

Collaborative Natural Resource Protection and Conservation Education



North Carolina Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts

2017 Policies, Positions & Action Items



Building district capacities since 1944

P.O. Box 27943 Raleigh, NC 27611

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A message from the 2017 President, W. Chris Hogan

“Embrace the Challenge”

I feel fortunate and honored to be selected as your president and look forward to facing the challenges ahead with you. I thank all who attended the 2017 Annual Meeting in Charlotte. Your input and contributions were appreciated. Certainly, 2016 was a year in which we “caught the vision” that North Carolina is a national leader in soil and water conservation.



In 2017, the theme I would like to focus on is “Embrace the Challenge!” Change is certain. Our precious resources, their protection and management are rapidly changing. Consequently, all levels of the organization require experienced and knowledgeable leaders to conserve soil, water quality, and water quantity. To meet this goal everyone will need to continue their education to best administer conservation practices. I need all supervisors to attend your area meetings and encourage you to participate in the annual state meeting. This year I would like for us to dedicate ourselves to education and training at all levels of the organization to secure our position as a national leader.

North Carolina in 2019 will be the “Host State” for the International North American Envirothon. This will give us an opportunity to showcase the great state of NC. Our largest challenge will be fund raising. The goal is to raise \$150,000 over a 2.5-year period. My request will be for districts and individuals to raise funds and make contributions.

While the Envirothon is fast upon us, the biggest long term challenge we face is the funding of our own NCASWCD organization in a rapidly growing competitive environment. No longer can we afford to be “the best kept secret.” We need to reach out to potential funding sources as well as our legislators and educate them on who we are and what we do. It is to the benefit of all citizens of North Carolina for our organization to prosper.

I am with you in these challenges and hope you will embrace them.

About this Document

The following contains the policies and positions of our eight standing committees. It captures the core action items for the year ahead in 2017. It would be good for all of you to review this document for direction and guidance.

I consider everyone in a leadership role as a leader of this organization. Its very important to thank each of you for your willingness to serve. It is clear we have numerous challenges and I appreciate working with you to facilitate our organization in running smoothly, changing, and growing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "W. Chris Hogan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

W.Chris Hogan

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2017 POLICIES, POSITIONS & ACTION ITEMS OF THE ASSOCIATION COMMON ABBREVIATION LIST

ACSP	NC Agriculture Cost Share Program for Nonpoint Source Pollution Control
AgWRAP	Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program
Association	North Carolina Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts
BMPs	best management practices
CCAP	Community Conservation Assistance Program
CCP	Certified Conservation Planner
CES	Cooperative Extension Service
Commission	NC Soil and Water Conservation Commission
CREP	Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program
Districts	local soil and water conservation districts
Division	NC Division of Soil and Water Conservation
EEP	NC Ecosystem Enhancement Program
FFA	Future Farmers of America
FLP	Project Food, Land & People
FTE	full-time equivalent
Foundation	NC Foundation for Soil and Water Conservation, Inc.
JAA	job approval authority
NACD	National Association of Conservation Districts
NC	North Carolina
NCDA&CS	North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
NCDEQ	North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
PCEP	Professional Conservation Employees Program
RCW	Resource Conservation Workshop
SENACD	Southeast Region of the National Association of Conservation Districts
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
VAD	Voluntary Agricultural District

2017 POLICIES, POSITIONS & ACTION ITEMS OF THE ASSOCIATION

COMMUNITY CONSERVATION

Chair – Scott Sheffield (Moore)

Vice Chair – Patrick Baker (Pamlico)

Policies & Positions

1. The Association recognizes the need for land use planning, but opposes any state or federal land use planning act that fails to delegate authority in such planning to local officials. The Association recommends that the Districts become one of the main agents to develop and implement local land use plans. Districts should work to ensure adequate representation with local work groups including; Parks & Recreation and Planning & Zoning so that good conservation practices may be implemented and maintained. Promotion of greenways, open spaces, buffers, and other green land use practices are encouraged. Actions of all officials should include adequate public hearings. **2007**
2. The Association encourages Districts to promote soil and water conservation BMPs with contractors, real estate developers, lending institutions, government agencies, and local citizens. To do this, Districts need to provide technical assistance so that their clients will become aware of the importance of conserving all rural, suburban and urban land. **2007**
3. The Association encourages users of eminent domain for the taking of farm or forest land to prove an overriding public need exists--without a reasonable or prudent alternative--before public funds could be invested for roads, streets, water or sewer facilities, and similar items. In addition, this public need must be proven if actions taken were to decrease the productivity or adversely affect the remaining or adjacent farm and forestland. **2015**
4. The Association supports the NC Sedimentation Pollution Control Act of 1973, including the review process required by local ordinances for erosion control plans by District Supervisors, NRCS staff, and District staff. Each District is encouraged to work on erosion and sedimentation problems to maintain agriculture's exemption from the Act. This will be done by providing education on and promoting the use of BMPs to prevent sediment runoff. Each District is encouraged to support local sedimentation and erosion control programs. **2006**
5. The Association will continue to support an effective level of recurring funding for the NC Agriculture Cost Share Program for Nonpoint Source Pollution Control, the Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program, the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, and the Community Conservation Assistance Program. **2014**
6. The Association supports dedicated funding for the Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund, the Clean Water Management Trust Fund, and the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund. The Association endorses the State Goal of preserving a million acres of open space especially by providing incentives to land owners to preserve farm and forest land. **2014**
7. The Association supports district involvement in assisting with National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Phase I and Phase II Regulations to help improve surface water quality. **2007**

8. The Association urges the Division to seek technical assistance funding for District Community Conservationists statewide. **2007**
9. The Association supports the continual expansion of approved BMPs for Community Conservation projects as needs are identified by Districts across the state. **2007**
10. The Community Conservation Committee urges Districts to develop relationships with nonprofit organizations, land trusts, corporations, and other government agencies. **2010**
11. The Association recognizes the Lower Cape Fear Stewardship Development Awards™ Program as an exemplary conservation program and encourages all Districts to implement similar Stewardship Development Awards™ Programs to achieve statewide coverage. The Association will only endorse those Stewardship Development Awards™ Programs that enter into a reciprocal agreement with the Lower Cape Fear Stewardship Development Coalition, whereby they agree to adopt the four principal factors in exchange for access to the Lower Cape Fear Stewardship Development Coalition's program materials and experience. The Association urges Districts to take a lead role in implementation of this program. **2010**
12. The Association seeks to encourage more widespread adoption of low impact development (LID) techniques. The Association encourages districts to promote the adoption of LID techniques through adoption of local government ordinances, modifications of state and local mandates for conventional stormwater management, and outreach to developers and/or builders to show the financial benefits of LID using available resources including the Wildlife Resources Commission's Green Growth Toolbox. **2014**
13. The Association will annually confer the "Outstanding Accomplishments in Community Conservation" known as the Jim Stephenson Award for an outstanding District community conservation effort. **2015**
14. The Association will continue education and outreach to districts regarding conservation easements and legal and fiduciary responsibilities associated with easements and land ownership. **2014**

Action Items

* Action items #1 and #2 are the top two priorities of this committee.

