Annual Plan of Work

2018-2019



Holston River Soil and Water Conservation District

448 Commerce Drive

Abingdon, VA 24211

Phone: 276-628-8187 Ext. 4

Approved – June 19, 2018

Reviewed – November 18, 2018

Directors

David DeBusk, Elected

Michael Countiss, Appointed

Phil Blevins, Appointed

Aaron Scyphers, Elected

Henry Snodgrass, Elected

Associate Directors

Dave Johnson

Martha Chapman

Adam Wilson

Tony Pane

Wayne Campbell

District Staff

Wayne Turley, District Conservation Specialist

Mandy Fletcher, Educational Specialist

Lorie Stevens, Administrative Secretary

Natural Resources Conservation Service Staff

Bill Moss, District Conservationist

Jason Haynes, Conservation Technician

Brandon Cole, Soil Conservationist

**Agricultural**

* Administer and provide technical assistance to reduce non-point source pollution through the following programs:
  + Virginia Agricultural Best Management Practices Cost-Share
  + Virginia Agricultural BMP Tax Credits
  + Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program
  + Total Maximum Daily Load plan development
  + Agricultural Stewardship Act
* Deliver local natural resource conservation programs with consideration given to resource needs and issues affecting District watersheds.
* Continue support of agricultural education through school programs.
* Distribute available information pertinent to agricultural best-management practices.
* Promote, through media sources and personal contact, state, federal and other cost-share funding opportunities for landowners.
* Support and foster partnerships with agencies, organizations, roundtables, and others to protect soil resources, improve water quality and further natural resource conservation.
* Ensure that staff implementing the Virginia Agricultural BMP Cost-Share Program secures and maintains required conservation planning certification and job approval authority.

**Educational**

* Continue to develop hands-on, SOL-related activities for all ages to be used in classrooms and school yards.
* Develop an educational section on the Holston River SWCD webpage with information on available activities, dates, and contact information.
* Promote Envirothon by making one-on-one contact with Washington County science and vocational agriculture teachers.
* Partner with other Districts to develop and distribute informational materials and presentations.
* Host the Sixth Grade Farm Field Day for all Washington County sixth graders.
* Provide the opportunity for at least one E&H College Bonner Scholar to ear required service learning hours.
* Provide conservation education programming and resources from the Great Outdoors Learning Dome (GOLD) within Sugar Hollow Park.
* Design exhibits and develop materials that can be used in a variety of venues to promote Holston River SWCD programs.
* Maintain the District website and Facebook page and update as needed.

**Administrative**

* Directors and staff will coordinate to see that all DCR grant deliverables are met.
* Conduct District fiscal operations in a manner consistent with District Fiscal Operations Policies and Procedures Guide.
* Prepare brochure showcasing district conservation program accomplishments.
* Present informational brochures to local and state officials when necessary to lobby for conservation funding.
* Prepare monthly budget reports for presentation at Board Meetings.
* Apply sound and consistent accounting principles to the management of all District Funds.

**TMDL**

* Develop an informational brochure and fact sheet about TMDL Implementation Projects.
* Promote though media sources and personal contacts, TMDL-Cost Share- funding opportunities for land owners in TMDL watersheds.
* Distribute available informational items pertinent to agriculture best management practices to agricultural communities within TMDL watersheds.
* Promote use of available cost share funds to maintain and repair failing septic systems in the TMDL watershed through surveys to homeowners and by personal contact.

**Mission Statement**

To promote the wise use and protection of natural resources and conservation work within the District boundaries through education, informational programs, technical assistance and the development of conservation programs addressing local conservation needs.

**Vision Statement**

For Holston River Soil & Water Conservation District to become more visible as an organization dedicated to the protection of all natural resources.

For the principle concern to be the conservation and wise use of prime farmland, surface and ground water, air, forests, and urban areas through communication and cooperation with other conservation organizations, local government, land owners, schools, civic groups and businesses.

For the Board of Directors as an elected and appointed body, to keep ourselves informed of current environmental concerns and to respond to those concerns in a balanced approach to the protection of the natural resources in the area designated as Holston River Soil & Water Conservation District.

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Holston River SWCD is an equal opportunity employer and prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status.



The Commonwealth of Virginia supports the Holston River Soil and Water Conservation District through financial and administrative assistance provided by the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board and the Department of Conservation and Recreation.

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Washington County supports Holston River Soil & Water Conservation District through financial assistance.