

# Conservation Conversation



3309 Burlington Rd, Greensboro, NC 27405

PHONE: 336.641.2440

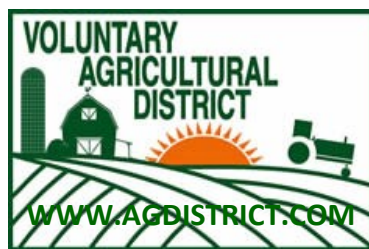
## For Farmers—Funding is now available to install BMPs!

- ◇ If the rains have caused gullies to form in your fields, consider installing a grassed waterway or field border in your field! Protect your field and your equipment by providing a grassed 'swale' to allow the water to leave the field without eroding.
- ◇ Cost Share funds up to 75% of (*pre-established*) average costs are available for these and other practices to help offset the costs of installing BMP's for your farm.

Interested cooperators may apply to Guilford County Soil & Water Conservation District for financial and technical assistance **PRIOR TO** installation of BMPs to protect water quality. Applications are ranked based on resource concerns identified in the county.

**WE ARE NOW TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR ALL PROGRAMS!** Our first batch cutoff date is August 21, 2020. So get those applications in so they can be ranked for consideration. The applications can be found on our webpage at:

[www.guilfordcountync.gov/our-county/planning-development/soil-and-water-conservation](http://www.guilfordcountync.gov/our-county/planning-development/soil-and-water-conservation)



### What is an Agricultural District?

The purpose of an agricultural district program is to encourage the preservation and protection of farmland from a non-farm development. This is in recognition of the importance of agriculture to the economic and social well being of North Carolina. Visit the website below for more info and an application or stop by our office. [www.agdistrict.com](http://www.agdistrict.com)

## In This Issue.....

For Our Farmers	1
Conservation Irrigation	2
2020 Poster Competition	3
Events & Announcements	4

Grassed Waterway, Brown Summit area



No-Till Soybeans, McLeansville

# We Are Open!

Our staff is on a rotational schedule due to COVID-19, but they are still available for your service. If you need to meet with any of the staff please call ahead and set up an appointment. The Ag Center is locked to the public, but access to the center is allowed through appointment.

We look forward to working with you!

PHONE: 336.641.2440

# Conservation Conversation

## Conservation Irrigation



Center Pivot Irrigation System, newly installed in Gibsonville area. (Millie Langley)

According to the 2002 Farm and Ranch Irrigation Survey, approximately 27 million U.S. acres are under sprinkler irrigation. About 80 percent of these acres use center pivot systems. Studies on the High Plains show that if the acres under medium pressure systems were converted to low pressure, the energy savings could add up to \$15 per acre. The conversion of high-pressure systems to low pressure could result in savings of up to \$66 per acre. Nationwide, farmers could save up to 27 million gallons of fuel and \$55 million per year.



(Left) Center Pivot, Brown Summit



(Below) Underground Micro-Irrigation during installation

### Conservation IRRIGATION has arrived in Guilford County!

If you have seen some crop circles, and you think maybe you're seeing things? Maybe not! Although previously not found in Guilford County we have several Center Pivot Irrigation Systems now being used. They are computerized, motorized and can be used to apply fertilizer and herbicides along with the water; creating a more efficient system of growing crops. They use less water and can be programmed to apply late evenings and early mornings for better water usage, less water loss.

If you are interested in participating in a cost share program, give Guilford County's Soil Conservation Technician, Jamey Walker a call at [336\)641-2443](tel:3366412443).

Another new water system we have seen interest in is the Sub-Surface Drip System. This system supplies water at a very slow rate, underground; using low volume, low pressure, directly to the roots of the plants.

What's even better is that these practices can be cost-shared through the NC Agricultural Water Resources Assistance program, (up to \$25,000) if you're converting from a traveling gun system

# Conservation Conversation

## Wetlands Are Wonderful



### 2019-2020 Poster Competition (3rd-6th Grade)

Every year Soil & Water Districts across the state host a poster competition for kids in grades 3rd-6th. Each year the topic of the competitions changes, but the focus of conservation stays. This year the topic was centered on wetlands, and the students had to create a poster focusing on what wetlands are, why they are important, and how we can take care of them. We had some great posters submitted this year! Posters from many schools including Northern Guilford Middle, Southwest Guilford Middle, Parkview Elementary, and Stokesdale Elementary were brought in for judging. With many great posters the judges had a hard job making a selection for the winners, but after careful overview the selection was made.