1. The Association requests and supports funding for the statewide Community Conservation Assistance Program, Session Law 2006-78 passed during the 2006 session of the legislature. The Association requests an increase in the amount of recurring funding to \$6.5 million for the program of which \$3 million is for technical assistance and education and outreach, and \$3.5 million is for BMPs. **2017**
2. The Association will work with partners to conduct assessments of district training needs on conservation easement topics. The Association will support training sessions on these topics for districts through 2018. **2014, 2016, 2017**

DISTRICT OPERATIONS

Chair – Brian Harwell (Iredell)

Vice Chair – James Ferguson (Haywood)

Policies & Positions

1. The Association will continue as a leader to improve the quality of NC waters. The Association encourages the Districts to expand their role in developing policies and programs with our conservation partners toward meeting the conservation challenges. This effort must retain our non-regulatory function in assisting cooperators and would be contingent on the provision of adequate funding. **2005**
2. The Association encourages the Division to seek funds and grants to fund additional projects and personnel to assist Districts in addressing water quality problems. **2005**
3. The Association is interested in maintaining a leadership role for improving water quality and other natural resources in NC by encouraging Districts to take State & Local officials on an annual tour of their BMP's, and to express appreciation to State Representatives, Senators and local officials for their support. The Association encourages District Supervisors to maintain contact with their members of Congress, State Legislators and local officials to seek their support in funding Division conservation programs. **2014**
4. The Association supports District employees being properly trained in animal waste management systems and any other aspects of future technical areas. This technical training will be based on the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide Standards and other applicable information. There needs to be continual training, so that District employees can stay current and new employees are qualified to handle the role of duties associated with inspections. **2005**
5. The Association will continue to support the conservation partnership organization's efforts to provide cooperators with the information and technical support they need to comply with regulations. Having this partnership also serve as the regulatory authority, the role traditionally served by NC Department of Environmental Quality, would threaten the partnership's historical working relationship with producers, which has been very effective in reaching resource conservation goals over the years. **2003**
6. The Association encourages all conservation partners (District supervisors and employees of; Districts, NRCS, Division, NCDA&CS and CES) to participate in the Basic Training for Soil and Water Conservation Supervisors. **2006**
7. The Association appreciates and supports the Division for maintaining, updating and posting the NC District Directory, which includes; Districts, the Division and NRCS. **2014**
8. The Association encourages every District to involve NRCS, CES, NCDA&CS and the Division in annual and long range planning. In addition, management of NRCS, CES, NCDA&CS, Division and NCDEQ are encouraged to follow the lead in their planning processes. All Districts are encouraged to list in all planning documents; Division, Foundation, NRCS, CES, NCDA&CS and NCDEQ programs. **2016**
9. The Association encourages that any partner with significant policy change or operational changes that may impact another partner notify well in advance all other partners affected by the change via electronic communication and regular mail. **2007**

10. The Association supports District involvement, where appropriate, in creating and implementing Local Ordinances that protect important natural resources; these local ordinances include, but are not limited to, Erosion and Sediment Control ordinances, Low Impact Development ordinances, Stormwater ordinances, Steep Slope ordinances, and Water Conservation ordinances. **2008**
11. The Association fully endorses the NC Conservation District Employee Training & Certification Initiative. The Association supports the workgroup in carrying out the training by including this in the Program Objectives of the Association. The Association supports a survey of the current trainings, from all available partners and resources that are available to District employees. District staff and supervisors shall provide input to the training needs or training that could be improved upon. **2010**
12. The Association encourages all District Supervisors to become aware and knowledgeable of the importance of Job Approval Authority (JAA), the level of authority currently held by technical district staff, and encourage all staff to seek the highest possible JAA for commonly used practices in the District. The Association encourages all District Supervisors to work with staff to ensure all employees have comprehensive training plans. The Association requests that each Area Chair focus a portion of their spring area meetings on discussions relative to employee training, the importance of JAA, and the importance of training plans for all employees. **2011, 2015**
13. The Association supports the Division of Soil and Water Conservation exploring the option of utilizing engineering graduate students from NCSU and or other engineering schools to assist with implementation of conservation practices. **2014**

Action Items

* Action items #1 and #2 are the top two priorities of this committee.

1. The Association encourages the Division to work with NCDA&CS to explore the development of undergraduate and graduate engineering internship programs and to build relationships with colleges and universities across the state and report back to the Association by the Annual Meeting in 2018. **2017**
2. The District Operations Committee will take a strategic look at the Contests Workshops and Awards Handbook and review Conservation Farm Family contest eligibility and selection criteria, ensuring the program is based on sound conservation practices, family farming and production agriculture. This committee should conclude recommendations by the September 2017 Association Executive Committee meeting. **2016**
3. Due to inconsistencies in information that is protected under federal law (e.g. section 1619 of the 2008 Farm Bill) and state law (e.g. N.C.G.S. 132), the Division will request in coordination with the Commission, the UNC School of Government, the State Attorney General's Office, and NCDA&CS Attorneys to assist in developing guidelines for Districts to respond to public records requests. After these guidelines are established, the Division will coordinate with NRCS in the implementation by June 2017. **2017**
4. The Association, along with the Division and other partners, will open a discussion with the NC Department of Transportation to allow the Districts to post signs at each county line and major thoroughfare in the state in a uniform and professional manner as to be beneficial to the public. **2010**

5. The Association supports the PCEP in its efforts to create and maintain a database to document and track partnership employees in their efforts to enhance and expand their professional knowledge, skills and abilities. The database would track efforts such as successful completion of the training courses and workshops, securing JAA, or obtaining related certifications (e.g. Certified Conservation Planners (CCP)). **2012**

EDUCATION

Chair – Samuel Greene, Jr. (Vance)

Vice Chair – Richard Hayes (Chatham)

Policies & Positions

1. The Association encourages all local Districts to participate in the following educational activities:
 - a. assist schools in developing projects on and off campus.
 - b. obtain a conservation plan on all school grounds and recognize these schools for installing this plan.
 - c. distribute Soil and Water Conservation materials in schools.
 - d. support 4-H Environmental Quality Demonstration Contests, FFA Land Judging Contests, the Forestry Contest, and any other career conservation education programs.
 - e. support Soil and Water Stewardship Week. Districts will be responsible for copying and distributing available materials.
 - f. support the Resource Conservation Workshop by sponsoring a student representative. **2014**
2. The Association supports and endorses Food, Land & People, Project Learning Tree, NC Wild, Project Catch, Project WET and Ag in the Classroom as additional conservation education programs for Districts. **2003**
3. The Association encourages and requests districts to embrace FLP as a core educational program. The Association requests each area to schedule and implement an annual FLP teacher's workshop or activity. The Association encourages the division to support FLP by providing adequate staff hours and resources to implement the statewide coordination of the program as staff to the FLP committee. The Association encourages the division to support the FLP Committee's Action Plan objectives for recurring funding, marketing materials, facilitator and teacher workshop and strategy. The Association proclaims October as the NC Project Food, Land and People Month. **2014**
4. The Association supports implementation of a comprehensive natural resource program to be used for teacher renewal credit workshops offered by Districts along with the Mathematics and Science Education Centers/Office of Special Programs within the University of North Carolina (UNC) System. This program would be based on a need to offer natural resource education material that can supplement the existing curriculum in grades K-12. **2003**

5. The Association supports the Area and State Envirothon competition for grades 5-8 and 9-12 and encourages all Districts in NC to sponsor at least one team from their District to the Envirothon competition. **2003**
6. The Association will provide \$300 cash award and up to \$150 travel allowance to the Conservation Teacher of the Year to attend the state association annual meeting awards banquet. **2003**
7. The Association encourages each District to include all children in their diverse educational programs. **2014**
8. The Association strongly encourages each of the Association's eight areas continue to sponsor two Resource Conservation Workshop counselors on an annual basis by covering their registration fee, meal costs and mileage as applicable. In addition, the Association encourages each area to give their respective counselor a stipend after he/she has completed the one-week of service at the workshop. The suggested amount of the one-week stipend is \$100.00 per counselor per week. **2014**
9. The Association requests that each District appoint one person to act as an Education Coordinator. Each District should send the name of its Education Coordinator to the Division Education Coordinator. Upon receipt, a list will be sent to the Education Committee Chairperson. **2014**
10. The Education Committee Chairperson and the Division Education Coordinator are encouraged to develop a list of resource materials applicable to assigned topics for poster, essay and public speaking contests. To the extent feasible, this list should be available by August 1st each new school year and will be provided to each Area of the Association. **2014**
11. The Association shall provide an educational display at the NC State Fair and at the Mountain State Fair promoting the Districts of NC. **2014**
12. The Association does hereby proclaim April as Environmental Awareness Month in NC and that the Governor of NC adopt this proclamation. **2003**
13. The Association supports the growth of the River Friendly Farmer Program and the distribution of information about it to the Districts. **2005**
14. The Area I Association will be allowed to draw \$250.00 from the Association's State Fair budget for the Mountain State Fair. A representative from the Mountain State Fair shall be appointed to the State Fair Committee by the Education Committee Chairman. Also, all handouts and other materials for the Mountain State Fair shall be ordered with the material for the NC State Fair. **2014**
15. The Association shall continue to improve the website to provide information on educational programs, guidelines and templates to be used by the districts in developing educational outreach. **2014**

