

Beaufort Conservation News



*Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District 155 Airport Road Washington, NC
Newsletter July 2021 - December 2021*

SUPERVISOR AND STAFF UPDATE



Joe Rogers

1942-2021

It is with a heavy heart that we announce the passing of long time Supervisor Joe Rogers of Washington, NC. Joe passed away on October 31, 2021. He had been a member of the Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District's Board of Supervisors for over 36 years and Vice-Chairman since January 1997.

Joe was a 1961 graduate of Washington High School, Washington, NC and was also a National Guard member. He was a member of Old Ford Church of Christ where he served as a past board member, charter member of the Old Ford Volunteer Fire Department, a member of the Old Ford Ruritan Club, and a charter member of Washington's FFA. Mr. Rogers was the owner of Handy Joe's Landscaping.

He is survived by his wife, Doris, daughters, Jane R. Alligood, Debbie R. Hodges, and Blair R. Giles, and six grandchildren.

SUPERVISOR AND STAFF UPDATE



- The annual Conservation Employee Training Conference was held in Wilmington, NC during the week of August 23-26, 2021. Nathaniel Woolard, District Resource Conservation Specialist, attended the training.
- Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District Staff and Supervisors attend online virtual training sessions as offered.



Bill Gardiner, Team 14 Supervisory Soil Conservationist with USDA-NRCS, retired December 31, 2021.

2021 FALL MEETING

The Area 5 Fall meeting was held virtually on November 16, 2021 and was hosted by the Martin County Soil and Water Conservation District. Due to Covid-19 restrictions and for everyone's safety, the Area 5 Executive Committee voted to have this year's meeting online.

Chairman Richard Cannon (Martin SWCD) called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone attending. Roll Call was taken by Vice-Chairman Steve Harris (Pasquotank SWCD) and the Treasurer's report was given by Maurice Berry, Jr. (Pasquotank SWCD).

The guest speaker was Debbie Hamrick, Dir. of Specialty Crops with NC Farm Bureau Federation. Debbie shared her presentation on "Six things the farmer I know wished everyone knew about agriculture."

Standing Committee and Partnership reports were given and then the meeting adjourned.

Attending the online meeting at the Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District Office were Supervisors James Allen, Tracy Warren, and Sid Cayton, Office Manager, Ann Williams, District Resource Specialist, Nathaniel Woolard, Education Coordinator, Debbie Boyd, and Team 14 Supervisory Soil Conservationist, Bill Gardiner.

PROGRAM NEWS



FUNDS ANTICIPATED FOR AGRICULTURE COST SHARE PROGRAM (ACSP)

For Program Year 2022, the District was allocated \$40,251 from the Soil and Water Conservation Commission for the Agriculture Cost Share Program. The District opened a batching period in September 2021 to rank and fund Cover Crop applications only. Leading up to the September 2021 batching period, a total of three Cover Crop applications were received. Three Cover Crop applications and contracts were approved during the September 2021 meeting. The District received 8 additional Program Year 2022 ACSP applications for practices including Land Smoothing, Water Control Structures, Erosion Control, Residue and Tillage Management, and Lagoon Biosolids Removal. These applications will be reviewed and ranked by the District's Supervisors during their January 2022 board meeting.



AGRICULTURAL WATER RESOURCES ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (AgWRAP)

For Program Year 2022 the District was allocated \$7,500 by the Soil and Water Conservation Commission for AgWRAP practice installation. The District received one application for Agricultural Water Collection and Reuse, one application for Conservation Irrigation Conversion and 4 applications for Irrigation Wells. The application for Agricultural Collection and Water Reuse was approved in the September 2021 Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District's Board of Supervisors meeting and the contract was approved in the October 2021 meeting. The remaining applications will be reviewed and ranked by the District's Supervisors during their January 2022 board meeting.

2016 DISASTER RECOVERY PROGRAM

The beaver removal portion of the 2016 Disaster Recovery Program began in October of 2021. There were 30,000 feet of streams in Beaufort County cleared of beavers and beaver dams. This work concluded on December 31, 2021. With the conclusion of this work, all work associated with the 2016 Disaster Recovery Program has been completed.



PROGRAM NEWS

2020 WATERSHED RESTORATION PROJECT

PHASE I

Phase I of the 2020 Watershed Restoration Project resumed in September 2021. Rodriguez Debris Removal Construction remains the contractor for this phase of work. Phase I is for 127,700 linear feet and should be completed in March of 2022.

Stream	Location	Length (ft.)
<u>Mondama Creek</u>	Aurora	4,000
Royal Gut	Aurora	1,400
Little Creek	Aurora	6,500
Chocowinity Creek	Chocowinity	17,000
Cindy Edwards Branch	Chocowinity	7,200
Horse Branch	Chocowinity	15,000
Joe Branch	Chocowinity	21,600
Big Swamp	Washington	35,000
Mill Swamp	Washington	9,000
Norfleet Gut	Washington	4,500
Perry Branch	Washington	6,500
Total		127,700

PHASE II

Phase II of the 2020 Watershed Restoration Project began in December of 2021. J&J Environmental was selected as the contractor to complete this phase. Phase II is for 56,600 linear feet and should be completed by February 2022.

