

# Beaufort Conservation News



Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District 155 Airport Road Washington, NC  
Newsletter April-June 2022

## SUPERVISOR AND STAFF UPDATE

*In addition to holding their regular meetings, the Supervisors also attend other meetings and trainings to keep informed of the priorities and upcoming issues in the field of soil and water conservation.*



### Supervisor Spotlight

**Cedric Wayne Black, Jr.** was sworn in by Clerk of Superior Court, Marty Paramore at the June Board Meeting of the Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District. Mr. Black is a new appointment, approved by the North Carolina Soil and Water Conservation Commission upon recommendation by the Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District Board, to complete the unexpired office term of Joe Rogers, who passed away unexpectedly in October 2021.

In 1991, Mr. Black graduated from East Carolina University with a BS in Biology. He is the Assistant Public Works Director for the City of Washington, Vice-President of Beaufort County Farm Bureau, and on the Board of Directors with TriCounty RiverStreet Telecommunications.

Wayne resides in Pantego and assists other family members with Black Brothers Farms.



*Wayne Black, newly appointed board member, is sworn in by Marty Paramore, Clerk of Superior Court.*

# PROGRAM NEWS



## **Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program (AgWrap) and Agriculture Cost Share Program (ACSP)**

The Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District anticipates receiving cost share program allocations for the Agriculture Cost Share Program (ACSP), the Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program (AgWRAP), and the Community Conservation Assistance Program (CCAP) from the Soil and Water Conservation Commission in July. These funds will be available to assist farmers and landowners with the installation of best management practices that will decrease the amount of sediment, nutrients, nitrogen, phosphorus, chemicals, and other pollutants entering the surface and ground waters of the state. Best management practices through AgWRAP will help increase water use efficiency, availability, and storage in addition to conserving and protecting water resources.

For Program Year 2023, that begins on July 1, 2022, farmers, landowners, and operators may apply for cost share assistance to install conservation practices such as residue and tillage management, precision nutrient management, precision agrichemical application, cover crops, land smoothing, water control structures, agricultural pond restoration/repair/sediment removal, lagoon closures, rain gardens irrigation wells, well closures, and agricultural water supply ponds.

# EDUCATION NEWS



2022

## POSTER AND ESSAY CONTESTS



### *Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District Announces District, Area, and State Contest Winners*

"Soil and Water...Yours for Life" was the theme for the 2022 poster and essay contests sponsored by the Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District. The poster contest was open to all students in 3rd-5th grades in the county. The essay contest was for 6th graders only. There were 117 total entries this year, with no 3rd grade entries. Area schools submitting posters and/or essays were John Small School, Pungo Christian Academy, and Unity Christian Academy.

The competition starts at the county level. First, second, and third place winners receive cash prizes. Teachers who have first place student winners also receive cash prizes. First place winners in the Beaufort County competition advance to Area 5, where they compete with other Soil and Water Conservation Districts in sixteen eastern NC counties. Area 5 first place winners advance to the North Carolina Division of Soil and Water Conservation State competition in Raleigh, where they compete with other first place Area entries submitted from across the state of North Carolina.

After receiving first place in the 4th grade county poster competition, Hailie Crider, a student at Pungo Christian Academy received first place and a cash prize in the Area 5 competition, and second place and a \$100 check in the state competition.

Jimmy Moore, a student at Unity Christian Academy, received first place and a cash prize in the county and Area 5 competition, and second place and a \$100 check for his 5th grade poster in the state competition.

Kayleigh Ballance, a student at Unity Christian Academy, received first place and a cash prize in the county and Area 5 competition, and honorable mention in the state competition for 6th grade essay.

Debbie Boyd, Education Coordinator with the Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District, presented ribbons and cash prizes to the winners at an awards ceremony held in May. "Thank you to the schools, teachers, and students that participated this year. We are proud to say this is the third year in a row that Beaufort County has had STATE poster/essay winners. We look forward to next year's contest!"

The 2023 contest theme will be "Water...the Cycle of Life."



Poster and Essay winners pictured with their ribbons, awards, and poster copies are:

Front row left to right: Yareli Perez-Guerrero (John Small), and Hailie Crider (Pungo Christian Academy)

Middle row, left to right: Allison Russell and Victoria Morales (John Small), Daisy Cherry, Jimmy Moore, Kayleigh Ballance, and Bryson Mills (all from Unity Christian Academy) Not pictured: Braelen Neal (Pungo Christian Academy)

Back row, left to right: Teachers Lisa Moore (John Small), Susan Knox (Pungo Christian Academy) and Angie Kolibabek (Unity Christian Academy).