Action Items

1. The sub-committee that has been formed by the Education Committee will continue to move forward in development of a mobile soils classroom. The Soil and Water Conservation Mobile Soils Classroom Project sub-committee will continue to seek funding for equipment, displays

and hands-on activities for the classroom. The sub-committee will explore a website home for the SWC Mobile Soils Classroom Project. **2014**

2. The Association fully supports and joins in partnership with the Hugh Hammond Bennett Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society in its effort to establish a Hugh Hammond Bennett Center for Conservation Education. The Association will support the effort to create a Hugh Hammond Bennett Center for Conservation Education by seeking public and private funding in cooperation and partnership with the Hugh Hammond Bennett (NC) Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society and will actively participate in all planning efforts leading up to the establishment of the Center. **2014**
3. The Association authorizes its president appoint a committee to represent the Association and Districts regarding discussions with the NC Museum of Natural Sciences and/or other outdoor facilities in developing an active conservation education program and soil display across the state of North Carolina in memory of Dr. Hugh Hammond Bennett. **2014**
4. The Association will partner with the Mountain Island Educational State Forest to seek funding that would enable the necessary facilities to be built that would make it accessible to the general public and other groups. This partnership should make the State Forest available for educational purposes for use by the Association as well as other public entities. **2012**
5. The Association authorizes it's District Operations and it's Education Committees to form a joint sub-committee to research and draft details of a Conservation Volunteer Corps Program that includes:
 - a. Identifying willing conservation partnership volunteers
 - b. Developing a method for matching volunteer interest/expertise/availability with an association program, project or initiative in need of assistance.
 - c. Creating an outreach strategy to promote the conservation volunteer corps to retired and non-employed conservation partners.
 - d. Developing a plan and methodology to coordinate, implement and sustain an effective statewide conservation volunteer corps that mutually benefits volunteers and association alike, and
 - e. Initiate a committee to create an internship program for high school and college students. **2014**
6. The Association will support the Soil and Water Conservation State Fair Committee in working with the State Fair Management group to increase the visibility of the Soil and Water Conservation State Fair display booth, and research options of providing a permanent structure. **2015**
7. The Association will support the Envirothon Core Committee in sponsoring and hosting the 2019 North American Envirothon (a.k.a. National Conservation Foundation Envirothon). **2016**
8. The Association will establish a North Carolina DMV license plate that focuses on Conservation Education with proceeds being used for the NC Soil and Water Conservation Education Programs. **2016**

9. The Association Education Committee will invite NC teachers in grades 3-9 to a Teacher Retreat to work together to correlate the Association's annual contest themes with the NC Essential Standards for grades 3-9 in Science, Social Studies, History, Language Arts, Healthy Living, Visual Arts and other subjects to make District contests directly applicable to our state's school curriculum. (Ex: Teachers, two or more per grade level, participate in a retreat, correlating a theme each day and unpacking its content across subject areas. Once all five contest themes are correlated, a teacher retreat would not have to be held again until learning standards are revised or changed.) The participating teachers in the Teacher Retreat will be given incentives as part of a compensation package that may consist of the following: \$100 gift card for school supplies, free overnight accommodations, free meals, snacks & beverages, continuing education and/or NC Environmental Education Certification credit, Association education materials (from Envirothon and/or Project Food, Land & People), conservation posters and teaching resources, paid education workshop registration of teacher's choice, or other benefits highly coveted by teachers. An ad hoc committee will be appointed to carry out this action. **2017**
10. The Association shall contribute financially towards the support of bringing the NCF Envirothon to NC in the summer of 2019. This financial contribution may consist of exhibitor expo receipts for the next three years (2017, 2018, and 2019) and a significant share of the 2016 Southeast NACD meeting profits. **2017**

FINANCE

Chair – Ben Knox (Rowan)

Vice Chair – Melinda James (Macon)

Policies & Positions

1. The Association will operate in 2017 by paying dues as assessed. The following dues assessment will be used to fund the Association's budget: Base dues \$400 per county, plus \$1.00 for each 1,000 population, and \$1.50 for each 10,000 acres per county effective fiscal year 2016. The Association Treasurer will use the most recent estimate of census data to determine population. An updated assessment will be done every five years thereafter using January 1996 as the base date. **2017**
2. The Association shall contribute an amount not to exceed \$1,500 to the host District and/or County in paying itemized expenses of the NC Association of Future Farmers of America to conduct an annual statewide land-judging contest. **2014**
3. The Association endorses the selection of an outside auditor to be hired to audit the financial records of the Association. The books will be closed on November 30 and audited as soon as possible thereafter and reported to the Association. **2003**
4. The Association encourages gifts and contributions to the Association Endowment Fund with interest income used to help defray expenses of the Association. Should the Association be dissolved, the Executive Committee shall place all remaining funds of the Association Endowment Fund with the Hugh Hammond Bennett Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society. **2003**
5. The Association recommends that District Supervisors who are requested to attend meetings called by the Association or government agencies pertaining to Association business be

reimbursed mileage at \$0.40 per mile rate. If overnight lodging is required, lodging and meals will be reimbursed at actual cost not to exceed the State rate. Receipts are required. **2008**

6. The Association adopts the Finance Committee recommendation that the Association provide funds for travel expenses for the following meetings: NACD and SENACD Meetings \$1,000 per delegate, up to 7 delegates for the NACD meeting and \$800 per delegate, up to 7 delegates for the SENACD Meeting. **2014**
7. The Association will be responsible for one room and banquet costs (up to 6 tickets) per regional winner to defray Conservation Farm Family expenses to attend the annual meeting. The Area/District will be responsible for all other expenses. **2016**
8. The Association will provide \$1,200 to help cover costs of sending the NC Envirothon Committee Chairman, or his designee (giving District Supervisors first priority) to two National Envirothon Committee Meetings. **2003**
9. In the case of death of any past or present supervisor, the Association will send a memorial of \$50.00 to the endowment fund. **2003**
10.
 - a. There will be a \$30.00 differential between Annual Meeting early registration and registration at the door. (An attendee saves \$30.00 by registering early.) An exception will be made for new supervisors whose service begins on or after the registration deadline. The State Association Executive Committee will set the registration deadline each year.
 - b. The Finance Committee will give no refunds of Annual Meeting Registration fees after the Wednesday prior to the start of the Annual Meeting without special approval of the Executive Committee. **2017**
11. Special requests for approval of refunds must be presented to the State Association Executive Committee. Approval or disapproval of such special requests or emergency situations is solely at the discretion of the State Association Executive Committee. **2005**

Action Items

1. The Finance Committee strongly recommends the Subcommittee appointed by the President continue to look at options to raise money for the State Association. **2014**
2. The Finance Committee institutes a past dues collection policy as follows:
 - a. The Association President will send a letter to the district chairman of any district with any dues outstanding as of September 1. **2014**
 - b. The Association President or designee will call the district chairman of any district with any dues outstanding as of November 1. **2014**
3. The Association Finance Committee will explore options of charging an administrative fee to the Areas and Sub accounts for audit expenses incurred by the Association. **2015**
4. The Association will make a one-time contribution in the amount of \$7,500 to the 2019 NCF Envirothon if hosted by NC. The Finance Committee will consider additional contributions in 2018 and 2019 fiscal years based on funds available. **2017**

LEGISLATIVE

Chair – Manly West (Albemarle – Currituck)

Vice Chair – Sam Davis (Jones)

Policies & Positions

1. The Association expresses its appreciation to the members of the General Assembly for their continued support given to the Agriculture Cost Share Program for Nonpoint Source Pollution Control, the Community Conservation Assistance Program, the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, and the Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program, and their support in sustaining the local conservation infrastructure in Districts. The Association strongly encourages the General Assembly to continue to provide strong support for non-regulatory programs delivered through Districts. **2013**
2. The Association supports the restoration of full technical assistance funding for the NRCS to the level required to have one NRCS employee per District. **2017**
3. The Association supports recognition by the Environmental Protection Agency, state and local water quality programs that nonpoint source program funding seriously lags behind point source programs, and is not allocated to NC based on the attributed nonpoint source proportion of the water quality problem. **2014**
4. The Association supports federal and state legislation or other action to compensate landowners, through tax benefits or other incentives, for conservation actions taken in response to federal and state regulations for wetlands, animal waste management, buffers, and other water quality related programs. **2003**
5. The Association believes that a collaborative and coordinated effort by the Section 319 Program is essential to achieve clean water goals, and urges the NC Congressional Delegation to support the continued funding of the Section 319 grant program. **2007**
6. The Association will take action through NACD (e.g., via resolutions) to ensure NC plays a leadership role in dealing with national conservation issues. **2003**
7. The Association supports common conservation goals and actions taken through the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) and the National Association of State Conservation Agencies (NASCA). **2012**
8. The Association strongly opposes any barriers such as federal technical assistance user fees that prevent or impede conservation planning and the implementation of BMPs for landowners. **2014**

