



Guilford Soil & Water Conservation District Conservation Conversation

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Check out our Cost Share Programs

NC Agricultural Cost Share Program (NCACSP):

The district works with agricultural landowners and producers to

- ◇ Develop and approve individual conservation plans
- ◇ Identify the best management practices (BMPs) best suited for your operation
- ◇ Design BMPs and help ensure their longevity; and
- ◇ Acquire preliminary approval of a cost share contract



Interested cooperators may **apply to Guilford County Soil & Water Conservation District** for financial and technical assistance for

the instillation of BMPs to protect water quality. Applications are ranked based on resource concerns identified in the county. Applicants can be reimbursed up to 75 percent of a *pre-established* average cost for each BMP installed.

Agricultural Water Resource Assistance Program (AgWRAP): AgWRAP is administered by the NC Soil & Water Conservation Commission by your local soil and water conservation districts to:

- ◇ Identify opportunities to increase water efficiency availability and storage
- ◇ Implement BMPs to conserve and protect water resources
- ◇ Increase water use efficiency; and
- ◇ Increase water storage and availability for agricultural purposes

Interested cooperators may **apply to Guilford County Soil & Water Conservation District** for financial and technical assistance for the instillation of BMPs to increase water use efficiency, availability and storage. The applications are ranked based on water resource priorities. A conservation plan is prepared. Applicants can be reimbursed up to 75 percent of a *pre-established* average cost for each BMP installed.

Community Conservation Assistance Program (CCAP): is a voluntary, incentive-based program designed to improve water quality through the installation of various BMPs on urban, suburban and rural lands not directly related to agricultural production. Guilford Soil & Water works to:

- ◇ Educate landowners on water quality, Stormwater management and retrofit practices
- ◇ Develop and improve individual conservation plans
- ◇ Identify the BMPs best suited for your property
- ◇ Design BMPs and help ensure their longevity; and
- ◇ Acquire preliminary approval of cost share contract

Interested cooperators may **apply to Guilford County Soil & Water Conservation District** for financial and technical assistance for the instillation of BMPs to protect water quality. Applications are ranked based on local water quality priorities and if eligible, a conservation plan is prepared. Applicants can be reimbursed up to 75 percent of a *pre-established* average cost for each BMP installed.

**Cut off date for first round of applications:
August 15th**

Conservation Conversation

No-till and Cover Crops: Why They Are Important To Farmers

By 2050, the world will contain 9 billion people, and producing enough food over the long haul will require farmers to protect the soil that will be producing that food.

By restoring soil health through conservation tillage and cover crops, farmers will be rebuilding the carbon or organic matter those soils once contained. One major benefit of that improvement is restoring the soil's natural "glues," that give it an aggregate stability and make it more resilient and more able to withstand the pressures of water that come with a 2-inch rain.

This increases the capacity of soil to retain water, rather than having it run off, taking valuable topsoil and nutrients with it.

By contrast, soils that have been no-tilled can absorb much more water, which can then be called up by the crop when weather turns dry.

No-till and cover crops have shown good results with irrigated land. By increasing the water-holding capacity of their soil, irrigators had been able to get more mileage out their systems and increase efficiencies.

Another benefit of increased water-retention capacity would be the reduction of downstream flooding in lowland areas, which frequently drowns out a lot of agricultural production.

Soils with good aggregate stability also resist compaction better, which allows producers to get in the field sooner in the spring, and handle traffic better during the rest of the season.

The world is currently losing about 23 billion tons of topsoil from farms each year, or roughly .7 percent. Once that soil is removed from where it's supposed to be, it loses its functionality and then becomes "dirt," rather than soil. At that rate, over the next 150 years, all the topsoil in the world could be wiped out, unless we make changes.

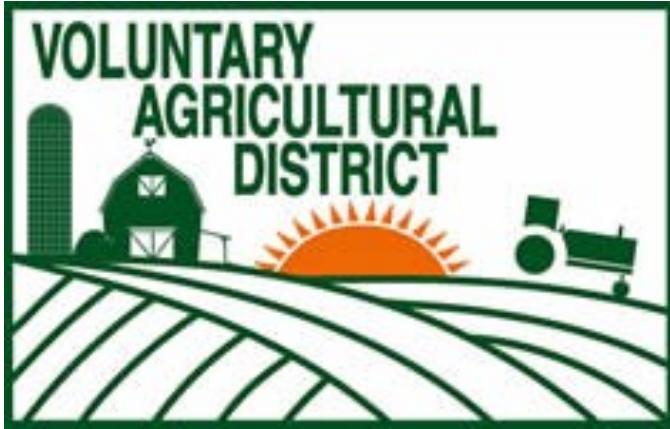
President Franklin D. Roosevelt, said in the aftermath of the American Dust Bowl, "A nation that destroys its soils, destroys itself."



