

News Release



Georgia Association of Soil and Water
Conservation District Supervisors
Danny Hogan, President

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**NRCS District Conservationist Lewis Fokes receives
GACDS Superior Professional Support award for work with
Pine Mountain Soil and Water Conservation District**
*Lewis Fokes honored for technical support for conservation projects
in Chattahoochee, Harris, Marion, Muscogee and Talbot counties*

ATLANTA – At their annual meeting in Atlanta, the Georgia Association of Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisors honored U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Natural Resources Conservation Service District Conservationist Lewis Fokes with a GACDS Superior Professional Support to Conservation Districts Award for his work with the Pine Mountain Soil and Water Conservation District.

GACDS Vice-President and Pine Mountain SWCD Supervisor Larry Dillard presented Mr. Fokes with the award.

As an employee of the NRCS, Mr. Fokes provides technical support on conservation projects undertaken by the Pine Mountain Soil and Water Conservation District, which includes Chattahoochee, Harris, Marion, Muscogee and Talbot counties.

Over the past 34 years with NRCS, he has had many achievements with watershed programs in and around Marion, Harris, Muscogee, Talbot and Chattahoochee counties, as well as working closely with the City of Columbus. Much of his work involves Federal construction contracts related to the U.S. Army’s Fort Benning.

He participated in the design and completion of two pond program contracts and played an active role in the development of the Manual for Better Back Roads Project. He has also worked with the Pine Mountain Soil and Water Conservation District on Forestry Field Days and the Marion County Environmental Trails and Native Tree Arboretum.

Mr. Fokes has received 13 Certificate of Merit Awards, received a Distinguished Conservationist Award and received a National Performance Award.

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Soil and Water Conservation Districts were created in 1937 by the Georgia General Assembly to protect the state's soil and water resources following the Dust Bowl of the 1930's. Districts provide a way for citizens to set local resource priorities for state and federal assistance programs.

For more information on the Pine Mountain Soil and Water Conservation District, please contact Luke Crosson at (229) 995-6001 or email lcrosson@gaswcc.org.

At the state level, the Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission (GSWCC) supports locally led soil and water conservation districts. Local conservation project funding is provided by the State of Georgia, along with grants from the Georgia Environmental Protection Division, USDA-NRCS and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

More information is available at www.gaswcc.org or by calling (706) 552-4470.

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