

# Days of My Life as a Watershed Coordinator

(a.k.a. Was this in my  
job description??)



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# Where is Pond Creek anyway?

- They sent me out with a topo map
- Pond Creek Road??  
(2, in 2 counties, not the same road)
- Where is the creek?
- Where are the county lines?
- You know we're lost when the county agent doesn't know what county we're in!

# Introducing myself

- Meeting their wives
- Meeting their Mommas
- We are known by what we drive
- We are known by what we wear
- Playing “hide and seek”
- I used to dairy



I love my truck!



# Position Description Questionnaire

- University document
- Lengthy list of tasks performed on the job
  - Able to go over, under & through barbed wire fences
  - Able to close a tight hand-made barbed wire gap
  - Able to walk long distances carrying equipment
  - Able to push a soil probe into hard dry ground
  - Able to outrun a mad momma cow
  - Able to recognize a bull, just looking at his face
  - Able to use all senses

# Barbed-wire gap



# Anatomy 101



# Waders

- Why do we need waders?
- To keep dry
- Roy Clark
- Don't use borrowed waders  
(especially from your ex-husband)



# Why waders are not in fashion



# Dry?



# Friendly folks (they just don't get along)

- Family Feuds
- Neighbor Feuds
- Which Co-op do you use?
- Which FSA/NRCS office do you use?
- Which Extension Agent do you use?



# Day to Day Life in Pond Creek

- If the road is underwater, do I drive through anyway?
- How do you tell how deep it is?
- Where do you go to the rest room?
- Where do you buy gas?
- Where do you eat?
- Where do people meet?

# How deep is it?



# How deep is it?



# Going to the store



# You must be from around here



# The Soap Opera Continues

- In a restaurant a couple of counties away,  
“That’s the wife of one of my dairy farmers,  
but that’s not her husband...”
- “If you knew who was doing it? What  
would happen to them?”
- “We didn’t have this conversation.”
- “I don’t have this backhoe in the creek...”

# As the Watershed Turns

- Going out of business
- Divorce
- Getting “fixed-up” in Pond Creek
- I didn’t even flinch
- Graduate students lose their clothes
- You have to “speak their language”



# Foreclosures



# As the Watershed Turns

- Going out of business
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- Tune in again next season...
- As The Watershed Turns...



# Change happens slowly



# Very slowly



Happy Trails, Until we meet  
again...