Stream	Location	Length (ft.)
Old Ford Swamp	Washington	24,000
VOA Run	Washington	7,300
Boyd Creek	Bath	7,500
<u>Williams/Modlin Gut</u>	Bath	2,800
Maple Creek II	Washington	4,000
Herring Run	Washington	11,000
Total		56,600

EDUCATION NEWS



2021

Annual Dan Windley Environmental Field Days at Goose Creek State Park



The Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District held its Annual Dan Windley Environmental Field Days at Goose Creek State Park for Beaufort County Fifth Graders November 2-4, 2021. Over 600 students and teachers were invited to attend the event.

The event was held entirely outside this year. Attendees rotated through six stations including Aquatics, Soils, Conservation, Forestry, Wildlife, and Wetlands.

The District appreciates the assistance of all those involved that make this yearly event possible.



Various NC Wildlife officers lead students through the Wildlife trailer.



David Knight, left, and Al Weller, right, share information about Soils and Forestry with Beaufort County fifth graders.

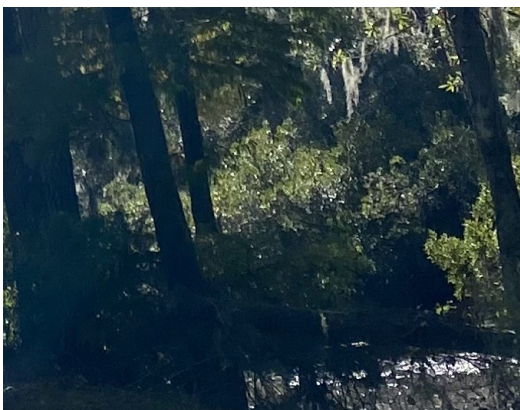
EDUCATION NEWS



Using an EnviroScape Watershed Model, Debbie Boyd, left, and Chasady Wudkwyh, right, teach students about Best Management Practices (BMP's) they can use to help keep our watersheds clean.



Students learn about Aquatic Biology from Holly Crater Tankard and Rod Martin by participating in an interactive game.



Students learned about Wetlands with Goose Creek State Park Rangers while on a guided walk on some of the park trails.



EDUCATION NEWS

NC Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts

Resource Conservation Workshop (RCW)

June 26-July 1, 2022

The Resource Conservation Workshop is sponsored by the NC Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts in conjunction with the NC Division of Soil and Water Conservation, NC State University Soil Science Department, and the Soil and Water Conservation Society Hugh Hammond Bennett Chapter.

Workshop Description



The Resource Conservation Workshop is a weeklong workshop and involves study and hands on participation in a wide range of conservation topics. Students are housed at NC State University campus dormitories under the guidance of live-in counselors. In order to achieve success, students should come prepared to meet the primary objective of the workshop -- learning about natural resources and their management in today's global environment. Awards and scholarships can be won and are presented to students under several awards programs.

For more information please visit:

<http://www.ncagr.gov/SWC/educational/RCW.html>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3QjBfkAUPtE&feature=youtu.be>

Applications Due:

**By 4:30
April 4, 2022**

to

**Beaufort SWCD Office
Agricultural Center
155C Airport Road
Washington, NC 27889**

*Interviews will take place
April 7th from 3:00-5:00*



Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District will provide sponsorship for event registration and some meals not covered under registration. One or more applicants will be selected based on the following criteria:

- Any Beaufort County **rising** sophomore, junior, or senior (**present seniors not eligible**) showing interest in natural resource conservation
- Completes and returns application form by deadline
- Interviews with Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District to determine eligibility, interest, and availability to attend the event

Contact Info:

Debbie Boyd

Education Coordinator
Beaufort SWCD
Agricultural Center
155C Airport Rd.
Washington, NC 27889

debbie.boyd@co.beaufort.nc.us

252-946-4989, Ext. 3

FARM SERVICE AGENCY UPDATES

USDA Safety Net Program Enrollment for 2022

Agricultural producers now can enroll in the Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs – two U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) safety net programs – for the 2022 crop year. Producers have an opportunity to make a new election, Agriculture Risk Coverage or Price Loss Coverage, on the FSA base acres for each farm.

Signup for the 2022 crop year closes March 15, 2022. Producers have been contacted to sign their contracts. If you have not signed up, please contact the office.

NAP Application for Coverage Deadlines -February 28th Cabbage, Sweet Corn, Cucumbers, Squash, Sweet Potatoes, Pecans, Watermelons, and more -March 15th Green Beans -September 1st Strawberries, Aquaculture, and Floriculture.

Beaufort-Hyde FSA Office



155 B Airport Rd

Washington, NC 27889

252-946-1076 ext. 2



USDA is an equal opportunity lender, provider and employer.





Board meetings are open to the public and are held the 3rd Monday of each month, except July and August, at 5:30 p.m. in the office of the:

Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District
Beaufort County Agricultural Center
155 Airport Road
Washington, NC 27889



Board of Supervisors

(L to R) Archie Griffin, James Allen, (Chairman),
Joe Rogers, (Vice-Chairman), Tracy Warren (Secretary), Sid Cayton

District Staff

Ann Williams
Office Manager

Nathaniel Woolard
District Resource Specialist

Debbie Boyd
Education Coordinator

USDA-NRCS

Bill Gardiner
Team 14
Supervisory Soil Conservationist

Anthony Hester
Soil Conservation Technician

Soil and Water...Yours for Life

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