COVER CROP USES

BENEFICIAL INSECTS	CHICKEN FORAGE	COMPACTION CONTROL	DEER ATTRACTANT	EROSION CONTROL	FORAGE	GREEN MANURE	NITROGEN FIXATION	NITROGEN SCAVENGER	NO TILL	ORGANIC MATTER	WEED SUPPRESSION
Alfalfa	Alfalfa	Alfalfa	Alfalfa	Alfalfa	Alfalfa	Alfalfa	Alfalfa	Alfalfa	Alfalfa	Alfalfa	Alfalfa
Barley	Chicory	Clover	Chicory	Barley	Chicory	Barley	Clover	Barley	Barley	Barley	Barley
Clover	Clover		Clover	Clover	Clover	Buckwheat	Cowpeas	Flax	Buckwheat	Buckwheat	Buckwheat
Buckwheat	Cowpea		Cowpea	Cowpea	Forage Pea	Cowpea	Forage Pea	Rye	Clover	Flax	Clover
Chicory	Flax		Forage Pea	Oats	Rape	Flax		Ryegrass	Flax	Forage Pea	Forage Pea
Cowpeas	Forage Pea		Rape	Rye	Turnips	Forage Pea		Vetch	Forage Pea	Oats	Oats
Flax	Rape		Turnips	Wheat	Vetch	Oats		Wheat	Oats	Rye	Rye
Vetch	Turnips		Vetch			Rye			Rye	Ryegrass	Ryegrass
	Vetch					Ryegrass			Ryegrass		Vetch
						Vetch			Vetch		Wheat
						Wheat			Wheat		

Conservation Conversation



What is an Agricultural District?

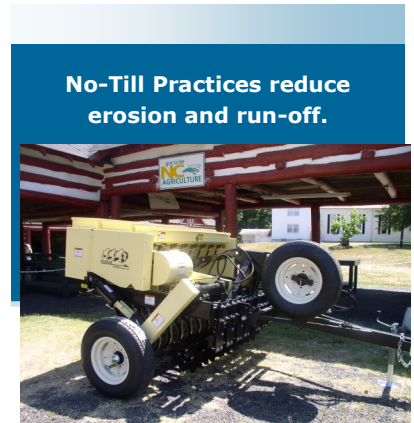
The purpose of an agricultural district program is to encourage the preservation and protection of farmland from a non-farm development. This is in recognition of the importance of agriculture to the economic and social well being of North Carolina. Visit www.agdistrict.com for application or stop by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

Since we began in 2000, 375 Guilford County farms have signed on as Voluntary Agricultural Districts; making that almost 16,300 acres of farmland preserved.

No-Till Drill for Planting Needs

The Guilford Soil and Water Conservation District invites you to participate in the effort to conserve our natural resources and aid in the prevention of soil loss in our county by renting our no-till drill.

The 5.5 foot drill is best used for pasture reseeding and can be rented for \$10/acre with a minimum rental rate of \$30.



Weed Wiper Available

What is a Weed Wiper???

The concept is simple. Herbicide solution, is supplied to an absorbent surface. The herbicide soaked surface only contacts weeds taller than the crop. Chemical is transferred to the surface of the weeds as the applicator "wipes" over them. Key elements include a surface that will hold solution without dripping, a way to prime the surface, a way to mount the unit so the height can be adjusted, and weeds that are taller than desirable plants. Renting our Weed Wiper allows you to treat pastures despite windy weather, prevents damage to other desirable crops surrounding your weeds, and keeps money in your pocket by cutting down your herbicide rates. It's

- The district now has a fully operational Weed Wiper at the rental rate of **\$50.00** first day and **\$30** for each successive day; to be used by the user/lessee for the purpose of controlling weed competition in hay, cropland and pastureland.

(RENTAL MINIMUM COST is \$50.00)

- Call the SWCD office to find out more information or to check availability.



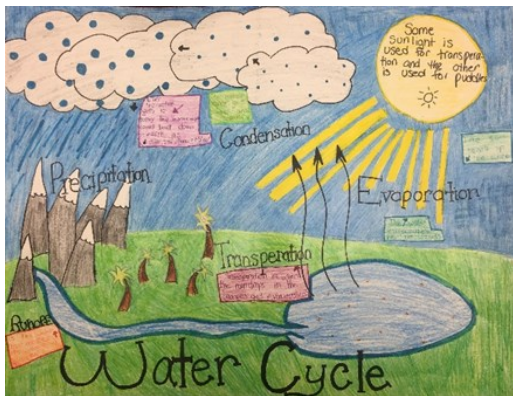
- The district can provide technical services in planning and/or, where required, certifying land treatments/conservation practices on the farm or field being treated by the land user/lessee.
- The Weed Wiper is an efficient tool for using minimal amounts of herbicide chemicals while saving money and time.
- The District is available to offer technical advice for planning land treatments, conservation practices and other best management practices being considered on the land user/lessee's property.

Conservation Conversation

Tuesday, May 22nd Guilford SWCD had the honor of presenting this years Area 3 Winning Envirothon Team and Poster Contest Winners with their awards and prizes in front of their family and friends.

