

# Upper Chattahoochee River Soil and Water Conservation District

## FY-2024 Annual Plan of Work

### **Water Resources**

#### Objectives:

1. Work with NRCS to initiate an improved process for obtaining a permit to build a pond
2. Encourage legislators to fund the Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission Budget for category 1 watershed modification and maintenance
3. Encourage all landowners to be aware of the potential of surface and ground water contamination without the use of planning resource management system BMPs

### **Soil Resources**

#### Objectives:

1. Sponsor and host events (i.e., demonstrations, tours and field days) to increase awareness and participation in conservation practices to protect soil and water resources
2. Host an event highlighting cover crops for improved soil health
3. Host a program for gardeners and small farmers

### **Forestry**

#### Objectives:

1. Coordinate with RC&D to host a board program on protecting forestry resources
2. Support and promote RC&D's Fire-wise program

### **Finance**

#### Objectives:

1. Solicit affiliate memberships and have a minimum of 150 members by July 1<sup>st</sup>. a. Membership goals per county: Dawson County-25, Forsyth County-100, Habersham County-25, Lumpkin County-25, White County-25
2. Encourage County of Board of Commissioners to budget funds for assisting the district with its programs

### **Education**

#### Objectives:

1. Sponsor students to attend the Natural Resources Conservation Workshop
2. Provide \$1,000 per high school within the five-county district for a single or

multiple scholarships to students majoring in agricultural and environmental sciences 3. Provide \$300 grant for each county to promote conservation education in grades K-12

### **Legislative**

Objectives:

1. Host a Legislative dinner for local, state and federal elected officials to build relationships and promote funding and solicit support for conservation initiatives

### **RC&D**

Objective:

1. Support the Chestatee-Chattahoochee RC&D Council in carrying out resource projects in the district
2. Support the installation of additional high tunnels within the district

### **Public Relations and Outreach**

Objectives:

1. Publish District Annual Report to present at the annual meetings
2. The district program assistant will coordinate and submit news releases to local media outlets in the district once per quarter promoting conservation of soil and highlighting district activities

### **Soil, Water, and Air Stewardship Week**

Objectives:

1. Provide local media news releases to each county
2. Host a Kick-off Banquet for the week's events and invite educators, ministers and media
3. Present resources that can be used to promote the week

### **Ladies Auxiliary**

Objective:

1. Support district Ladies Auxiliary programs