2019-2020 Poster Competition Winners:

- **6th Grade:**

Annie Griffin (Northern Guilford Middle, Dr. Pettigrew)

Ainsley Cecil (Northern Guilford Middle, Dr. Pettigrew)

Brendan Queen (Northern Guilford Middle, Dr. Pettigrew)

- **5th Grade:**

Yazmen Scurry (Parkview Elementary, Juandalynn Ja Cinta Jones-Hunt)

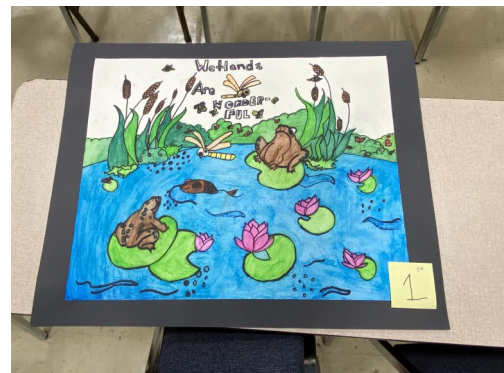
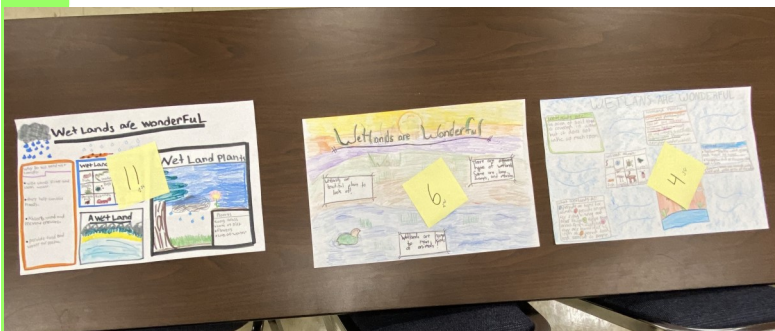
- **4th Grade:**

Kayden Tubb (Stokesdale Elementary, Christina Kubis)

Alyssa Biscoe (Stokesdale Elementary, Christina Kubis)

Emmalynn Davis (Stokesdale Elementary, Christina Kubis)

### The Winning Lineup!



Contact Sean Trollinger for information on the 2020-2021 poster competition "We All Live In A Watershed!"





*Events and Announcements.....*

**We sell bluebird boxes, bird feeders, and wood duck boxes year round!**

**Bluebird Boxes \$25 Bird Feeders \$30: Wood Duck Boxes \$40**

**Don't forget about our wildflower seeds! Our wildflower seed packs are available all year just stop buy and pick some up! (1 Pack covers 400sq.ft.)**

**Southeastern Mix: \$7.00 Bird & Butterfly Mix: \$7.00**

**Our TREE Seedling Sale will be January of 2021**

**Board Meetings: 1st Wednesday of Each Month**

**9:00 a.m. Rm 106 of Ag. Center**



**@GuilfordSWCD**



**Phone: 336-641-2440**

**Fax: 336-641-2441**

**Millie Langley - [mlangle@guilfordcountync.gov](mailto:mlangle@guilfordcountync.gov)**

**Jamey Walker - [jwalker1@guilfordcountync.gov](mailto:jwalker1@guilfordcountync.gov)**

**Sean Trollinger - [strollinge@guilfordcountync.gov](mailto:strollinge@guilfordcountync.gov)**

**Our Mission:**

*...to promote the conservation of natural resources in Guilford County through education, information, technical assistance, and available economic*

The Guilford Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) is a governmental subdivision of the State of North Carolina, charged with the responsibility of promoting soil and water conservation and establishing conservation programs in the District. The District partners with the Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) to carry out these responsibilities. As a local organization, we work with citizens, agencies, and landowners to plan and direct programs for the conservation and development of our natural resources.

**Our Team:**

- **Millie Langley, Soil Conservationist**
- **Jamey Walker, Soil Conservation Technician**
- **Sean Trollinger, Education Coordinator**

*District Board of Supervisors:*

- *George Teague , Chairman*
- *Harold Alexander, Vice Chairman*
- *Josh Myers, Secretary/Treasurer*
- *Ray Briggs, Member*
- *Anna Amoriello, Member*