We are so proud of these students who put in the time and effort out of school being good environmental stewards.

Thank you for everyone who was able to attend and participated in the 2018 Educational Awards



Poster Contest Winners: Water... The Cycle of Life

Third Grade:

- Santon Pennix (Washington Montessori Elem.) **1st place**/ Also received 2nd place in area 3 contest
- Malia Ingram (Frazier Elem.) **2nd place**

Fourth Grade:

- Iyhani Brandon (Archer Elem.) **1st place**/ Also received 3rd for area 3 contest
- Cotes Courts (Sternberger Elem.) **2nd place**

Special Thanks

Guilford SWCD Supervisors

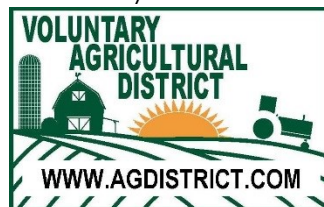
George Teague	Chairman
Harold Alexander	Vice Chairman
Ray Briggs	Sec/Treasurer
Lewis A. Brandon III	Member
Anna Amoriello	Member
Dan Kerns	Associate Member

Guilford SWCD Staff

Millie Langley	Soil & Water Conservationist
Jamey Walker	Soil & Water Technician
Kyleene Rooks	Education Coordinator
Brian Loadholt	NRCS District Conservationist

Sponsors

Guilford SWCD
 NC Cooperative Extension
 Voluntary Agricultural District
 Elaine Fryar Guilford County Farm Bureau



Fifth Grade:

- * Juliana Avila (Washington Montessori Elem.) **1st place**/ Also received 2nd place in area 3 contest
- * Lillian Lombardo (Oak Ridge Elem.) **2nd place**
- * Gwendolyn Robles (Oak Ridge Elem.) **3rd place**



Envirothon Team "Pandamonium"

From the Academy at Lincoln: 1st place Middle School Team at the Area 3 Envirothon & 3rd place at the Middle School State Envirothon

- Alicia Bao
- Natalie Earnhardt
- Evelyn Chang
- Isabelle Chang
- Trisha Santanam
- Advisors: Seema Anand & Rhonda Washington

Conservation Conversation

UPCOMING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND WORKSHOPS

Environmental Camp

Dates: July 25 – 27
Time: 9AM—4PM
Ages: Middle School
Cost: \$30

Remember to Bring: Lunch, 2 Canned Food Items for the Food Pantry, your water bottle, closed toe shoes, sunscreen, and bug spray. **MUST WEAR:** Closed toe/heel shoes, socks, long pants, sunscreen, and bug spray for our field trips.

Partner with Guilford Soil and Water Conservation District to discover your ENVIRONMENT on daily field trips investigating our natural resources... trees, water, wildlife and soils through hikes and hands-on activities. Enjoy a wild game lunch and discover "Where Your Food Comes From." Open to campers entering, currently in, or graduating from Middle School.

You may register online at: <http://go.ncsu.edu/guilford4hsummeradventures>

Or mail or drop off your registration forms and payments at the 4-H Office: 4-H Summer Adventures
3309 Burlington Road Greensboro, NC 27405 Make checks and money orders payable to: Guilford County



CALL NOW TO SCHEDULE A FREE CLASSROOM PROGRAM

Guilford SWCD is scheduling programs for the 2018/2019 school year. As always, programs are based on the N.C. Academic Contest Standards and are **FREE** to all schools/groups in Guilford County.

Some of the programs we offer include: Water Cycle, Soils, Watersheds and Water Quality, Wetlands and more.

Kyleene Rooks, our Education Coordinator, has a Bachelor of science in Biology and has previous work experience in resource conservation. She is also a certified Environmental Educator and facilitates many teacher workshops including Project WET.

Conservation Conversation



Events and Announcements.....

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

**Bluebird Boxes \$20: Bird Feeders \$30:
Wood Duck Boxes \$40**

Board Meetings: 1st Wednesday of Each Month

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

We're on the web!

<http://www.myguilford.com/planning-and-development/soil-and-water-conservation/>



Phone: 336-641-2440
Fax: 336-641-2441

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Jamey Walker - Soil Technician jwalker1@guilfordcountync.gov

Kyleene Rooks -
Education Coordinator krooks@guilfordcountync.gov

Yours for Life

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

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. We work closely with other state, federal, and local agencies, such as NC Department of Agriculture, NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources, NC Forest Service, NC Cooperative Extension, etc. to provide effective natural resource management and environmental education.

Our Team:

- Millie Langley, Soil Conservationist
- Jamey Walker, Soil Technician
- Kyleene Rooks, Education Coordinator

District Supervisors:

- George Teague , Chairman
- Harold Alexander, Vice Chairman
- Ray Briggs, Secretary/Treasurer
- Lewis Brandon III, Member
- Anna Amoriello, Member