Action Items

1. The Association President will acknowledge and thank the NC General Assembly and the Commissioner of Agriculture for the \$12.2 million allocation through the Disaster Recovery Act of 2016, and ask leadership for continued and future support of disaster recovery funds through Districts. **2017**
2. The Association will request that the Governor and the General Assembly fund five (5) engineering positions for the Division as part of the FY2018 budget process. **2017**

3. The Association will request that the Governor and the NC General Assembly increase the appropriation of recurring funds made available each year to reimburse District Supervisors for necessary travel and training expenses to conduct their official duties by \$117,000 and increase matching funds by \$240,000 during the FY2018 budget process. The Association President, the Commission Chairman, and Director of the Division, will work in concert with NCDA&CS, the Governor and the General Assembly to achieve this priority funding need. **2017**
4. The Association will seek increased funding for the ACSP best management practices and technical assistance. The Association will request additional amounts of \$2.0 million for best management practices and \$635,000 to restore 50:50 match with local government for technical assistance and operating funds at \$1,500 per FTE. **2016**
5. The Association requests and supports funding for the statewide Community Conservation Assistance Program, Session Law 2006-78 passed during the 2006 session of the legislature. The Association requests an increase in the amount of recurring funding to \$6.5 million of which up to \$3 million would be committed for technical and education resources and to include establishing Community Conservationist positions statewide, and \$3.5 million for BMP funding. Funding should not come from a reduction in the ACSP or AgWRAP, or negatively affect increases in the ACSP or AgWRAP funding. **2017**
6. The Association will seek an additional recurring appropriation of \$1,000,000 for the Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program (AgWRAP) for financial and technical assistance. Funding should not come from a reduction in other soil and water conservation cost share programs. **2014**
7. The Association will actively support the permanent reinstatement of the NC State tax benefits for conservation easements consistent with the Federal program. **2017**
8. The Association will request the Governor and the General Assembly to restore the NC Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund to \$3 million recurring for the purchase of agricultural easements and resource project plans and maintain an annual recurring appropriation of \$2 million to match federal funds for the purchase of development rights from agricultural operations located near military bases in NC that encourage the preservation of qualifying agricultural, horticultural, and forest lands to be administered and/or held by local Districts and other conservation entities as stated in Article 61 of NC General Statute 106-744. **2017**
9. The Association is on record as requesting the NC General Assembly and County Government in NC adding potential benefits for land owners who sign-up and participate in Voluntary Agriculture Districts (VAD) or Enhanced Voluntary Agriculture Districts (EVAD). The Association President will appoint a subcommittee to compile a list of potential benefits. **2017**
10. The Association requests that the NACD works closely with the appropriate congressional committees to re-establish general and adequate technical assistance funding for NRCS personnel within USDA that is separate and independent from Conservation Programs that are delivered through each occurring Farm Bill. **2017**

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Chair – Toby Bost (Forsyth)

Vice Chair – Wayne Short (Fishing Creek)

Policies & Positions

1. The Association recommends that Districts take a stronger initiative in encouraging improved forest land management and forest health programs in their Districts.
 - a. The Association recommends that all Districts devote at least one meeting a year to evaluating and developing a specific program for improved forestland management in their Districts, and invite the local NC Forest Service to participate.
 - b. The Association supports the following programs:
 - 1) The NC Forest Service Forest Development Program, the NC Tree Farm Programs, and Forest Stewardship and Forest Legacy Programs;
 - 2) The NC State University School of Forest Resources' Small Woodlot Research and Demonstration Program; and,
 - 3) The implementation of forest BMPs by forest landowners, timber buyers, and harvesting loggers when harvesting and/or re-foresting timberlands to reduce accelerated erosion, to reduce stream sedimentation and improve water quality.
 - c. The Association supports, under supervision of the NC Forest Service and other certified burners [as defined in GS 113-60.41], the practice of prescribed burning as a tool in forest management.
 - d. The Association and Districts are urged to take a strong stand on increasing financial assistance for the Forest Development Program (FDP) and other forestry incentive programs and also, to work with our state and national legislators toward a better understanding of forestry practices and costs. **2013**
2. The Association supports the Wildlife Resources Commission in its program efforts to focus on cropland, forestland, and right-of-way management. **2003**
3. The Association endorses and encourages the maintenance of a Western NC Arboretum to protect endangered plants; to provide services in the evaluation, demonstration, and testing of plant materials; and to broaden public awareness of the unique position this region occupies in the plant world. **2003**
4. The Association endorses the extension of Conservation Reserve Program contracts and asks that local Districts encourage program participants to extend their Conservation Reserve Program contract. **2003**
5. The Association supports the partnership established to administer the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program and encourages Districts to actively promote this program to eligible landowners. The Association also supports adequate new funding for CREP. **2003**
6. The Association supports the NRCS in:

- a. the creation and enhancement of wildlife habitat under the Working Lands for Wildlife;
 - b. the protection and enhancement of soil, water, air, wildlife, forests and natural resources under the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP); and,
 - c. implementing the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) as authorized in the 2014 Farm Bill. ACEP encompasses the Wetland Reserve Easement (WRE) and Agricultural Land Easement (ALE) programs. Continue to implement the previous farm bill easement programs (WRP, FRPP, GRP) as authorized. **2015**
7. The Association supports the State's goal of preserving one million acres of open space by 2020 and encourages the state to consider ways to maintain private ownership of working farm and forest lands as a means of achieving this goal. **2016**
 8. The Association supports preserving the state's farmland and encourages:
 - a. Districts to take an active role in developing and implementing state and/or local farmland preservation initiatives and creation of Agricultural Districts.
 - b. The General Assembly and local governments to provide financial and other incentives to farmers to preserve working farmlands. **2003**
 9. The Association supports Districts holding conservation easements generated by the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, NC Agricultural Development & Farmland Preservation Trust Fund, Agricultural Land Easement (ALE) and other open space preservation programs and encourages the State to make long term funding available for monitoring conservation easements. **2017**
 10. The Association recognizes and supports Waterway Cleanup and does further hereby urge every District to do their part to restore the beauty and function of our lakes and streams with promoting, supporting, volunteering, or in kind services for the event. **2016**
 11. The Association supports prescribed grazing on pastureland and encourages Districts to emphasize this practice. **2015**
 12. The Officers of the Association shall work with elected government officials and the Department of Revenue to revise the Present Use Value (PUV) taxation to encourage conservation program participation by landowners by retaining their eligibility for PUV taxation on the affected land. District supervisors shall work with county officials to encourage PUV at the local level. The Association also encourages revenue sources to maintain PUV data that supports the program. **2017**
 13. The Association strongly encourages NACD to request USDA and NRCS, to deliver all Federal conservation assistance programs in a way that maximizes the locally led process, fully utilizes decisions and priorities formulated through local work groups, and allocates financial cost share resources and ranks program applications at the lowest possible organizational level, preferably at the local District level. The Association recommends support for a standardized advertising criterion for local workgroup meetings. **2014**
 14. The Association strongly encourages the waiver or exemption of state and local permit fees associated with conservation practices included in a technically sound conservation plan meeting published approved standards. **2013**

15. The Association will encourage a forestry representative to serve on each county's voluntary agriculture district board. **2013**
16. The Association through local Districts shall identify major sources of nonpoint source pollution within each District and shall work cooperatively with the NC Division of Water Resources, other agencies and the private sector to develop and implement local and regional strategies to address identified water quality concerns. These local strategies shall be included in District Strategy Plans for ACSP and offered for incorporation into NC Division of Water Resource's river basin plans and any Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), ELG's, or other Implementation Strategies developed to address water quality concerns. **2015**
17. Districts are encouraged to develop strategies for addressing water quality concerns in impaired and impacted streams under the Association's Impaired and Impacted Streams Initiative and to work cooperatively with other Districts, the Division, and other entities to seek funds and implement BMPs to affect water quality improvement. **2015**
18. The Association supports debris clean out and maintenance of creeks and streams to help alleviate flooding, sedimentation and nutrients from flooding events. **2017**
19. The Association will support partners to produce training and provide education and outreach on conservation easement topics, including legal and fiduciary responsibilities with easements and land ownership for Districts with yearly updates. **2017**
20. The Association supports the policies for the State of NC to conserve and/or protect our prime, unique, state and locally significant farmland, prime forestland, wildlife habitat, and natural heritage survey sites (hereinafter referred to as important farm and forestlands) and endorses agriculture districting, farmland preservation and estate planning in NC. The Association encourages all Districts in NC that are located in a county without a Voluntary Agricultural District (VAD) Ordinance in place to work with their county commissioners towards adoption of a VAD Ordinance in their county. **2017**

Action Items

* Action item #1 is the top priority of this committee.

