

SOUTHERN CONSERVATION DISTRICT

PLAN OF WORK

2019-2020

Mission

The mission of the Southern Conservation District is to provide local self-government leadership and initiative in the development and conservation of soil, water and related resources. A balanced planning, education and management program that protects, restores, and improves those resources will be accomplished in cooperation with landowners, government agencies and private organizations.



Conservation Partners Working Together

Get to know us on our Website and on Facebook

The Southern Conservation District has set the following items as priorities for their work in soil and water conservation in their six county areas:

LAND

- Agricultural Enhancement Program
- Farm of the Year Program
- Farmland Protection Program
- Forestry Education

WATER

- Flood Prevention
- O&M&R – Flood control structures/channels
- Develop strategies to remediate AMD
- 319 Program

EDUCATION

- County water festivals
- Boy Scouts CSI
- Pollinator Program
- Women in Ag Workshops
- Displays- Exhibits
- Women in Agriculture Workshops
- WV Envirothon Support
- Enviroscape
- Workshops – Field Days
- Appalachian Grazing Conference
- NACD/WVACD/SCD Poster and Photo Contests
- Apiary Program
- Clean Water Strategy Education

PARTNERSHIP SUPPORT ACTIVITIES

- Water Quality
- Agricultural Research & Education
- Forest Management
- Watersheds/Water Resources
- Solid Waste Disposal
- Wildlife
- Special Activities

LAND

Action Item 1 – The SCD will carry out the Agricultural Enhancement Program as directed in the SCD Ag Enhancement Policy and according to state guidelines

Responsible: SCD, WVCA, Extension, NRCS

Action Item 2 – The SCD will carry out the Conservation Farm of the Year Program according to state guidelines and the SCD policy. County farms will be selected by the board at the April board meeting and the farm tour will be held in May. Conservation Farms will be honored at the annual awards banquet.

Responsible: SCD, NRCS, WVCA, FSA

Action Item 3 – The SCD will support the Farmland Protection Program in counties with active boards

Responsible: SCD, County Commissions, NRCS

Action Item 4 – The SCD will develop and hold workshops on various forestry workshops including but not limited to: portable sawmill demonstrations, forestry gardening, agroforestry, legacy planning chainsaw safety and forest management. In addition to the workshops the SCD forestry committee will work to develop a database to provide landowners information on local forestry related businesses and resources.

Responsible: SCD, Forestry, Extension, NRCS

Action Item 5 – Promote and support the Century Farm Program.

Responsible: SCD, WVCA, WVACD

WATER

Action Item 1 – The SCD will assist with flood prevention in their six-county area and will provide crew assistance to the WV Conservation Agency upon request.

Responsible: SCD, WVCA, County Commissions

Action Item 2 – The SCD will help administering OM&R funds and will work with conservation partners on annual operation, maintenance and repair of the flood control structures and dams as funding permits

Responsible: SCD, WVCA, NRCS, County Commissions, Municipalities

Action Item 3 – The SCD will work to develop strategies to remediate Acid Mine Drainage (AMD) The District will look at constructing on-site septic tanks and systems upon requests by landowners.

Responsible: WVCA, DEP, SCD, NRCS

Action Item 4 – The SCD will work with the WV Conservation Agency to expand the 319 programs in the district, including work on Pipestem Creek, Bluestone River water trail and Guyandotte River water trail. In addition, include review of the watershed-based plan for Upper Guyandotte Watershed and New River watersheds. Provide support to eliminate straight pipes and failing septic systems and include assistance in installation of new systems.

Responsible: SCD, WVCA, NRCS, WVDEP

Action Item 5 – The SCD will hire a Vista Worker to facilitate the New River, Pipestem and Guyandotte River Watersheds and assist with conservation education programs with local schools. The worker will be hired for a two-year period.

Responsible: SCD, WVDEP

EDUCATION

Action Item 1 – The SCD will partner with local county conservation partners to assist with county water festivals.

Responsible: SCD, Watershed Groups, WVCA

Action Item 2 – The SCD will partner with Scouts of America and the Natural Resources Conservation Service on conservation scout projects taking place at the Bechtel Reserve.

Responsible: SCD, NRCS, Scouts of America

Action Item 3 – The SCD will provide pollinator packets to local groups and landowners upon request and will promote the pollinator program in all their six counties.

Responsible: SCD, NRCS, WVCA

Action Item 4 – Sponsor an exhibit on Conservation Districts at county fairs and other appropriate events and workshops to explain the purpose and services of the District.

Responsible: SCD, NRCS, WVCA, FSA

Action Item 5 – Encourage and support the WV Envirothon.

