

ROCKDALE COUNTY
SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

ANNUAL WORK PLANS

FY 2013

Rockdale County
Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisors

Roger C. Hatch, Chairman

James Garrison, Treasurer

Michael W. Breedlove

Fox McCarthy

Ed Shirey

Rockdale County Soil and Water Conservation District

FY 2013 Annual Work Plans

Objective 1

Improve and safeguard soil and water resources and related plant and wildlife throughout the County by implementing best management practices and obtaining compliance with the Georgia Erosion and Sediment Control (E&SC) Act.

Actions

- A. Ratify E&SC plans for the City of Conyers and Rockdale County at monthly District meetings. (Action taken by all Supervisors.)
- B. Monitor development activities within the District for effective E&SC Plan implementation. (Action taken by all Supervisors.)
- C. Assess complaints through the complaint resolution procedure. (Action taken by all Supervisors.)
- D. Conduct Overviews of the E&SC program of the County and the City to identify strengths and weaknesses and areas for improvement and increased cooperation. (Action taken by all Supervisors.)
- E. Promote the inclusion of natural areas, greenways, greenbelts, wildlife habitat or similar areas under new development or renovation. (Action taken by all Supervisors.)
- F. Support Erosion & Sediment Control educational efforts including seminars and workshops in the District as well as co-sponsoring events outside the District. (Action taken by Mike Breedlove.)
- G. Interface with county and city attorneys and judges concerning Soil & Water issues. (Action taken by Mike Breedlove.)
- H. Promote the Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control (CPESC) Program. (Action taken by Fox McCarthy.)
- I. Recognize individuals for their contributions to soil and water conservation and promote greater participation. (Action taken by Fox McCarthy.)
- J. Support the City and County in their efforts with the Governor's Greenspace Initiative. (Action taken by Jim Garrison.)
- K. Monitor land use activities along Big Haynes and Little Haynes Creeks and report all foreseeable buffer and restored watershed protection problems to Rockdale Water Resources and appropriate elected officials. (Action taken by Roger Hatch.)

Objective 2

Increase awareness, understanding and knowledge about natural resources within Rockdale County through dissemination of information and education.

Actions

- A. Sponsor Rockdale County high school students to attend the Natural Resources Conservation workshop and the Georgia Envirothon. (Action taken by Ed Shirey.)
- B. Purchase and distribute Soil & Water Stewardship Materials to educational leaders and curricula advisors by providing resources, conservation books, booklets and curriculum guides and giving instructional talks. (Action taken by Jim Garrison and Roger Hatch.)
- C. Encourage the local news media to promote awareness and understanding of the issues surrounding the conservation of natural resources, and to publicize in a positive and timely manner the actions that benefit the District's natural resources. (Action taken by Mike Breedlove and Roger Hatch.)
- D. Co-sponsor with 4-H and support an essay contest in the local schools and publicize it in the Rockdale Citizen. (Action taken by Roger Hatch.)
- E. Work with USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Upper Ocmulgee River Resource Conservation & Development Council, Georgia Department of Natural Resource, Georgia Forestry Commission, Rockdale County and the City of Conyers to assess potential training facilities for the study of natural resources in order to conduct an outdoor classroom in Rockdale County. (Action taken by Roger Hatch and Ed Shirey.)
- F. Offer to make public presentations with specific information on Soil & Water Conservation needs to schools, civic clubs, churches, and others. (Action taken by all Supervisors.)
- G. Give annual presentation to County Commissioners and City Council on District mission and programs as well as other state and Congressional elected officials, including a legislative breakfast. (Action taken by Mike Breedlove.)
- H. Maintain membership in professional organizations and associations that promulgate and promote goals that are similar to those of the District. (Action taken by all Supervisors.)
- I. Request financial support for the District from Rockdale County and the City of Conyers. (Action taken by Jim Garrison.)
- J. Update District's power point presentation for home owners association, county and city officials and landowners to increase awareness and knowledge of soil and water recourses in Rockdale County.

Objective 3

Promote land stewardship on lands; including soil loss reduction and soil quality improvement, water quality improvement and enhancement of associated riparian areas and natural area protection for the benefits of wildlife and native plant communities through available programs and technical assistance.

Actions

- A. Support the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service to better acquaint Supervisors and landowners through its conservation programs such as Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP), Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP), Forestry Incentive Program (FIP), Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and others. (Action taken by Jim Garrison.)
- B. Assist landowners with natural resource concerns and improve soil productivity and water quality through soil loss reductions on eroding lands. (Action taken by Ed Shirey.)
- C. Support and promote direct citizen involvement in soil and water conservation activities such as community workdays on streambank restoration and cleanup. (Action taken by Jim Garrison.)
- D. Interface with Conyers-Rockdale Clean & Beautiful and Master Gardeners. (Action taken by Fox McCarthy.)
- E. Participate in County Watershed studies. (Action taken by Fox McCarthy.)

Objective 4

Support the Upper Ocmulgee River Resource Conservation & Development Council in the sustainable development of the natural and human resources of Rockdale County.

Actions

- A. Promote the Wheels-to-Work program and publicize it appropriately. (Action taken by Roger Hatch.)
- B. Coordinate with the Resource Conservation & Development Council Coordinator in the funding and promotion of at least one conservation project in Rockdale County. (Action taken by Jim Garrison.)
- C. Coordinate with the Georgia International Horse Park Nature Preserve in the use of Resource Conservation & Development resources. (Action taken by Jim Garrison.)
- D. Support urban foresters in urban forestry projects and grants. (Action taken by Roger Hatch.)