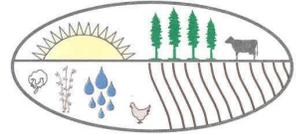


GACDS Group Meetings

The Georgia Association of Conservation District Supervisors have begun their series of summer Group Meetings.



GACDS Group V was hosted by Danny Norman at his Tea Grove Plantation in Allenhurst, Ga. The May meeting began with welcoming and introductions by GACDS Group V Vice President Art Rider and Coastal SWCD Supervisor Cecil Stafford. Senator Jack Hill offered his assessment of the past legislative session, and the NRCS Acting State Conservationist provided an update on the Farm Bill conservation programs.



Participants had the opportunity to view the wonderful collection of antique farm and working vehicles collected by Mr. Norman that tell the history of agricultural progress in rural America.

GACDS Group IV held their Summer Meeting on June 19 at the Hooks-Hanner Environmental Resource Center in Dawson, Ga. The group was welcomed by Pine Mountain SWCD Chairman Sam Rigdon. Updates were given by Danny Hogan, GACDS President, Brent Dykes, GSWCC Executive Director, and a representative from USDA-NRCS. A presentation on Conservation in the Lower Flint Basin was made to the group by Calvin Perry, Stripling Irrigation Research Park. Rod Pinkston, Jager Pro LLC, spoke to the group about Feral Hog Control on Pennahatchee Creek.



Other GACDS Groups will be having their meetings over the next couple of months. You can see more photos of the Group Meetings and keep current on GACDS Group activities at <http://www.gacds.org/>.

Around the Districts

Broad River SWCD held a poultry composter field day in Martin, Ga., featuring the Ecodrum™ Composter. The program discussed economical solutions to animal mortality management. The program also included cost-share information from the NRCS and tips for use from Eric Segars, farm owner. In addition to the Broad River SWCD, the day was sponsored by Ecodrum, Franklin County Young Farmers, and Franklin County Extension Service. **Broad River SWCD** also held a pond workshop at Gunnells Pond in Danielsville that focused on pond maintenance and fish health.



Gwinnett County SWCD sponsored a multi-cultural workshop at the Lamme Farm. Topics included irrigation and soil management, as well as some hands-on activities to learn how to do it yourself. Other sponsors of the event included McFarland Dyer & Associates Inc., Upper Ocmulgee River RC&D Council, UGA Extension Service - Gwinnett County, USDA Farm Service Agency, USDA - NRCS Lawrenceville Office, the Georgia Soil & Water Conservation Commission, and the City of Dacula.

Brier Creek SWCD co-sponsored a Tree Care Seminar in cooperation with the City of Augusta, the Central Savannah River RC&D Council, and the Richmond County UGA Cooperative Extension. Topics included trees and green infrastructure, young tree pruning and care, best management practices for tree conservation, mitigating ice damage, ornamental tree inspection for pests, City of Augusta tree management, pesticide application techniques, and top 12 invasive species.

