Basic Operations, Programs & Practices of Conservation Districts
• Other Courses
• Who’s here?
• Ground Rules
• Learning Objectives
• Pre-test

Welcome!
Courses in Curriculum

• Legal & Ethical Framework of Districts
• Fiduciary, Fiscal & Financial Responsibilities
• Basic Operations, Programs, Practice
• Relations, Advocacy, Recruitment, Strategic Success Planning & Outreach
• What is the Conservation District? Partners and History
Ground Rules

• R-E-S-P-E-C-T
• BE HARD ON ISSUES, NOT EACH OTHER
• MAKE NO EXTRA NOISE
• OBSERVE THE “VEGAS” RULE
• SUSPEND YOUR DISBELIEF
• “RENT” IDEAS, BUYING NOT REQUIRED
• S---T---R---E---T---C---H
• CULTIVATE CURIOSITY
• BE FLEXIBLE
• HAVE FUN LEARNING!
Learning Objectives

• When you leave you should:
  – Understand the context of the work of the District Supervisors
  – Develop skill in fulfilling roles and responsibilities
  – Identify best management practices in conservation
The Important Work of Conservation Districts

• Have you thought about what you and your fellow Supervisors might be able to accomplish together?

• Have you considered just what your District is all about?

• By the end of the day, you may just have some answers
The Important Work of Conservation Districts

• Why does your district exist?
• What is the important work you’re trying to accomplish?
• What does that important work look like?
• How do you create that tangible image?
Theory in Action

- Consider an organization called “Family”
- It’s vision might involve creating a safe and happy place where all members are free to grow, develop and be productive
- Your tangible image of that vision might include activities that the family does for the family
- It would also have strategic priorities to create that image and financial and human resources dedicated to those activities
Planning Process

• What is the appropriate planning process?
• How is this process different for rural and urban settings?
• What types of programs might be included?
• Your neighbor has made his “final harvest” and sold his 100 acres to a new dairy farmer who wants to have a working operation and agri-tourism enterprise … how do you help her; what kind of assistance can you offer her?