

**UPPER OCMULGEE RIVER
SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

**ANNUAL PLAN OF WORK
FISCAL YEAR 2013
(July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013)**

1. Sponsor demonstrations and tours to promote water quality and Best Management Practices to farmers and other land users.
 - A. Expend District funds to purchase exhibits, promotional materials, and supplies; and to pay meeting expenses to promote conservation demonstrations and tours.
2. Sponsor and provide funding, when available, for students to represent the District in the Envirothon program, Soils Judging teams, and other natural resource and environmental competitions.
3. Sponsor tuition from District funds for qualified students from the District to attend the Youth Natural Resources Conservation Workshop to introduce them to the concepts of soil and water conservation.
4. Recognize excellence in conservation by district cooperators whenever appropriate.
 - A. Conduct Conservationist of the Year program to recognize one individual from each county for his/her contributions to soil and water conservation.
5. Promote public understanding for the need for soil and water stewardship by purchasing and distributing conservation education materials and programs during Soil Stewardship Week.
6. Continue to promote USDA Farm Bill programs offered through NRCS.
7. Maintain membership in and pay membership dues to the National Association of Conservation Districts, the Georgia Association of Conservation District Supervisors, and the Upper Ocmulgee River Resource Conservation and Development Council; and to cooperate with these groups to jointly promote soil and water conservation goals.
8. Maintain a collaborative relationship with the Cooperative Extension Service in Jasper and Newton Counties, dealing with agricultural issues, conservation education, and outreach activities such as 4-H and FFA involvement.

9. Purchase supplies, pay communication costs, and purchase equipment needed to conduct the District's goal of protecting soil and water resources.
10. Provide educational and informational materials to schools, landowners, and other groups to promote the need for management and protection of soil and water resources.
11. Purchase conservation equipment, as needed, to demonstrate new and innovative methods of installing Best Management Practices to farmers and landowners.
12. Provide supervisors with financial resources to improve their knowledge of conservation issues, and assist supervisors with financial resources to individually promote the programs of the District. Provide per diem payment of up to \$120 and mileage payment for supervisors to attend Supervisor Training and the GACDS Annual Meeting when funds are available.
13. Seek outside sources of income to strengthen and support District activities and programs.
14. Manage and direct funding received from grants, donations, and other sources which assist the District in the promotion of soil and water conservation methods.
15. Arrange publicity and expend funds for public outreach to increase the public's awareness of the need for soil and water conservation.
16. Appoint committees, as necessary, to plan and conduct special District promotions of soil and water conservation programs.
17. Promote dialogue with elected representatives on the county, state and federal levels, and expend funds for meeting expenses to keep these leaders informed of conservation concerns and programs.
18. Provide oversight of District funds by the annual review of expenditures and income, and provide a detailed financial report to the Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission at the end of each fiscal year.
19. Fulfill the District's responsibility under the Georgia Erosion and Sediment Control Act.
 - A. Review Erosion and Sediment Control Review Plans at each district meeting.
 - B. Periodically review the Erosion and Sediment Control programs for Newton and Jasper Counties.

- C. Expend district funds, when necessary, to provide training programs for developers and land users.
- 20. Continue to promote the no-till drill and hydroseeder to encourage landowner use.
- 21. Support the “Keep Covington Clean and Beautiful” and the Jasper County “Keep Georgia Beautiful” education programs by providing financial and technical support.
- 22. Continue support of the Jasper County Sustainable Ag Initiatives by working with cooperating agencies to find suitable locations for projects and by sponsoring educational activities.
- 23. Promote the Conservation Commission’s Partners for Fish & Wildlife program by sponsoring wetland and habitat projects to protect wildlife.
- 24. Cooperate with Newton County government in addressing NPDES requirements and stormwater requirements by sponsoring educational seminars and programs.
- 25. Support Career Fairs and outdoor education.
- 26. Partner with the UGA Extension Service to host a Pasture Management Field Day.
- 27. Conduct a workshop on the rules and regulations of how to restore abandoned subdivisions back to agricultural use. Educate the public on the local, state, and federal regulations involved in restoring these lands to agricultural use.
- 28. Host a Local Work Group Meeting to set priorities for USDA Farm Bill programs.