

MCDUFFIE
COUNTY
CONSERVATION
DISTRICT

FY-2025 ANNUAL PLAN OF WORK

MCDUFFIE COUNTY **CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

On October 31, 1979 the McDuffie County Conservation District was organized and is a legal subdivision of the Georgia State Government. The McDuffie Conservation District meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at 11:30 a.m. unless publicized otherwise. No meetings are held in the months of July and December.

DISTRICT SUPERVISORS:

Chairman: Russell Barnes
2036 Adams-Reeves Road, Dearing, GA 30808

Vice-Chairman: Patrick Lunceford
4264 Lincolnton Hwy, Thomson, GA 30824

Treasurer/Secretary: George R. Reeves
3390 Wrens Highway, Thomson, Georgia 30824

Supervisor: Roger Burton
298 Hobbs Mill Road; Dearing, Georgia 30808

Supervisor: Donald Palmer, Jr.
153 Story-Randell Road, Thomson, Georgia 30824

Annual Plan of Work

Fiscal Year (FY) 2025

This Plan of Work establishes the major objectives for the McDuffie County Conservation District during FY-2025. It emphasizes Conservation of Natural Resources within the District.

Major Objectives

- 1. Natural Resource Conservation** - Promote the conservation of soil, water, forestry, wildlife, and other natural resources.
- 2. Conservation Education** - Promote conservation education through youth and adult educational programs.
- 3. Public Relations & Information** - To create public awareness of District conservation programs and objectives.
- 4. Erosion and Sedimentation Program** - Provide technical assistance related to erosion control and sedimentation prevention to citizens and local units of government.

Natural Resource Conservation

Action Item

1. Promote natural resources conservation with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) through the district responsibility for implementing the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), and other Farm Bill programs.
2. Provide assistance to landowners/producers to plan and apply conservation Best Management Practices.
3. Host an annual Local Work Group Meeting with agency partners, local farmers to prioritize resources, and practices for the Farm Bill Program Funding.
4. Provide soils information to the public through the Web-based Web Soil Survey to promote proper land use planning.
5. Continuing to partner with state natural resource agencies and non-profits.
6. Maintain membership with GACD, NACD, and RC&D
7. Maintain an affiliate membership program and hold annual banquet to show membership appreciation and honor a local Conservationist of the Year.

Conservation Education

Action Item

1. The District sponsors several high school students annually to attend the Natural Resources Conservation Workshop (NRCW). The workshop is held every year at the Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College (ABAC) in Tifton, Georgia. The program introduces them at an early age to the concepts of soil and water conservation. The District sponsors the students by covering the registration fee required for each student to attend the camp and their transportation to and from the workshop.
2. Holds an annual conservation poster contest for local school systems and awards the winners appropriately.
3. Holds an annual conservation photo contest for local high school students and awards the winners appropriately.
4. Shares conservation educational materials with McDuffie County students & adults.
5. Helps schools in the District with conservation education activities.
6. The district annually awards two \$500 college scholarships to two McDuffie High School students who attend NRCW.
7. The district helps support the Georgia Environment Competition for high school students.

Public Relations and Information

Action Item

1. Develop and distribute an annual report on the District's accomplishments.
2. Provide for oversight of District funds by the annual review of expenditures and income and prepare a detailed financial report at the end of each fiscal year.
3. Work closely with other agencies and non-profits to coordinate conservation program activities in the District. Encourage each agency representative to attend board meetings and keep the District supervisors informed on the various agency programs in the District.
4. Prepare and share news articles and social media posts on the District's programs in the District.
5. Keep locally elected officials fully informed about conservation issues and of on-going conservation programs and District accomplishments.
6. Maintain the district website and Facebook page to highlight District activities and objectives.
7. Hold officer elections every two years in December of even-numbered years to elect a Chairman, Vice Chairman, and a Treasurer.

Erosion and Sedimentation Program

Action Item

1. Review erosion and sediment control plans for land disturbance projects within the limits of each Local Issuing Authority (LIA) that falls under the requirements of the erosion and sediment control ordinance of the LIA where there is not a Memorandum of Agreement with the District.
2. Provide technical assistance to evaluate soil and water resources for propose development projects.
3. Promote soil and water conservation through the GSWCC Erosion and Sedimentation Certification Program.
4. Provide LIAs and landowners with technical assistance for their erosion and sedimentation control program and assist with interpretation of the Georgia Erosion and Sedimentation Act.

Updated July 2024