

ROCKDALE COUNTY
SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT
CONSOLIDATED
ANNUAL WORK PLAN
FY 2016

Rockdale County

Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisors

Ed Shirey

Fox McCarthy

Russell Toning

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Rockdale County Soil and Water Conservation District

FY 2016 Annual Work Plan

Objective 1

Improve and safeguard soil and water resources and related plant and wildlife throughout the County.

Actions

- A. Work with landowners and local governments to assist each in implementing best management practices and obtain compliance with the Georgia Erosion and Sediment Control (E&SC) Act.
- B. Oversee City of Conyers and Rockdale County's Erosion Control Program by requiring these Local Issuing Authorities to report on activities at bi-monthly meetings. Ensure that quarterly reports from Conyers and Rockdale are submitted on time. The District will conduct Overviews and renew Memorandum of Agreements with Conyers and Rockdale County every four years.
- C. Promote the Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control (CPESC) Program. (Action taken by all Supervisors)
- D. District will increase awareness in Erosion Control by attending Level 1, 1A, or II certification courses.
- E. The following actions by the District help ensure land development conservation practices:
 - Monitor development activities within the District for effective E&SC plan implementation. (Action taken by all Supervisors)
 - Assess complaints through the complaint resolution procedure by requesting notification of complaints received by the Georgia Soil & Water Conservation Commission, USDA-NRCS, City of Conyers, and Rockdale County. (Action taken by all Supervisors)
 - Encourage the inclusion of natural areas, greenspace, wildlife habitat or similar areas under new development or renovation. (Action taken by all Supervisors)
 - Monitor land use activities along Big Haynes Creek, Little Haynes Creek and Pointer Lake and report all foreseeable buffer and restored watershed protection problems to Rockdale Water Resources and appropriate elected officials.(Action taken by David Shipp)
- D. The following actions by the District ensure communication and coordination with City, County, State and Federal agencies to promote environmental conservation efforts:
 - Coordinate with GSWCC Regional Representative and Resource Specialist to carry out oversight of the E&SC program of the County and the City to identify strengths and weaknesses and areas for improvement and increased cooperation. (Action taken by all Supervisors)
 - Interface with County and city attorneys and judges concerning Soil & Water Issues. (Action taken by David Shipp)

Objective 2

Increase awareness, understanding, and knowledge about natural resources within Rockdale County through dissemination of information, education, and recognition.

Actions

- A. Host an Annual awards Banquet to honor conservation efforts by landowners and contractors, as well as educators in the conservation field.
- B. The following actions by the District involve direct involvement with local schools to promote awareness and education about natural resources:
 - Sponsor Rockdale County high school students through Rockdale Career Academy and Extension Service to attend the Natural Resources Conservation workshop and the Georgia Envirothon. (Action taken by Russell Toning)
 - Purchase and distribute Soil & Water Stewardship Materials to educational leaders and curricula advisors by providing resources, conservation books, booklets and curriculum guides. (Action taken by David Shipp)
- C. The following actions by the District involve direct interaction with the public and organizations through presentations to educate and encourage involvement in conservation efforts:
 - Update the RSWCD Power Point Presentation and prepare public presentations with specific information on Soil & Water Conservation needs to schools, civic clubs, churches, and others. (Action taken by all Supervisors)
 - Give annual presentation to County Commissioners and City Council on District mission and programs as well as other State and elected officials, including a legislative breakfast or luncheon.
- D. Promote awareness and understanding of the issues surrounding the conservation of natural resources, and publicize in a positive and timely manner the actions that benefit the District's natural resources. (Action taken by all Supervisors)
 - Submit articles at appropriate times on issues surrounding conservation issues and publicize actions taken by the District.
 - Create Facebook page for the District. (Action taken by Ed Shirey)
- E. Support the Rockdale County Career Academy, FFA, Master Gardeners, and Rivers Alive Program. (Action taken by all supervisors)
- F. Maintain District association in professional organizations and associations that promulgate and promote goals that are similar to those of the District. (Action taken by all Supervisors)
- G. Send Supervisors to Supervisor Training Session and GACD Annual Meeting.

Objective 3

Promote land stewardship in district; including soil loss reduction and soil quality improvement, water quality improvement and enhancement of associated riparian areas, and natural area protection for the benefits of wildlife and native plant communities through available programs and technical assistance.

Actions

- A. Support the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service to better acquaint Supervisors and landowners through involvement in conservation programs such as Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP), Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP), Forestry Incentive Program (FIP), Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and others. (Action taken by all supervisors)
- B. Support and promote workshops and field days held by district and partnering agencies. (Action taken by all supervisors)

Objective 4

Manage District financial and material resources to meet District goals in an efficient and productive manner as prescribed by State guidelines.

Actions

- A. The Rockdale County Soil and Water Conservation District will expend their funds in compliance with State law, and the District will conduct an annual audit.
- B. Request financial support to the District from Rockdale County and the City of Conyers. (Action taken by Ed Shirey)
- C. Establish Affiliate member program to create funding opportunities for the district and increase community participation.
- D. Promote and seek sponsorship of specific events.