1. The NC Soil and Water Conservation District Leadership and the NC Division of Soil and Water Conservation will partner with the NRCS to develop a soil health strategy to make functioning soil health a priority. The partnership engages the East National Tech Center Soil Health and Sustainability Team, Greensboro, NC, to provide training to all partnership field employees. The above mentioned leadership will encourage and support soil health as a training priority for all field employees in NC so that there is direct farmer access to quality technical assistance from conservation professionals. **2015**
2. The Association will work with Districts, NRCS, North Carolina Longleaf Coalition and others to restore the Longleaf Pine habitat of this historic, economically valuable and environmentally desirable resource. **2011**
3. The Association will work with the NC Forest Service by participating in the committee charged with revising the Forestry BMP Manual to protect water quality. **2013**
4. The Association urges NACD to work with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the USDA to ensure that the full impact on conservation BMPs is fully considered when promulgating regulations for the safe production and harvesting of fruits and vegetables that are raw agricultural commodities.

The Association hereby urges the FDA and USDA, as they consider further regulation in the area of Good Agricultural Practices standards, to ensure that:

- a. Regulations, standards and protocols are drafted to maximize compatibility with environmental, conservation and waste-reduction goals, as well as other certification requirements; and,
- b. The NACD, and state Associations of Soil and Water Conservation Districts, are fully incorporated into the rulemaking process; and,
- c. Significant educational and training resources are made available to assist farmers in transitioning to the new protocols, which will help assist participation and thus food safety; and,
- d. Food safety auditors from public and private certification agencies receive education and training to ensure that their enforcement is fair and consistent, and that they understand the relationship between food safety protocols, conservation program requirements, as well as an array of farming systems and practices; and,
- e. Conservation employees receive education and training to ensure they understand the relationship between conservation measures and food safety.
- f. Any rules are supported by and evolve from solid and independent scientific study and grounding for their requirements; and,
- g. Financial assistance is provided for BMPs to maintain viable marketable products. **2011**

RESEARCH and TECHNOLOGY

Chair – Charles Mitchell (Franklin)

Vice Chair – Denny Norris (Watauga)

Policies & Positions

1. The Association encourages and should seek new funding to enable the NC Agricultural Research Service, the NC Cooperative Extension Service, and USDA - Agricultural Research Service to continue and expand research and technology transfer in soil and water conservation. Key research needs include:
 - a. Continue research to perfect methodologies for estimating the natural resources and economic benefits of implementation of conservation practices for various production systems. **2017**
 - b. Improve methodologies for targeting limited cost share and technical assistance resources for implementing effective conservation practices. **2017**
 - c. Remote Sensing and Precision Farming
 - 1) Research and demonstration on economical on-farm use of Remote Sensing Technology and Precision Farming to evaluate crop nutrient, water, and pest status and improve the efficiency of crop inputs. **2017**

- 2) Research 'precision irrigation' systems and techniques to improve irrigation efficiency and irrigation water management. **2017**

d. Soil Health

- 1) Continue to promote research on evaluating and improving soil health on working land. **2017**
- 2) Research and demonstration on grazing cover crops (including both winter and summer annuals) as part of cropping systems to support soil health. **2017**
- 3) Research and demonstration of farm implement technology that is capable of uniformly distributing cover crop seed mixes containing different sized seeds. **2017**

e. Herbicide-resistant weed management

- 1) Evaluate alternative weed control methods, such as heavy cover crops, alternative modes of action for pesticides and crop rotation. **2017**
- 2) Support development of economically viable crop rotations to address herbicide-resistant weed concerns. **2017**

f. Research and demonstration on developing new and protect existing pollinator habitat. **2017**

g. Evaluate and demonstrate alternative techniques for waste treatment, application systems, nutrient recycling, and other procedures that use soil as a receiving medium. **2017**

h. Develop models to quantify wetland functions and values, as well as the economic and social impact of wetlands, in order to support land-use flexibility decisions and landowner participation in environmental markets. **2017**

2. The Association actively promotes alternatives to tillage as a means of weed control. **2017**

3. The Association actively promotes the use of soil health systems to increase soil organic matter, moisture retention, and weed suppression on very low residue crops. **2017**

Action Items

1. The Research & Technology Committee will continue to develop a list of the priority research needs related to soil and water conservation and related research concerns.

This list will be presented, through the Association President, to the Dean of CALS at NC State University, NC A&T State University and the USDA Agricultural Research Service for consideration when developing their respective research agendas.

This list will be compiled annually and presented by the June following the approval of this document by the Association. **2017**

2. The Association will encourage and maintain communication between the Research and Technology Committee and USDA-ARS to continue funding opportunities for both organizations and provide mutual support when requested. **2017**
3. The Research & Technology Committee will designate a liaison to the USDA-ARS to attend the annual briefing at the Coastal Plain Soil, Water, and Plant Conservation Research Center in Florence, SC, and to identify ways for the Association and the ARS (including the Plant Science Research Unit at NC State University) to be mutually supportive. The designated liaison will report to the Committee on highlights of ARS research and findings of interest to the Association. **2017**
4. The Committee will provide recommendations to the NRCS State Conservationist for priorities for state-level Conservation Innovation Grant request for proposals. **2017**

WATER RESOURCES

Chair – Jim Summers (Rowan)

Vice Chair – Dennis Benfield (Caldwell)

Policies & Positions

1. The Association strongly opposes the interbasin transfers of water from any river basin to another river basin, and it encourages Districts to be actively involved in decision-making processes involving water allocation. **2012**
2. The Association recognizes the value of buffers, riparian areas, wetlands and stream bank restoration including the use of new bioengineering technologies, as a viable concept and approach to watershed protection and management and urges Districts to seek grant funding and implement these measures where practical. **2003**
3. The Association supports continuation of Drainage Districts and the creation of new districts as needed after proper study by the Association. **2011**
4. The Association supports a program for monitoring groundwater in NC. Furthermore, the Association urges the General Assembly to appropriate additional funds for ongoing groundwater and surface water monitoring and making monitoring results available to the public. **2009**
5. The Association urges the Division of Water Resources and Districts to continue working together in ongoing comprehensive, integrated water quality and water quantity planning at the watershed and basinwide scale. **2015**
6. The Association recommends that local Districts become actively involved in developing and implementing targeted ag sediment and stormwater management projects to identify and deal with problems in identified watersheds and impaired stream segments. The Association urges the Division of Water Resources and Division of Soil and Water Conservation, to support and assist District's efforts by providing additional funding, guidance and coordination of sediment projects with accelerated technical assistance and cost-share funding. **2010**

7. The Association actively supports the Aquatic Weed Control Program of the NC Division of Water Resources and encourages management alternatives that can minimize aquatic weed infestations in waterbodies. **2011**
8. The Association supports state and federal funding for watershed scale water resource planning and project implementation. **2013**
9. The Association supports the operation, maintenance, and rehabilitation of PL-566 Small Watershed Program Structures. The Association:
 - a. Encourages Federal and State funding to address rehabilitation, restoration and repair or removal of older watershed structures which have reached their design life-span and/or no longer meet safety requirements based on a change in land use, new dam safety requirements, or other factors not associated with inadequate operation and maintenance. The Association shall support NACD, Water Resources Congress, and the National Watershed Coalition in their work with Congress to obtain and sustain funding to support restoration and maintenance of PL-566 structures.
 - b. Encourages Districts to work with other local sponsors of PL-566 structures to assess the maintenance needs of these structures to enable them to continue to safely provide the benefits for which they were initially installed. **2013**
10. The Association supports the continuation of recurring funding for the AgWRAP, and it encourages the use of this program to encourage water conservation of our fresh water resources, while providing fresh water for farm production and improving the water quality in NC. **2014**
11. In the interest of protecting ambient waters of the state from pollution from harmful chemical compounds contained in improperly disposed prescription and non-prescription drugs, Districts should actively support and participate in the formation and operation of local Operation Medicine Cabinet or Medicine Drop programs, and include proper prescription drug disposal information in District water quality outreach materials and activities. **2012**
12. The Association strongly encourages Districts to develop and implement strategies for improving water use efficiency. **2013**
13. The Association supports the responsible construction and maintenance of farm ponds and the 2015 Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, Section 111 which requires the Clean Water Act, Section 404(f)(2) to be less burdensome for agricultural activities. **2015**

Action Items

* Action items #1 and #2 are the top two priorities of this committee.