# EDUCATION NEWS

## 4th Grade Poster Contest Winners



**Hailie Crider**

1st Place District, Area,  
2nd Place State

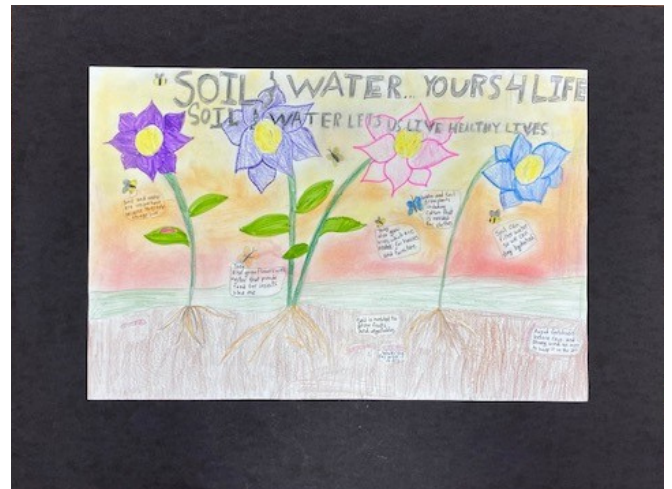
Pungo Christian Academy  
Teacher: Susan Knox



**Yareli Perez-Guerrero**

2nd Place District

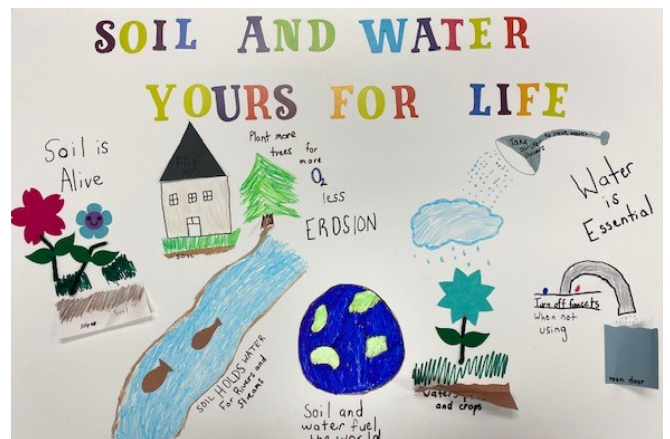
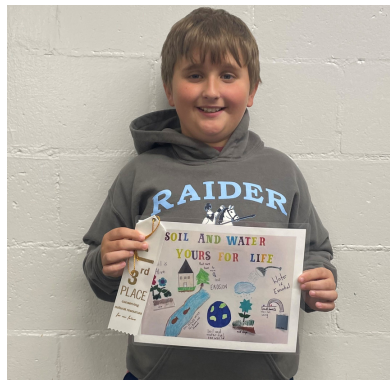
John Small School  
Art Teacher: Lisa Moore



**Braelen Neal**

3rd Place District

Pungo Christian Academy  
Teacher: Susan Knox



# EDUCATION NEWS

## 5th Grade Poster Contest Winners



**Jimmy Moore**

1st Place District, Area,  
2nd Place State

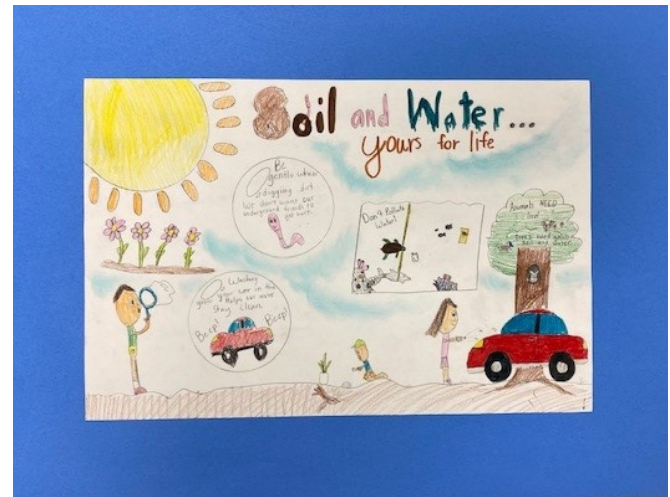
Unity Christian Academy  
Teacher: Angie Kolibabek