Responsible: SCD, NRCS, WVCA, WVACD, WVDEP

Action Item 6 – Utilize the SCD Enviroscape and schedule demonstrations with local schools.

Responsible: SCD, WVCA

Action Item 7 – The District will host conservation, agricultural and forestry workshops for landowners as planned with board members and conservation partners.

Responsible: SCD, WVCA, FSA, NRCS, Extension, RC&D, Forestry

Action Item 8 – Support the Appalachian Grazing Conference and sponsor landowners within the District to attend (2 per county).

Responsible: SCD, NRCS, WVCA, Extension, FSA, WVACD, RC&D

Action Item 9 – Promote and encourage participation in the NACD/WVACD poster and photo contest.
Responsible: SCD, WVCA, WVACD

Action Item 10 – Promote and encourage “bee-keeping” in the SCD area and encourage interest in the state Apiary Program. Support pollinator programs.
Responsible: WVCA, SCD, WV Department of Agriculture, NRCS

Action Item 11 – Host annual Women in Agriculture workshop.
Responsible: SCD, WVCA, Extension, Department of Agriculture

PARTNERSHIP SUPPORT ACTIVITIES

Water Quality

Action Item 1 – Assist the WV Conservation Agency on the implementation of the WV Water Quality Management Plan.
Responsible: SCD, WVCA, NRCS

Action Item 2 – Support and encourage enforcement of litter and pollution laws.
Responsible: SCD, NRCS, DNR, WVCA, Division of Forestry, Solid Waste Authorities

Action Item 3 – Cooperate with federal and state agencies and business organizations in the promotion and use of constructed wetlands and recommendations of brownfields.
Responsible: SCD, NRCS, DNR, Fish & Wildlife, FSA, WVCA, WVDEP

Action Item 4 – Provide technical support in watershed assessments and planning in response to the Clean Water Act. Investigate the feasibility of developing a clean water inventory, including wells and springs.
Responsible: SCD, NRCS, WVCA, WVDEP, WVDNR

Action Item 5 – Assist with the Stream Permit Assistance Program and the Streambank Stabilization Restoration Program (SSRP).
Responsible: WVCA, SCD

Action Item 6 – Support the efforts of Big Sandy River Coalition and the Ohio River Basin Authority including supporting representation at meetings.
Responsible: SCD, RC&D, Big Sandy River Coalition, Ohio River Basin Authority, WVACD

Action Item 7 – Support watershed organizations on water quality projects.
Responsible: SCD, Watershed organizations, RC&D

Agriculture Research & Education

Action Item 1 –Provide information to District landowners making them aware of the erosion problems on agriculture land along with the corrective practices available, through news articles in area newspapers, agency newsletters, and hold Agricultural Field Days with various USDA agencies. The SCD will utilize the WVCA/SCD web site for special events and programs.

Responsible: WVU Extension, SCD, WVCA, FSA, NRCS

Action Item 2 – Host a farm field day that may include alternative livestock watering facilities, new forages for livestock production, and alternatives for grazing management in accordance with the SCD Plan of Work.

Responsible: SCD, WVU Extension, NRCS, FSA

Forest Management

Action Item 1 – Provide equipment, crews and technical assistance when requested for planting trees, building and seeding fire access roads and timber stand improvements. Practices will be emphasized for woodland management.

Responsible: SCD, NRCS, Forestry

Action Item 2 – Participate in Arbor Day programs.

Responsible: SCD, Forestry, NRCS, RC&D

Action Item 3 – Support the WV Department of Agriculture and the WV Division of Forestry in their efforts with the Ash Borer, Gypsy Moth, other woody insects and diseases.

Responsible: SCD, Forestry, WV Department of Agriculture, NRCS

Action Item 4 – Support NRCS in the sugar producing collection and forestry management program.

Responsible: SCD, NRCS

Watershed/Water Resources

Action Item 1 – The District will continue with operation and maintenance of watershed structures within the area, including Brush Creek, Soak Creek, Dave’s Fork/Christian Fork, Gladly Fork, Little Whitestick Creek and Cranberry Creek.

Responsible: SCD, WVCA, NRCS, County Commissions, appropriate municipalities

Action Item 2 – The WV State Committee has been able to secure funds from the WV Legislature for operation and maintenance of watersheds. The SCD will continue working with local sponsors to secure funding for continued OM&R of our watersheds and administer funds per OM&R financial agreements.

Responsible: SCD, WVCA, County Commissions, City of Bluefield, City of Princeton, and City of Beckley

Action Item 3 – The District will review and assist in updating Emergency Action Plans with the WVCA and support WVCA training for dam monitors.

