

GWINNETT COUNTY

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT ANNUAL PLAN OF WORK

FY 2016

Gwinnett County

Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisors

Ellis R. Lamme, Chairman

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***With the Right to Own Goes the Duty to Conserve
With the Privilege of Use Goes the Obligation of Stewardship***

Gwinnett County Soil and Water Conservation District
FY 2016 Annual Plan of Work
July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016

The mission of the Gwinnett County Soil & Water Conservation District is to provide educational and technical assistance to conserve and improve soils, improve water quality, and enhance the natural resources in Gwinnett County.

Objective 1

The District will work closely with the Georgia Soil & Water Conservation Commission and local units of government to fully implement and monitor the Erosion and Sediment Control Act.

Action

1. Ensure that Local Issuing Authorities of Land Disturbance Permits attend monthly District meetings.
2. Review monthly Erosion & Sediment Control reports submitted by Local Issuing Authorities and make recommendations in regard to the adequacy of compliance with State Law.
3. Monitor monthly Local Issuing Authorities reports by comparing data with semi-annual reports that are submitted to the Commission.
4. Review Erosion & Sediment Control plans that are submitted to the District within a reasonable time frame not to exceed 35 days. Record the length of time taken by Local Issuing Authorities with a Memorandum of Agreement to review and approve Erosion & Sediment Control plans and the number of times individual sets of plans are submitted for review, re-submitted and re-reviewed through the approval process through completion.
5. Update and renew all Memorandum of Agreements contracts that are older than 5 years, and, ensure that it is compliant with state law.
6. Ensure that Local Issuing Authorities Erosion & Sediment Control Model Ordinance is current and up to date.
7. When conducting Overviews, ensure that Local Issuing Authorities have certified staff, and, ensure that Local Issuing Authorities which have recently been granted a Memorandum of Agreement are abiding by them.
8. Assist Local Issuing Authorities in the Erosion & Sediment Control plan review process and provide on-site information as requested.

9. To create a better awareness of problems and solutions for erosion and sediment control, sponsor and conduct monthly erosion and sediment control education for Local Issuing Authorities at District meetings.
10. Provide recognition annually to local jurisdictions that are in full compliance with the Erosion & Sediment Control law.
11. Support the County and other local governments in educating the Local Issuing Authorities regarding the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System and its requirements.

Objective 2

Promote and implement an effective information and education program through an effective relationship with individuals, business, industry, other agencies and units of government.

Action

1. Purchase or develop and then distribute educational informational materials to inform the public of the need to manage and protect soil and water resources.
2. Support local, state, and national award programs including: Georgia Association of Conservation District Supervisors Hall of Fame, Soil & Water Conservation District of the Year, and District Supervisor of the Year.
3. Sponsor students to the Natural Resource Conservation Workshop.
4. Participate in Soil and Water Stewardship Week with the Gwinnett Clean and Beautiful to create greater public awareness of the program.
5. Seek additional funds from private, local, state and federal sources to strengthen and support District activities and programs to promote soil and water conservation and education.
6. Manage District financial and material resources to meet District goals in an efficient and productive manner and as prescribed by state guidelines.
7. Recognize the primary Local Issuing Authority, with or without a Memorandum of Agreement, by the annual presentation of an award to that jurisdiction that exemplifies leadership in the implementation of an effective Erosion & Sediment Control program.
8. Encourage District Supervisors attendance at district functions or trainings by reimbursing them for mileage and other event expenses.
9. Promote and fund environmental awareness and education through a scholarship program with Gwinnett County partnerships in education and business.

Objective 3

Support the Upper Ocmulgee River Resource Conservation & Development Council to help meet the needs and priorities in Gwinnett County.

Action

1. Invite the Council to actively participate in monthly District meetings.
2. Support the Council's projects and activities.

Objective 4

Encourage protection and maintenance of existing watershed structures in the County.

Action

1. The District will assist Gwinnett County Water Resource Department's staff in informing County Commissioners of the importance and function of watershed dams in Gwinnett County.
2. Through NRCS request an economic impact analysis or pre and post installation of watershed structures in Gwinnett County.
3. Partner with Gwinnett County to develop and implement an onsite watershed dam structure signage.
4. Provide recognition to Gwinnett County on their proactive leadership on watershed structures upgrades.
5. Assist in the inspection of dams and recommend maintenance schedules.
6. Will provide an annual update from NRCS to the Gwinnett County Water Resource Management on watershed inspections.
7. Invite the Gwinnett County Department of Water Resource Management on an annual basis to present a program on planning and permitting for development and re-development near watershed easements and breach and flood zones.
8. Provide information to the County to clarify technical and legal requirements pertaining to activities affecting easements around watershed structures.
9. Promote and support continued funding of Gwinnett County's watershed structures.
10. Coordinate with Gwinnett County regarding water resource issues.
11. Develop plan to work with Gwinnett County Parks department and Gwinnett County DWR to address erosion and water quality issues at County parks in order to educate park users and enhance environmental concerns.