



GWINNETT COUNTY

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

ANNUAL PLAN OF WORK

FY 2023



Gwinnett County Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisors:

Ellis R. Lamme, Chairman (Elected)

Matthew Retter, Vice Chairman (Elected)

Louis D. Young, P.E., Treasurer (Member at Large)

Travys Harper (Member at Large)

B. David Landingham, Member (Elected)

*"With the Right to Own Goes the Duty to Conserve.
With the Privilege of Use Goes Obligation of Stewardship
and Support."*



Gwinnett County Soil and Water Conservation District

FY 2023 Annual Report

Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2023

The mission of the Gwinnett County Soil & Water Conservation District is to provide educational and technical assistance to conserve and improve soils, improve water quality, and to enhance the natural resources of Gwinnett County.

Objective 1:

The District will work closely with the Georgia Soil & Water Conservation Commission and local units of government to fully implement and monitor the Erosion and Sediment Control Act.

Action:

1. Ensure that 16 Local Issuing Authorities of Land Disturbance Permits attend monthly District meetings.
2. Review monthly Erosion & Sediment Control reports submitted by Local Issuing Authorities and make recommendations regarding the adequacy of compliance with State Law.
3. Monitor monthly Local Issuing Authorities reports by comparing data with semi-annual reports that are submitted to the Commission.
4. Review Erosion & Sediment Control plans that are submitted to the District within a reasonable time frame not to exceed 35 days. Record the length of time taken by Local Issuing Authorities with a Memorandum of Agreement to review and approve Erosion & Sediment Control plans and the number of times individual sets of plans are submitted for review, re-submitted, and re-reviewed from the approval process through completion.
5. Update and renew all Memorandum of Agreements contracts that were older than five years and ensure compliance with state law.
6. Ensure that Local Issuing Authorities Erosion & Sediment Control Model Ordinance was current and up to date.
7. When conducting Overviews, ensure that Local Issuing Authorities have certified staff, and ensure that Local Issuing Authorities have recently been granted a Memorandum of Agreement and are abiding by them.
8. Assist Local Issuing Authorities in the Erosion & Sediment Control plan review process and provide on-site information as requested.
9. To create a better awareness of problems and solutions for erosion and sediment control, sponsor and conduct monthly erosion and sediment control education for Local Issuing Authorities at District meetings.
10. Provide recognition annually to local jurisdictions that are in full compliance with the Erosion & Sediment Control law.
11. Support the County and other local governments in educating the Local Issuing Authorities regarding the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System and its requirements.

Objective 2:

Promote and implement effective information and educational outreach through an effective relationship with individuals, educational institutions, businesses, industries, other agencies, and units of government.

Action:

1. Purchase or develop and then distribute educational informational materials to inform the public of the need to manage and protect soil and water resources.
2. Support local, state, and national award programs, including Georgia Association of Conservation District Supervisors Hall of Fame, Soil & Water Conservation District of the Year, and District Supervisor of the Year.
3. Sponsor students to the Natural Resource Conservation Workshop.
4. Support GACD "Pollinator Project" habitat installations by identifying and initiating partnerships with local county parks and other interested entities promoting pollinator conservation.
5. Seek additional funds from private, local, state, and federal sources to strengthen and support District activities and programs to promote soil and water conservation, natural resources, and education.
6. Manage District financial and material resources to meet District goals in an efficient and productive manner, and as prescribed by state guidelines.
7. Encourage District Supervisors' attendance at district functions or trainings by reimbursing for mileage and/or other event expenses.
8. Promote and fund environmental awareness and education through management of grant funds made available through local and regional partnerships, including the USDA/NRCS "Urban Bridge Grant". Apply for new grants.



Objective 3:

Encourage protection and maintenance of 17 existing watershed structures in the County.

Action:

1. The District will assist Gwinnett County Water Resource Departments' staff in informing County Commissioners of the importance and function of watershed dams in Gwinnett County.
2. Through NRCS, request an economic impact analysis or pre- and post-installation of watershed structures in Gwinnett County.
3. Partner with Gwinnett County to develop and implement on site watershed structure signage.
4. Provide recognition to Gwinnett County on their proactive leadership on watershed structure upgrades.
5. Assist in the inspection of dams and recommend maintenance schedules.
6. Provide an annual update from NRCS to the Gwinnett County Water Resource Management on watershed inspections.
7. Invite the Gwinnett County Department of Water Resource Management on annual basis to present a program on planning and permitting for development and redevelopment near watershed easements and breach and flood zones.
8. Provide information to Gwinnett County to clarify technical and legal requirements pertaining to activities affecting easements around watershed structures.
9. Promote and support continued funding of Gwinnett County's watershed structures.
10. Coordinate with Gwinnett County regarding water resource issues.
11. Develop plan to work with Gwinnett County Parks Department and Gwinnett County Department of Water Resources to address erosion and water quality issues at County Parks, in order to educate park users and enhance environmental concerns.



Objective 4:

Support the Upper Ocmulgee River Resource Conservation & Development Council to help meet the needs and priorities of Gwinnett County.

Action:

1. Invite the Council to actively participate in monthly District meetings.
2. Support the Council's projects and activities.