**Allison Russell**

2nd Place District

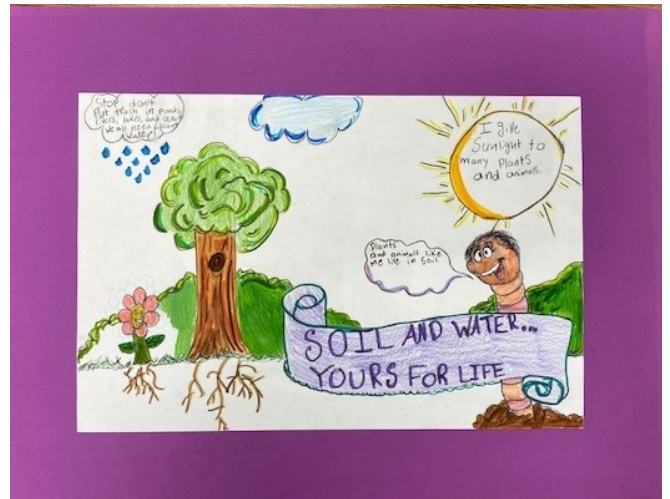
John Small School  
Art Teacher: Lisa Moore



**Victoria Morales**

3rd Place District

John Small School  
Art Teacher: Lisa Moore



# EDUCATION NEWS

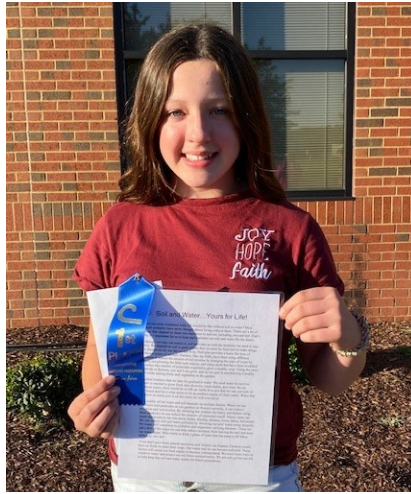
## 6th Grade Essay Contest Winners



**Kayleigh Ballance**

**1st Place District, Area,  
Honorable Mention State**

**Unity Christian Academy  
Teacher: Angie Kolibabek**



### Soil and Water... Yours for Life!

Have you ever wondered what life would be like without soil or water? Most people probably have never thought about living without them. There are a lot of things that depend on these two resources to survive, including you and me! That's why it's important for us to keep and maintain our soil and water for the future.

Although we may not realize it, soil provides us with the nutrients we need to stay alive. We depend on soil to grow plants that we need for food and to make things we depend on for our day-to-day lives. Soil also provides a home for tons of different types of animals. Farmers, like my PaPa, have been using different methods to reduce the amount of soil erosion by changing the type of crops he plants, not plowing the field each season, and using seeds that have been modified to reduce the number of pesticides required to grow a healthy crop. Using the same methods as farmers, you and I can grow and do our part in maintaining a healthy soil while raising fruits and vegetables in the garden.

Another resource that we take for granted is water. We need water to survive. Water is needed to grow food, take showers, wash dishes, and clean the air. Without water, there would be no life on earth! It is nice that we can just turn on the faucet and have what seems to be an endless supply of clean water. Water that we have on earth now is all the water we will ever have!

The quality of our water and soil depends on multiple factors. When we use fertilizers and pesticides on our gardens or flowers correctly, it can reduce pollution and soil erosion. By checking the weather for heavy rain before using these products we can reduce the chances of unwanted runoff. Heavy rains can cause chemicals to run into storm drains, ditches, streams, rivers, lakes, and ponds. We can reduce soil and water pollution by throwing our pet's waste away properly. Pet waste will contribute to pollution and organisms carrying diseases. These are just a few of the ways we can help reduce nutrients from leaving the soil and keep our water clean. Who wants to drink a glass of water that has poop in it? Most definitely, not me!

If we don't save these natural resources, soil erosion can happen. Farmers would have no fields to plant their crops. Our water and air can become polluted. These factors will cause our food supply to become contaminated. We must learn ways to conserve water and protect our soil from contamination. We are only given one life to help keep the soil and water usable for future generations.