Responsible: SCD, WVCA, NRCS, PSD’s, County Commissions, WVDEP

Action Item 4 – Continue to work with local agencies and organizations to assist with flooded areas in emergency situations. The District will administer urgent and compelling funds received from the WVCA.
Responsible: SCD, NRCS, WVCA, County Emergency Boards, FSA

Action Item 5 – Partner in the development of watershed associations in the SCD.
Responsible: NRCS, SCD, WVCA, WVDEP, Watershed Associations, RC&D

Action Item 6 – Partner with the WV Conservation Agency and NRCS as they prepare watershed assessments, restoration priorities and action plans.
Responsible: SCD, NRCS, WVCA, FSA, RC&D

Action Item 7 – Support funding for the revitalization of aging flood control structures.
Responsible: NRCS, WVCA, SCD, Mercer County commission, Raleigh County Commission, City of Beckley, City of Princeton, City of Bluefield

Action Item 8 – Partner with state and federal agencies in watershed planning for flood plain management. This includes buyouts and other flood related alternatives.
Responsible: NRCS, WVCA, SCD, Wyoming County Commission, McDowell County Commission

Action Item 9 – Support local units of government to develop storm water management plans where needed in accordance with the SCD plan of work.
Responsible: NRCS, WVCA, SCD

Action Item 10 – Participate in natural stream restoration projects to include the WVDEP “in lieu” program.
Responsible: SCD, WVDEP, WVCA

Solid Waste Disposal

Action Item 1 – Encourage local government to increase enforcement of present litter laws in the state and assist with county litter campaigns. Encourage legislation to establish a return bottle fee for plastic and glass as an alternative to landfills through community education, marketing and other recycling opportunities.
Responsible: SCD, Youth Groups, Vo-Tech, Solid Waste Authorities, County Health Departments, Schools, Municipalities

Action Item 2 – Appoint SCD solid waste representatives to Mercer, McDowell, Raleigh, Summers, Wyoming and Fayette county solid waste authority boards.
Responsible: SCD

Wildlife Programs

Action Item 1 – Encourage landowners to participate in the Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program.
Responsible: NRCS, SCD

Wildlife Programs continued:

Action Item 2 – Provide technical assistance to watershed groups and landowners to establish riparian areas along streams to enhance wildlife habitat.

Responsible: SCD, NRCS, Forestry, WVCA, Watershed Groups

Special Activities

Action Item 1 – Host an annual conservation awards banquet and legislative tours or workshops.

Responsible: SCD, WVCA

Action Item 2- The District has the responsibility for overseeing all aspects of operation and maintenance of the SCD building, which serves as the Ag Service Center providing space for District and USDA state and federal employees.

Responsible: SCD

Action Item 3- Sponsor Mountain Resource Conservation & Development by providing WVCA grant funds as received, in addition to designating supervisors to represent the District during RC&D meetings.

Responsible: SCD, RC&D

Action Item 4 – District supervisors will stay informed of latest trends within soil and water conservation and encourage attendance to the WV Supervisors Association meetings. District policy will be followed concerning attendance to NACD northeast and national meetings.

Responsible: SCD, WVACD, NRCS, WVCA

Action Item 5 – Finance Committee will review District policy and develop a CDO budget on an annual basis – with final approval by the full board of supervisors.

Responsible: SCD, WVCA

Action Item 6 – Upon request the district will support parks, recreation and historical and scenic projects.

Responsible: SCD, RC&D, WVCA

Action Item 7 – Support appropriations for conservation related programs.

Responsible: SCD, WVCA, WVACD, NRCS, FSA

2019 SCD Board Members as of January 2019



Virgel Caldwell, SCD Chairman and Mercer County Supervisor



Curtis Murphy, SCD Vice Chairman and Mercer County Supervisor



Dvon Duncan, SCD Secretary and Wyoming County Supervisor



Oscar Vecellio, SCD Treasurer and Raleigh County Supervisor



Randy Prince, Fayette County Supervisor



Randall Patton, McDowell County Supervisor



Don Windon, Raleigh County Supervisor



Dennis Bailey, Summers County Supervisor



John Farrell, Summers County Supervisor



Ray Lafferty, Wyoming County Supervisor



John Brenemen, Fayette County Supervisor

SCD Office Staff (2019)

Becky Floyd, WVCA Administrative Services Assistant III/District Manager

Dave Parkulo, Southern CD, Crew Foreman/Supervisor

Marty Walker, WVCA Conservation Specialist

The SCD office is located at 463 Ragland Road, Beckley, WV.

Office Hours are: Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Phone 304-253-0261 Fax 304-253-0238

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And on our Facebook page

