BEAUFORT CONSERVATION NEWS

Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District 155 Airport Road Washington, NC

Newsletter July 2023 - December 2023

SUPERVISOR AND STAFF UPDATE

Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District Staff and Supervisors attend in person and online virtual training sessions as offered.

2023 NCASWCD AREA 5 FALL MEETING

The Area 5 Fall Meeting was held on November 9, 2023 at Camp Cale Conference Center.

Chairman Steve Harris, Pasquotank SWCD, called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone attending. Roll Call was taken by Vice-Chairman David Collier, Pitt SWCD, and the Treasurer's Report was given by Maurice Berry, Jr., Pasquotank SWCD.

A Business Session was held, and Partnership Reports were then given.

Guest speakers were Chad Poole, Biological and Agricultural Engineer, NCSU, Keith Larick, Natural Resources Director for NC Farm Bureau, David Williams, Director of the Division of Soil and Water Conservation, and Lee Cannady, East CREP Specialist.

Attending the meeting from the Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District were Supervisors James Allen, Tracy Warren, and Wayne Black, Office Manager, Ann Williams, and Education Coordinator, Debbie Boyd. Other partnering agency personnel attending from Beaufort County were Kyle Gentry, NRCS, Anthony Hester, NRCS, and Rodney Woolard, Farmland Preservation.

PROGRAM NEWS

COVER CROP

AGRICULTURAL WATER RESOURCES ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (AgWRAP)

For Program Year 2024, the District was allocated $10,000 by the Soil and Water Conservation Commission for AgWRAP practice installation. The District received 10 applications for Irrigation Wells. All applications will be reviewed and ranked by the District's Supervisors during their January 2024 meeting.

FUNDS ANTICIPATED FOR AGRICULTURE COST SHARE PROGRAM (ACSP)

For Program Year 2024, the District was allocated $118,785 by the Soil and Water Conservation Commission for the Agriculture Cost Share Program.

The District opened a batching period in September 2023 to rank and fund Cover Crop applications only. Leading up to the September 2023 batching period, a total of six Cover Crop applications were received. Six Cover Crop applications and contracts were approved during the September 2023 Board Meeting.

The District received 10 additional Program Year 2024 ACSP applications for practices including Cropland Conversion, Residue and Tillage Management, Filter Strip, Water Control Structure, and Precision Agrichemical Application. These applications will be reviewed and ranked by the District's Supervisors during their January 2024 meeting.

Sludge Application Drone Footage

PROGRAM NEWS

PHASE IV

Phase IV of the 2020 Watershed Restoration Project began in December of 2022. Landscaping Unlimited was selected as the contractor to complete this phase. A total of 54,800 linear feet were cleared during Phase IV. Phase IV was completed in November of 2023.

Stream	Location	Length (ft)
Acre Swamp	Pinetown	19,000
Durham Creek	Aurora	17,000
Upper Herring Run	Washington	7,000
North Creek	Belhaven	1,800
Riverside Run	Washington	1,500
Pineygrove Branch	Washington	8,500

PHASE IV

STREAMFLOW REHABILITATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (StRAP)

PHASE II

Phase II of the Streamflow Rehabilitation Assistance Program began in October of 2023. Grillot Construction was selected as the contractor to complete this phase. Phase II was completed in November of 2023. During Phase II, 17,800 linear feet were cleared.

Stream	Location	Length (ft)
South Creek	Aurora	9,300
Indian Run	Pantego	8,500

PROGRAM NEWS

StRAP

StRAP

EDUCATION NEWS

2023

Annual Dan Windley Environmental Field Days at Goose Creek State Park

Wetlands Walk

The Windley-May families

Over 500 fifth grade students, teachers, and chaperones, from Beaufort County attended the Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District's 15th Annual Dan Windley Environmental Field Days. The educational event was held at Goose Creek State Park November 6-8, 2023.

On each school's assigned day, attendees were divided into groups to rotate at fifteen-minute intervals throughout six stations. Stations included Aquatics, Soils, Wetlands, Forestry, Conservation, and Soil Bracelets and were instructed by representatives from various agencies who specialize in the topics covered. Presenters were from Goose Creek State Park, NC Estuarium, Beaufort County Cooperative Extension, Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District, other Area 5 Soil and Water Conservation Districts, as well as retired volunteers who specialize in their fields. The District appreciates the assistance of all those involved in the learning stations and thanks Goose Creek State Park for co-sponsoring the event.

Environmental Field Days was started 36 years ago by Mr. Dan Windley from the Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District. Mr. Windley passed away in September 2006. To honor his family for their continued dedication to this yearly event, the name of the event was changed to the Annual Dan Windley Environmental Field Days in 2008.

CONSERVATION

EDUCATION NEWS

SOILS

WETLANDS

FORESTRY

EDUCATION NEWS

SOIL BRACELETS

AQUATICS

EDUCATION NEWS

NC Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts

Resource Conservation Workshop (RCW)

June 16-21, 2024

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 that 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.

APPLICATIONFORM.pdf (ncagr.gov)

Applications Due:

By 4:30
April 3, 2024
to
Beaufort SWCD Office
Agricultural Center
155C Airport Road
Washington, NC 27889

Interviews will take place the week of April 8, 2024.

BEAUFORT COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District will provide sponsorship for event 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:

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Education Coordinator
Beaufort SWCD
Agricultural Center
155C Airport Rd.
Washington, NC 27889
debbie.boyd@beaufortcountync.gov
252-946-4989, Ext. 3

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

Kyle Gentry
Team 14
Supervisory Soil Conservationist

Anthony Hester
Soil Conservationist

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