



# Basic Operations, Programs & Practices of Conservation Districts

P R O M O T I N G   E X C E L L E N C E   I N   G O V E R N M E N T

- Other Courses
- Who's here?
- Ground Rules
- Learning Objectives
- Pre-test



# 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?



Vision



Mission



Strategic  
Priorities





# 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?