1. The Association urges Districts to become active participants and leaders for local nonpoint source planning and implementation activities using a watershed approach. Individual Districts are encouraged to consider multiple programs and funding sources (such as 319, Environmental Quality Incentive Program, CREP, Clean Water Management Trust Fund, Federal Agricultural Conservation Easement Program – Wetland Reserve Easements, Division of Mitigation Services, Community Conservation Assistance Program, etc.) when addressing water quality issues. **2017**

2. The Association supports the creation of a statewide Voluntary Water Management Initiative to (1) provide non-reverting seed funds and technical assistance for critical restoration and maintenance for aging watershed structures for flood control and prevention (such as PL-566 Structures), (2) provide funding for drainage, flooding and safety concerns that may include removal of storm debris from streams and drainageways resulting from severe storm events, and (3) provide technical assistance to develop and implement regional voluntary water management improvement plans. The Association requests \$5,000,000 in recurring appropriations for cost-share and for three new Division positions to implement and maintain this program. The Association further requests \$66,700 in non-recurring funds to equip these positions. **2016**
 3. The Association President, Water Resources Committee chair, NRCS State Conservationist and the Directors for Energy, Minerals and Land Resources, Water Resources, and Soil and Water Conservation are encouraged to meet and begin efforts to develop a comprehensive long range strategy to address the restoration, maintenance and safety concerns associated with PL-566 Small Watershed Program structures in North Carolina. **2014**
 4. The Association will support the Emergency Action Plan development training and encourage statewide participation of soil and water conservation district staff and other local government entities as applicable. **2014**
 5. The Association will join with NACD, the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA), the National Association of State Conservation Agencies (NASCA), Farm Bureau, the NC State Grange, and other agricultural interests to seek resolutions and action from their organizations in support of revising the NRCS policy for the Emergency Watershed Protection Program (EWPP) to enable it to again be used to assist removal of storm related stream debris that affects agricultural land. **2013**
 6. The Water Resources Committee authorizes the Chair to form a subcommittee to comment on active Interbasin Transfer proposals during public comment on an as needed basis. **2011**
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North Carolina Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts

Budget Worksheet

Income From All Sources		2016 Budget	2016 Received	2017 Budget
1	Cash Balance Brought Forward	\$79,957.01	\$79,957.01	\$83,503.14
2	Dues From Districts	\$54,676.00	\$51,379.00	\$54,676.00
3	Past Due Dues-Districts	\$3,166.00	\$0.00	\$3,297.00
4	Assn. Income-State Convention	\$75,000.00	\$66,894.73	\$75,000.00
5	Interest Income-Checking Acct.	\$500.00	\$301.48	\$500.00
6	Check Exchange	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$0.00
7	Endowment Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,200.00
8	Expo	\$14,000.00	\$11,750.00	\$12,000.00
9	Raffle Income	\$13,000.00	\$12,536.00	\$13,000.00
10	Workshops/Grants	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
11	District Grants Thru Association	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
12	Farm Family Celebration	\$5,000.00	\$8,000.00	\$5,000.00
13	SE NACD Meeting		\$76,677.41	
TOTAL:		\$245,499.01	\$307,695.63	\$248,176.14

At year-end (11-30-16), the Association bank accounts included, in addition to the funds listed above: Envirothon (\$31,745.50), CET (\$3,331.60), Project Food, Land, and People (\$12,103.29), Resource Conservation Workshop (\$80,246.86), Conservation Awareness Day (\$4,486.31), the Executive Director (\$135,540.25), and the Mobile Soils Lab (\$12,610.54). The Endowment Fund account balance at year end was \$71,333.10. A new restricted account is established for 2019 NCF Envirothon.

North Carolina Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts

Budget Worksheet

	Disbursements	2016 Budget	2016 Disbursed	2017 Budget
1	NACD Assessments or Dues	\$1,800.00	\$1,776.00	\$1,800.00
2	Travel Expense for Association Committee Officers & Delegates			
	A. NACD Convention	\$7,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$7,000.00
	B. SE Regional Meeting	\$5,600.00	\$0.00	\$5,600.00
	C. Committee Meeting	\$4,000.00	\$1,651.51	\$4,000.00
3	Expenses of NC Association Annual Meeting	\$65,000.00	\$49,026.78	\$65,000.00
4	Miscellaneous	\$6,500.00	\$4,716.71	\$6,500.00
5	Expenses of the President	\$9,000.00	\$4,129.15	\$9,000.00
6	Expenses of the Treasurer	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$0.00
7	Expenses of Vice Presidents	\$6,500.00	\$280.10	\$6,500.00
8	NACD Board Member	\$7,000.00	\$6,640.94	\$7,000.00
9	Alt. NACD Board Member	\$5,000.00	\$2,971.60	\$5,000.00
10	Auxiliary	\$700.00	\$700.00	\$700.00
11	FFA Land Judging	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
12	NCDEA Donation for Secretarial Assistance	\$800.00	\$800.00	\$800.00
13	Education Awards	\$3,300.00	\$2,900.00	\$3,300.00
14	Teacher's Travel State Meeting	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
15	Endowment Fund	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
16	Check Exchange	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$0.00
17	Registration Refund (Convention)	\$5,000.00	\$2,905.00	\$10,000.00
18	Envirothon Chairman Expenses	\$1,200.00	\$804.05	\$1,200.00
19	Envirothon Support	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
20	Food, Land, & People Support	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
21	State Fair Booth/Mtn. State Fair Booth	\$3,000.00	\$2,911.33	\$3,000.00
22	Expo	\$10,000.00	\$6,635.50	\$7,500.00
23	Farm Family Celebration	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00
24	Farm Family Prize Money	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
25	Conservation Awareness Day Support	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
26	Marketing and Outreach	\$2,200.00	\$2,330.70	\$2,200.00
27	Raffle	\$13,000.00	\$12,496.27	\$13,000.00
28	Administrative Assistant	\$10,000.00	\$7,376.25	\$0.00
29	Accounting	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$16,000.00
30	Workshops/Grants	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
31	Executive Director	\$25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$25,000.00
32	Water Resources Conference	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
33	Expenses for Association Award Recipient	\$750.00	\$750.00	\$750.00
34	Audit	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
35	SE NACD Meeting	\$0.00	\$62,453.48	\$0.00
36	2019 NCF Envirothon			\$7,500.00
37	Contingency Fund	\$28,149.01	\$0.00	\$21,026.14
	TOTAL:	\$245,499.01	\$219,955.37	\$248,176.14

2017 ASSOCIATION LEADERSHIP

2017 ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

President:	Chris Hogan (Orange)
First Vice-President:	Dietrich Kilpatrick (Craven)
Second Vice-President:	Myles Payne (Alexander)
Secretary:	Nancy Carter (Mecklenburg)
Treasurer:	Bill Yarborough (Haywood)
Assistant Treasurer:	Ben Knox (Rowan)
NACD Board Member:	Franklin Williams (Duplin)
Alternate NACD Board Member:	John Finch (Nash)
Chaplain:	Marvin Cavanaugh (Stokes)
Assistant Chaplain:	Matt Overby (Wake)

