOW:** Contact Heidi Valetkevitch at (202) 821-6634 (cell) to book interviews with USDA officials or contact the Conference Media Hotline (active Mon., Aug. 29, 8 a.m.) at (314) 342-5700. Media with valid press credentials are invited to register for the conference at <http://www.conservation.ceq.gov/media.html>.

**DETAILS:** For more information on the conference, visit <http://www.conservation.ceq.gov/>.

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