

**ALTAMAHA  
SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
2014**

**MISSION STATEMENT: Use each acre of land according to its capabilities and  
treat each acre in accordance with its needs.**

**1) Encourage wise use of natural resources with emphasis on promoting soil quality  
by reduction of erosion.**

- A. Conservation practices to be installed to achieve goals.
  - 1. Approve conservation plans on farms.
  - 2. Encourage Partners for Fish and Wildlife Programs.
  - 3. Promote conservation tillage through meetings and tours.
  - 4. Promote better soil quality by encouraging marginal cropland to be used for pasture and Whip and Forestry Programs.
  - 5. Promote the use of the District's conservation tillage equipment.

**2) Promote better water quality.**

- A. Actions to be taken.
  - 1. Promote Partners for Fish and Wildlife Programs.
  - 2. Encourage landowners to use the Irrigation Evaluation Program.
  - 3. Encourage landowners to apply for cost share through the District and State Conservation Commission to build catchment ponds.
  - 4. Encourage landowners to sign up for EQIP.

**3) Promote better use of grazing land to prevent soil loss.**

- A. Actions to be taken.
  - 1. Promote use of cross fencing and rotational grazing.
  - 2. Hold livestock demonstrations and meetings to demonstrate cross fencing, pasture planting, preferred forages and good hay production.

**4) Reduce animal waste.**

- A. Actions to be taken.
  - 1. Hold demonstrations to show proper use of animal waste, chicken litter calibration and proper use of heavy use materials in livestock operations.

**5) Control erosion on commercial, industrial and residential developments.**

- A. Actions to be taken.
  - 1. Review all sediment and erosion control plans as required by the Erosion and Sediment Control Law.

2. Furnish soil information to developers as requested.
3. Encourage the implementation of the revised Erosion and Sediment Control Ordinance by all city and county municipalities. Do Erosion and Sediment Control Overviews in major cities and counties in the District.
4. Sponsor Erosion and Sediment Control Certification and Re-certification Training Courses with in the District

**6) Provide information and assistance to local officials and landowners in making wise land use decisions.**

A. Actions to be taken.

1. Support a zoning or taxation structure that encourages wise land use and orderly development of natural resources.
2. Request each county to be encouraged to include the District in development of land use plans.
3. Provide assistance to county and cities on conservation issues.
4. Hold Erosion and Sediment Control Awareness Courses with city and county officials.

**7) Promote good forestry conservation practices.**

A. Actions to be taken.

1. Encourage participation in the Conservation Reserve Program for marginal acres.
2. Participate in holding Forestry Field Day in the counties of the District each year. Cooperate with the Georgia Forestry Commission to promote their Best Management Practices and proper woodland management.
3. Promote better management of wildlife.

**8) Education and Youth Programs**

A. Actions to be taken

1. Sponsor students to the Natural Resources Conservation Workshop to introduce them at an early age to the concepts of soil and water conservation. Tuition will be paid from district sponsors.
  - a. Recognize the highest scorer in the District with a \$25 cash award.
  - b. Assist in providing advisors to the workshop.
2. Support the Environthon Program in each school.
3. Purchase and develop, and then distribute educational and informational materials to inform the public of the need to manage and protect soil and water resources.
4. Participate in youth education through the Jeff Davis County Farm Tour.

**9) Publicize Conservation achievements and programs**

A. Actions to be taken.

1. Purchase and distribute Soil and Water Stewardship Week materials April 27 through May 3 to inform the public of the need to manage and protect soil and water.
2. Arrange for news stories on conservation in each newspaper in the five counties during 2014.
3. Hold next Conservationist of the Year Program in Coffee County.
4. Arrange and conduct functions like banquets and cookouts to recognize individuals for their contributions to soil and water conservation and promote greater participation.
5. Use newsletter to educate public about District activities.
6. Continue to update District Website [www.altamahaswcd.org](http://www.altamahaswcd.org)

**10) Maintain good relationships with local, state and federal government officials.**

A. Actions to be taken.

1. The District will sponsor a conservation tour for county, state and federal representatives and other officials to observe soil conservation activities underway.
2. Assist local units of government with technical assistance.
3. Continue to assist local sponsors on maintaining existing watershed structure on the Bishop Creek and Mill Branch, Ten-Mile Brier Creek Watershed.
4. Invite other county agricultural agencies to District Board meetings as meetings are held in that county.

**11) Promote wise conservation program management.**

A. Actions to be taken.

1. Review all memorandums of Understanding.
2. Promote implementation and maintenance of Conservation Plans through meetings, newsletters and programs.
3. Support developments of measure plans of Seven Rivers RC&D and Pine Country RC&D.
4. Sponsor and conduct meetings and seminars to inform groups and individuals of particular conservation needs.
5. All expenditures by the District will follow state guidelines.
6. Promote District's equipment's availability to landowners to be utilized in the completion of the District's overall goals.

**12) Continue to train and educate District Officials.**

A. Actions to be taken.

1. Send two District Supervisors to State Supervisor training session each year.

2. Encourage attendance at the GACDS Annual Meeting and Group V Meeting each year.
3. Support District's official attendance at other conservation related meetings.
4. Recognize District partners for their support of District Conservation Programs.

### **13) Promote Water Conservation**

#### A. Actions to be taken.

1. Provide support to Regional Water Council while also providing current information to the public on council activities.
2. Promote the use of water meters on irrigation systems as a farm management tool.
3. Promote the Mobile Irrigation Lab to irrigation operators throughout the District to assist in the conservation of water through uniform and efficient application.

### **14) Local Work Group**

#### B. Actions to be taken

1. Have Supervisors actively involved in the Local Work Group to assist in determining resource concerns within the District.
2. Provide input on practice limits that will facilitate successful implementation of conservation practices within the District.
3. Promote collaboration with other stakeholders within the District to ensure specific resource concerns are addressed to meet the overall goal of conservation.

**ALTAMAHA SOIL AND WATER  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

**ANNUAL PLAN OF WORK**

**FY 2014**



**The District's Identity:**

The Altamaha River Soil and Water Conservation District is an agency of the State Government established February 8, 1945. It is a legally constituted, administrative agency of the State of Georgia. The Altamaha District Board of Supervisors is charged with the responsibility of making conservation programs available for 1,401,540 acres of land in the District

**THE DISTRICT SUPERVISORS ARE:**

Robert E. Matthew	Appling
Jeffrey L. Deen	Appling
George M. Yearty	Bacon
Pat Tanner	Bacon
Orson Adams	Coffee
Garland Thompson	Coffee
Tabatha Wooten	Jeff Davis
B. H. Claxton	Jeff Davis
Garry Spires	Telfair
Travis P. Cook	Telfair

**MEETINGS:**

Meetings are normally held on the last Monday of the month, 2:30 p.m. Meeting places are rotated among the counties. Demonstrations, tours and special meetings may be held as part of District meetings. Meeting notices will be posted in the District's local newspapers.