2017 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President:	Chris Hogan (Orange)
First Vice-President:	Dietrich Kilpatrick (Craven)
Second Vice-President:	Myles Payne (Alexander)
Immediate Past President:	Ben Knox (Rowan)
Secretary:	Nancy Carter (Mecklenburg)
Treasurer:	Bill Yarborough (Haywood)
NACD Board Member:	Franklin Williams (Duplin)
Finance Committee Chair:	Ben Knox (Rowan)
Legislative Committee Chair:	Manly West (Albemarle – Currituck)
Area 1 Chair:	Terry English (McDowell)
Area 2 Chair:	Dr. Earl Sheppard (Surry)
Area 3 Chair:	Michael Gaster (Lee)
Area 4 Chair:	Joseph Suggs (Edgecombe)
Area 5 Chair:	Fenton Eure (Albemarle - Chowan)
Area 6 Chair:	Jerry Jones (Greene)
Area 7 Chair:	Kent Revels (Harnett)
Area 8 Chair:	Ben Knox (Rowan)

2017 STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION

At Large Member:	John Langdon, Chairman (Johnston)
Association President Seat:	Chris Hogan (Orange)
Association First Vice-President Seat:	Dietrich Kilpatrick (Craven)
Association Immediate Past President Seat:	Ben Knox (Rowan)
Mountain Region Seat - 2017-2019:	Mike Willis (Caldwell)
Piedmont Region Seat – 2016-2018:	Wayne Collier, Jr. (Cumberland)
Coastal Region Seat – 2015-2017:	Charles Hughes (Lenoir)

2017 ASSOCIATION LEADERSHIP

2017 ASSOCIATION STANDING COMMITTEES

COMMUNITY CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Chair: Scott Sheffield (Moore)
Vice-Chair: Patrick Baker (Pamlico)
Recorder: Kaitlyn Johnson (Randolph)
Alt Recorder: Jenny Parks (Randolph)

Area Delegates:

Area 1 Drew Brannon (Henderson)
Area 2 Earl Sheppard (Surry)
Area 3 Ray Briggs (Guilford)
Area 4 Katie Locklier (Durham)
Area 5 Steve Harris (Albemarle - Pasquotank)
Area 6 Patrick Baker (Pamlico)
Area 7 Leonard Baldwin (Hoke)
Area 8 Robert Brown (Cabarrus)

Alternates:

Myles Payne (Alexander)
Larry Scarborough (Montgomery)

Blount Knowles (Bertie)
Marlene Salyer (Craven)

Roger Hurst (Gaston)

Resource Contacts:

Julie Henshaw	Division of Soil & Water Conservation
Tom Hill	Division of Soil & Water Conservation
Stuart Lee	USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service
P.J. Andrews	NC District Employees Association

DISTRICT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Chair: Brian Harwell (Iredell)
Vice-Chair: James Ferguson (Haywood)
Recorder: Sabra Cahoon (Pamlico)

Area Delegates:

Area 1: James Ferguson (Haywood)
Area 2: Marvin Cavanaugh (Stokes)
Area 3: Kate Campau (Rockingham)
Area 4: John Finch (Nash)
Area 5: Joe Rogers (Beaufort)
Area 6: Dietrich Kilpatrick (Craven)
Area 7: Curtis Barwick (Sampson)
Area 8: David Smith (Davidson)

Alternates:

Mike Willis (Caldwell)
Joan Slade (Caswell)

Stuart Pierce (Hertford)
Jerry Jones (Greene)

Resource Contacts:

Ralston James	Division of Soil & Water Conservation
Eric Pare	Division of Soil & Water Conservation
Jerry Raynor	USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service
Charles Bass	NC District Employees Association

2017 ASSOCIATION LEADERSHIP

2017 ASSOCIATION STANDING COMMITTEES

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Chair: Samuel Greene, Jr. (Vance)
Vice-Chair: Richard Hayes (Chatham)
Recorder: Mamie Caison (Brunswick)

Area Delegates:

Area 1 Charles Boyd (Haywood)
Area 2 James Booth (Stokes)
Area 3 Richard Hayes (Chatham)
Area 4 Samuel Green, Jr. (Vance)
Area 5
Area 6 Ann Herring (Duplin)
Area 7 Jim Chandler (Richmond)
Area 8 Ned Hudson (Cabarrus)

Alternates:

Russell Vannoy (New River)

Wayne Hurdle (Albemarle/Perq.)
Bill Murray (New Hanover)

John Peeler (Davie)

Resource Contacts:

Louise Hart	Division of Soil & Water Conservation
Sandra Weitzel	Division of Soil & Water Conservation
Kent Clary	USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service
Millie Langley	NC District Employees' Association

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Chair: Ben Knox (Rowan)
Vice-Chair: Melinda James (Macon)
Recorder: Michelle Lovejoy (NCFSWC)

Area Delegates:

Area 1 Melinda James (Macon)
Area 2 Gary Bare (New River)
Area 3 Bruce Whitfield (Person)
Area 4 Ray Eurquhart (Durham)
Area 5 Guy Davenport (Washington)
Area 6 Charles Hughes (Lenoir)
Area 7 Bobby Stanley (Columbus)
Area 8 Tommy Houser (Lincoln)

Alternates:

Roy Stanley (Alamance)

Charles Mathews (Perquimans)
Randy Sullivan (Brunswick)

Jerry Hilton (Davidson)

Resource Contacts:

Davis Ferguson	Division of Soil & Water Conservation
Michelle Lovejoy	NC Foundation for Soil & Water Conservation
Dean Morris	NC District Employees' Association

2017 ASSOCIATION LEADERSHIP

2017 ASSOCIATION STANDING COMMITTEES

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Chair: Manly West (Albemarle - Curritick)
Vice-Chair: Sam Davis (Jones)
Recorder: Leslie Vanden Herik (Mecklenburg)

Area Delegates:

Area 1	Pam Bell (Macon)
Area 2	Gwen T. Minton (Wilkes)
Area 3	Bill Alston (Randolph)
Area 4	Danielle Adams (Durham)
Area 5	Maurice Berry, Jr. (Albemarle/Pasq.)
Area 6	Sam Davis (Jones)
Area 7	James Sarvis (Columbus)
Area 8	Nancy Carter (Mecklenburg)

Alternates:

Jo R. Linville (Yadkin)
Don Thompson (Montgomery)
Charles Hill (Johnston)
Harvey Roberts (Alb./Currituck)
Bob Lyon (Pamlico)
Lloyd Ransom (Columbus)
Louis Suther (Cabarrus)

Resource Contacts:

Bryan Evans	NC Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts
Pat Harris	Division of Soil & Water Conservation
Tim Beard	USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service
Leslie Vanden Herik	NC District Employees' Association

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Chair: Toby Bost (Forsyth)
Vice-Chair: Wayne Short (Fishing Creek)
Recorder: Christy Blanton (Columbus)

Area Delegates:

Area 1	Carlyle Ferguson (Haywood)
Area 2	Willard Nelson (Stokes)
Area 3	Tony Ragan (Lee)
Area 4	Wayne Short (Halifax)
Area 5	J.W. Spencer (Hyde)
Area 6	
Area 7	Willie Beard (Bladen)
Area 8	Randy McDaniel (Cleveland)

Alternates:

Laura Parnell (Catawba)
Chris Hogan (Orange)

James Allen (Beaufort)
Vincent Lewis (Onslow)
Charles Gillespie (Bladen)
Lee Menius (Rowan)

Resource Contacts:

Kelly Hedgepeth	Division of Soil & Water Conservation
Eric Galamb	Division of Soil & Water Conservation
Terri Ruch	USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service
Greg Walker	USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service
Edward Davis	NC District Employees' Association

2017 ASSOCIATION LEADERSHIP

2017 ASSOCIATION STANDING COMMITTEES

RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Chair: Charles Mitchell (Franklin)
Vice-Chair: Denny Norris (Watauga)
Recorder: Leanna Staton (Clay)

Area Delegates:

Area 1 Greg Hoyt (Henderson)
Area 2 Denny Norris (Watauga)
Area 3 George Teague (Guilford)
Area 4 Charles Mitchell (Franklin)
Area 5 Tom Best (Pitt)
Area 6 Al Slawuta (Pender)
Area 7 Jeff Joyner (Richmond)
Area 8 Bruce Miller (Rowan)