**Daisy Cherry**

**2nd Place District**

**Unity Christian Academy  
Teacher: Angie Kolibabek**



### Soil and Water...Yours for Life

Did you know that water covers about 71 percent of the Earth's surface? Water is one of the most important natural resources for plants, animals, and human life! Soil is also fundamental in growth of food and production of textiles. Think about all of the things we use soil and water for, we simply could not live without them. Unfortunately, pollution of our soil and water happens constantly throughout our everyday lives. As the world becomes more technologically advanced, the conscious decision to protect our soil and water has dwindled. It is time to make a change.

If soil and water are so important, why are people polluting it? Some people can be careless about things like pet waste, trash, discard of plastics, poisonous toxins and hazardous waste! We must educate others and set an example in our everyday lives to stop introducing hazards to our most essential resources. Think about some things you can do in your everyday life that could help protect our soil and water? One way I can think of is helping reduce environmental hazards such as animal waste. Yes, animal waste is actually considered an environmental hazard! It's fun to walk our dogs, they are so sweet and playful but just like us they produce waste. Being mindful of how and where we dispose of animal waste is important because it contains two main pollutants, nutrients and pathogens, which harm local soil and waters. So remember, "Scoop your poop" when out walking your animals; don't leave it on the ground to pollute our soil and water. Limiting the congregation of waterfowl along our waters is another way to decrease animal waste. The boardwalk in downtown Washington is a cheerful place to come together for a walk and to watch waterfowl, however, it's important to steer clear from feeding these animals. Feeding waterfowl dry cereals or breads can cause them to concentrate in larger groups resulting in an increased quantity of waste for our local soil and water. When this waste ends up in local bodies of water, it decomposes causing excessive growth of algae and weeds. This makes the water green, murky, and even unusable for swimming, boating, or fishing. Summer time would be so boring if we could not utilize the Pacific River for these activities. (I don't know about you, but I want to spend my summer days on the river!)

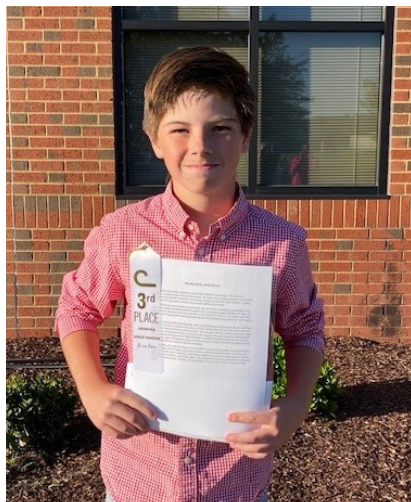
Simply put, it's just not safe to live around so much soil and water if it is full of hazardous waste. We have polluted some of our most precious gifts long enough. If we come together we can drastically minimize the amount of pollution in soil and waterways. The end result, a safe environment for not only humanity, but all living things. It is necessary to protect our soil and water; they are yours for life.



**Bryson Mills**

**3rd Place District**

**Unity Christian Academy  
Teacher: Angie Kolibabek**



### SOIL AND WATER...YOURS FOR LIFE

Healthy soil provides nutrients that are readily available for plant uptake. Therefore, it is important to maintain proper levels of soil moisture. Soil holds water, provides protection from erosion and supports and provides nutrients for root systems, making it essential for water filtration. Healthy soil is critical for clean water and that is why we need healthy soil and water.

Soil isn't just soil, and water isn't just water. We need soil for our bodies to stay healthy, if we didn't have healthy soil, farmers would be unable to farm our crops and grow vegetables and thus, we would not have food. One way to keep soil clean is not to pollute it or harm it. For example, don't put gas or oil into it because this would contaminate the soil and eventually, contaminate our water supply, too.

My dad owns Mills Metal Recycling, which is a recycling yard that purchases old, junk cars from the public. In order for customers to be able to sell their vehicle, they must first have a hole in the fuel tank of their vehicle and the fuel must be drained. There are some who are unable to cut a hole in their fuel tank so my dad does it and then, he stores the oil and gas in a bin until a company called Noble Oil comes to pick up all the gas and oil. Noble Oil brings it to different factories so they can use all of the gas and oil to make it into generator power. My dad recycles oil and gas so that the soil doesn't have it and by doing this, he is helping to keep the soil healthy.

