



REGION I NEWSLETTER

FALL 2024

Region I

UPCOMING EVENTS

10/14 Harvest Festival

10AM-4PM

The Mabel House
Mabelton, GA

11/7 The Septic Tank Workshop

6PM-7:30PM

Catoosa Learning Center

36 Muscogee Trail
Ringgold, GA

<https://forms.gle/n8SZQnXRQddREBiy8>

11/14 NPDES Level 1A Recertification Class

(Blue Card)

8AM-Noon @ 4621 Cherokee St.

Acworth, GA

www.gacd.us/events

District Information

IN THIS EDITION:

BLUE RIDGE MOUNTAIN
BEEF DAY

NRCW

WEST GA BANQUET

NOONDAY 17 UPDATE

SMALL SCALE FARMING GRANT

AG INNOVATION CHALLENGE

UNION COUNTY OVERVIEW

COBB COUNTY
WELLNESS GARDEN



What has been going on:

GEORGIA BEEF DAY

Blue Ridge Mountain Soil and Water Conservation District coincided with the June 1st Farmers Market to provide a great day of conservation minded booths and events. Special guest US Representative Andrew Clyde was on hand to speak and visit with everyone. There was a photo contest, Forestry demonstration as well as a presentation on honey bees and pollinators. And, the Blue Ridge Cattlemen's Association grilled over 500 burgers for everyone.



NCRS BOOTH



GSWCC BOOTH



USDA BOOTH



NRCW

Blue Ridge Mountain Soil & Water Conservation District and Limestone Valley Soil & Water Conservation Districts sponsored buses to send young people to the conference. The conference is an excellent opportunity to learn, make friends and have fun, while building a bright future with our young people.





WEST GEORGIA ANNUAL BANQUET

The banquet was held at the farm of Supervisor Tommy Waldrop. This is an annual banquet that rotates locations and provides the opportunity to celebrate the year and give thanks.

NRCS' Shemekia Mosely presented Ashley Rodgers with her Conservationist of the year sign from 2018. Shemekia also presented Conservationist of the Year 2024 to Travis Strickland from Douglas County.

Top picture left to right:
Travis Strickland family, Supervisor Denney Rogers, Supervisor Billy Sims, Supervisor Tony Cole and Supervisor Tommy Waldrop

Top right picture:
Ashely Rodgers presented with her sign from Shemekia.

Middle right picture:
Travis Strickland (with daughter) presented award from Shemekia.





NOONDAY 17 WATERSHED DAM

Noonday Watershed Dam No. 17 is an earthen embankment located on Tate Creek, a tributary of Noonday Creek in Cobb County, Georgia. The dam is owned by the Cobb County Soil and Water Conservation District.

We are moving ahead with the rehabilitation and refurbishing of the dam currently.

This dam provides flood protection for 156 downstream residents. 13 homes, two stables, a neighborhood recreation facility, one local road, Interstate 575, and many public utilities and infrastructure would be inundated should the dam fail.

SMALL SCALE FARMING GRANT

The Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission (GSWCC), in partnership with local Soil and Water Conservation Districts, is offering up to \$10,000 per project to support urban agriculture and soil health focused projects.

We currently have 3 applications.
Go to our website for more info:
<https://gaswcc.georgia.gov/>

APPROVED SMALL SCALE FARMING GRANT PROJECTS

HYDROPONICS

AQUAPONICS

COMPOSTING

NO-TILL PLANTING

NUTRIENT RETENTION

SOIL TESTING & HEALTH
MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

POLLINATOR & WILDLIFE
HABITAT IMPROVEMENTS

AND OTHER CONSERVATION
PRACTICES



COBB COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT AG INNOVATION COMPETITION

This competition is an annual event that creates amazing results. Six middle school finalist teams were tasked with designing and engineering a prototype to tackle food insecurity issues. There were also five high school finalist teams that were tasked with researching a common agriculture/environmental science issue and designing a prototype to combat the issue.

The finals presentation was a shark-tank style event. The judges ranked the top 3 in the middle school level and the top 3 in the high school level. Prizes were as follows:

1st \$300
2nd \$200
3rd \$100



1ST PLACE SENIOR AG INNOVATION WINNER KAVAN



AARSHEYA AND VENYA WITH THEIR BUZZ BOT PRESENTATION



CHAIRMAN KIRK WITH 1ST PLACE JUNIOR WINNERS SUMMER & PHOEBE



SAAHAS AND CAROLINE WITH THEIR AQUAPONICS PRESENTATION

UNION COUNTY OVERVIEW IN PROGRESS



UNION COUNTY OVERVIEW IN PROGRESSES

We are currently in a co-plan with Union County under an MOA. A MOA or Memorandum of Agreement is a legal document that describes in general terms and details a cooperative relationship between two parties. This is a 6-month plan where we work closely with their planning commission to make sure they fully understand the requirements of building plans so that they can approve their own plans for their community. This will also allow for a quicker turnaround for their clients.

COBB COUNTY WELLNESS GARDEN



The Wellness Garden at Cobb County Farm Bureau (Wellness Garden) is a joint initiative among the Cobb County Farm Bureau, Master Gardener Volunteers of Cobb County, Inc. (MGVOCC), Cobb Water and Soil Conservation District and WellStar Health Systems to grow produce for those in need in the South Cobb area.

Thank you to all of you who donated, volunteered, consulted and showed support for this joint venture. It has been a great success. Our goal is fresh as possible to those who will use it! Our best fit at this time is the newly opened Atlanta Community Food Bank located at 1605 Austell Road, Marietta 30008. Within just a few months we contributed over 900 pounds for fresh produce to our neighbors in need.





[HTTPS://GASWCC.GEORGIA.GOV](https://gaswcc.georgia.gov)

PROTECTING AND IMPROVING GEORGIA'S SOIL AND WATER THROUGH EDUCATION, ASSISTANCE, AND OVERSIGHT, WE HELP LOCAL CONSERVATION DISTRICTS, LANDOWNERS, AND GOVERNMENTS WISELY USE AND MAINTAIN THE SOIL AND WATER RESOURCES FOR ALL GEORGIANS.

IF THERE IS ANYTHING WE CAN DO
FOR YOU, PLEASE REACH OUT TO US
AT 1-706-624-1214.

THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR PARTNERS!