Alternates:

Wayne Packard (Burke)
David Dycus (Lee)

Earl O'Neal (Hyde)
Franklin Williams (Duplin)

Ben Hege (Davidson)

Resource Contacts:

David Williams	Division of Soil & Water Conservation
Rob Baldwin	Division of Soil & Water Conservation
Rafael Vega	USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service
Dennis Testerman	NC District Employees' Association

WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Chair: Jim Summers (Rowan)
Vice-Chair: Dennis Benfield (Caldwell)
Recorder: Tyler Ross (Madison)

Area Delegates:

Area 1 Richard Smith (Polk)
Area 2 Dennis Benfield (Caldwell)
Area 3 Larry Baker (Rockingham)
Area 4 Jenna Wadsworth (Wake)
Area 5 Gerda Rhodes (Washington)
Area 6 Don Rawls (Pender)
Area 7 Bob White (Cumberland)
Area 8 Jim Summers (Rowan)

Alternates:

Toby Bost (Forsyth)
Dick Phillips (Guilford)
Patrick Johnson (Wake)
Bill Stephenson (Northampton)
Frank Meares (New Hanover)
Wayne Collier (Cumberland)
Wayne Moser (Union)

Resource Contacts:

Natalie Woolard	Division of Soil & Water Conservation
Daphne Cartner	Division of Soil & Water Conservation
Renee Melvin	USDA – Natural Resources Conservation Service
Jamey Walker	NC District Employees' Association

2017 ASSOCIATION LEADERSHIP

2017 STATE ASSOCIATION: OTHER POSITIONS and COMMITTEES

Crowdfunding Sub Committee (of District Operations Committee):

Jeff Foster, Buncombe SWCD

Food, Land & People Committee:

Chairman – Charles Boyd, Haywood SWCD

Hall of Fame:

Chairman – Franklin Williams, Duplin SWCD

Personnel Committee:

Chris Hogan, Orange SWCD – Chair (Association President)

Ben Knox, Rowan SWCD – member (Association Past President)

Dietrich Kilpatrick, Craven SWCD – member (Association Vice President)

Myles Payne, Alexander SWCD – member (Association Second Vice President)

Ben Knox, Rowan SWCD – member (Association Finance Committee Chair)

Bill Yarborough, Hawyood SWCD – member (Association Treasurer)

Mobile Soils Classroom Committee:

Rich Hayes, Chatham SWCD

Parliamentarian:

Brian Harwell, Iredell SWCD

Past Presidents Committee:

Ben Knox, Rowan SWCD

Resource Conservation Workshop Committee:

Chairman – Bruce Whitfield, Person SWCD

State Envirothon Committee:

Chairman – Rich Hayes, Chatham SWCD

2017 ASSOCIATION LEADERSHIP

2017 DISTRICT SUPERVISOR MEMBERS: SERVING ON OTHER CONSERVATION RELATED BOARDS and COMMITTEES

**For a complete list of Board/Committee members and activities, please visit the listed websites*

Community Conservation Assistance Program (CCAP) Advisory Committee:

<http://www.ncagr.gov/swc/commission/CAC.html>

William "Bill" Hart, New Hanover SWCD – member

Scott Sheffield, Moore SWCD – alternate member

National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD)

<http://www.nacdnet.org/>

District Operations and Member Services Committee:

Franklin Williams, Duplin SWCD – member (board member)

John Finch, Nash SWCD – member (board alternate)

North Carolina Ag Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund Advisory Committee:

<http://www.ncadfp.org/>

Chris Hogan, Orange SWCD – member (Association President)

North Carolina Board of Agriculture:

<http://www.ncagr.gov/htm/agboard.htm>

Maurice K. Berry, Jr., Albemarle SWCD – Pasquotank – member

North Carolina Foundation for Soil and Water Conservation Board of Directors:

<http://www.ncsoilwater.org>

Ben Knox, Rowan SWCD – member (Association Past President)

Chris Hogan, Orange SWCD – member (Association President)

Dietrich Kilpatrick, Craven SWCD – member (Association First Vice President)

Bruce Whitfield, Person SWCD – Treasurer NCFSWC

Bill Yarborough, Haywood SWCD - member

Technical Review Committee (TRC)

<http://www.ncagr.gov/swc/commission/TRC.html>

2017-2018 Supervisor Representative:

Billy Kilpatrick, Duplin SWCD – member

NC ASSOCIATION OF SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT PRESIDENTS

1944	O. J. Holler ~ Rutherford County	1983	Charles Patton ~ Buncombe County
1945	Dane S. Rhine ~ Gaston County	1984	Garland Strickland ~ Nash County
1946	A. C. Edwards ~ Greene County	1985	David Holland, Jr. ~ Onslow County
1947	W. Herbert White ~ Rockingham County	1986	H. Gray Ashburn, Jr. ~ Wilkes County
1948	Wade E. Eller ~ Ashe County	1987	John Y. Phelps, Jr. ~ Wake County
1949	J. Hawley Poole ~ Moore County	1988	William V. Griffin ~ Jones County
1950	W. W. Eagles ~ Edgecombe County	1989	Rebecca H. Rhyne ~ Gaston County
1951	H. S. Hogan ~ Orange County	1990	William Butler ~ Bladen County
1952	W. J. Fonville ~ Alamance County	1991	Tom Burns ~ Pasquotank County
1953	J. T. Graham ~ Rowan County	1992	James Ferguson ~ Haywood County
1954	S. Vernon Stevens ~ Lee County	1993	Charles Snipes ~ Orange County
1955	Allen Swindell ~ Beaufort County	1994	Samuel D. Davis ~ Jones County
1956	Charles Ladd ~ Durham County	1995	Don Abernethy ~ Burke County
1957	B. L. Angell ~ Davie County	1996	John W. Finch ~ Nash County
1958	Neal M. Craig ~ Mecklenburg County	1997	David M. O'Neal ~ Hyde County
1959	Charles L. Davis ~ Jones County	1998	Eddie Stroup ~ Mecklenburg County
1960	A. W. Nesbitt ~ Buncombe County	1999	Jeff Turlington ~ Harnett County
1961	A.J. Flanagan ~ Pitt County	2000	Franklin Williams ~ Duplin County
1962	Leon Ballance ~ Hyde County	2001	Jim Hollifield ~ Rutherford County
1963	J.B. Slack ~ Randolph County	2002	Albert Troutman ~ Moore County
1964	James Bellamy, Jr. ~ Brunswick County	2003	James Mason ~ Hertford County
1965	Thomas H. Bonham ~ Buncombe County	2004	Grover McPherson ~ Forsyth County
1966	James T. Moss, Sr. ~ Franklin County	2005	Tom Davidson ~ Durham County
1967	Lloyd C. Bunch ~ Chowan County	2006	Don Rawls ~ Pender County
1968	George B. Collins ~ Wilkes County	2007	Ned Hudson ~ Cabarrus County
1969	George Winchester ~ Wake County	2008	Bobby Stanley ~ Columbus County
1970	William G. Sullivan ~ Duplin County	2009	William "Bill" Pickett ~ Duplin County
1971	Blair Goodson ~ Lincoln County	2010	James Ferguson ~ Haywood County
1972	A.W. Bunch ~ Scotland County	2011	Craig Frazier ~ Randolph County
1973	M. E. Knight ~ Gates County	2012	Donald Heath ~ Craven County
1974	G. C. Palmer ~ Haywood County	2013	Tommy Houser ~ Lincoln County
1975	C. Roy Nifong, Jr. ~ Forsyth County	2014	John Langdon ~ Johnston County
1976	Joseph L. Williams ~ Duplin County	2015	Manly West ~ Currituck County
1977	John B. Harris ~ Burke County	2016	Ben Knox ~ Rowan County
1978	Stewart Adcock ~ Wake County	2017	Chris Hogan ~ Orange County
1979	Ralph Tucker ~ Pitt County		
1980	Wade Carrigan ~ Iredell County		
1981	D. R. Huff, Jr. ~ Hoke County		
1982	F.C. Laughinghouse ~ Beaufort County		

Plan now to attend...

*North Carolina Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts
74th Annual Meeting
January 7 – 9, 2018*



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