Healthy soil is important because it is essential for plants, human nutrition, and water filtration. We need healthy soil for healthy crops, which provides us with the food that we eat. Soil cleans our water and protects us from pollutants. Soil provides nutrition and water that plants and roots need to stay healthy and nutritious. Soil provides plants with a foothold for their roots and holds the necessary nutrients for plants to grow. Therefore, we need healthy soil and water in order to keep our bodies healthy.

# EDUCATION NEWS

## Beaufort County High School Student Attends Resource Conservation Workshop

**2022  
RCW**



**2022  
RCW**

**Braden Armstrong**

NC high school students participated in the annual Resource Conservation Workshop June 26-July 1, 2022, in Wake County. The event was held on the campus of North Carolina State University for the first time in two years due to the Covid-19 pandemic interruption.

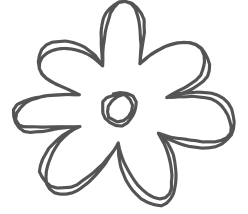
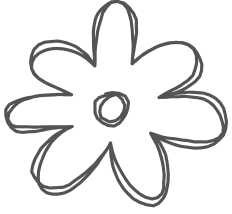
Soil and Water Conservation District Boards across the state chose students to participate in the workshop based on demonstrated conservation interests. Four days of resource topics were taught by an innumerable number of resource professionals and NC State University staff. Students also received information and insight into careers in natural resource management throughout the week. The fifth day culminated the classroom and field sessions where a written exam was conducted.

Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District was represented by Braden Armstrong, son of Darren and Dawn Armstrong, a student at Pungo Christian Academy.

The Resource Conservation Workshop is made possible by various organizations including North Carolina State University, Division of Soil and Water Conservation, Soil and Water District Staff and Supervisors across the state of North Carolina, the North Carolina District Employees Association, and the North Carolina Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

*Current freshmen, sophomores or juniors who are interested in attending the 2023 Resource Conservation Workshop may contact the Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District's Office at 946-4989, Ext. 3.*

# EDUCATION NEWS



The Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District wants to remind you that each of us has a connection to natural resources. The National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) celebrated the 67th year of Stewardship Week April 24 - May 1, 2022. The 2022 Stewardship Week was themed "Healthy Soils, Healthy Life."

During the year, the Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District promotes stewardship through our various education programs. "Healthy Soils, Healthy Life" placemats were distributed during Stewardship Week.

The Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District is a member of the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) which oversees the Stewardship Week program. Stewardship Week is one of the largest national annual programs to promote conservation.



# FARM SERVICE AGENCY UPDATES



## Save Time - Make an Appointment with FSA

Producers are encouraged to call their local FSA office to schedule an appointment to ensure maximum use of their time and to make sure FSA staff is available to tend to their important business needs. Please call your local FSA office ahead to set an appointment and to discuss any records or documentation that might be needed during your appointment.

## LFP - Livestock Forage Disaster Program

The Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) provides payments to:

Eligible livestock owners and contract growers who have covered livestock and who are also producers of grazed forage crop acreage (native and improved pasture land with permanent vegetative cover Or certain crops planted specifically for grazing) that have suffered a loss of grazed forage due to a qualifying drought during the normal grazing period for the county.

Beaufort County met the D2 drought qualification for the LFP program. Producers in D2 (severe drought) intensity in any area of the county for at least eight consecutive weeks during the normal grazing period are eligible to receive assistance in an amount equal to one monthly payment. Contact the Farm Service Agency Office with questions or to file an application.

Beaufort-Hyde FSA Office  
155 B Airport Rd  
Washington, NC 27889  
252-946-1076 ext. 2

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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***



**James Allen**  
(Board Chairman)



**Tracy Warren**  
(Board Vice Chairman)



**Sid Cayton**  
(Board Supervisor)



**Archie Griffin**  
(Board Secretary)



**Wayne Black**  
(Board Supervisor)



### District Staff

***Ann Williams***  
Office Manager

***Nathaniel Woolard***  
District Resource Conservation Specialist

***Debbie Boyd***  
Education Coordinator



### USDA-NRCS

***Doug Wassum***  
Interim Team 14  
Supervisory Soil Conservationist

***Anthony Hester***  
Soil Conservation Technician

*Soil and Water...Yours for Life*

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