



Conservation On The Ground

Three Rivers Soil and Water Conservation District

Winter 2010

Three Rivers SWCD Directors & Staff Recognized Annual Meeting in Richmond

The 71st Annual Meeting of the Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (VASWCD) that was held December 6-8 at the Sheraton Hotel in Richmond proved to be an award-winning event for the staff and directors of the Three Rivers Soil and Water Conservation District. The theme of the event, “**VA Districts: Conservation in Action; Showcasing District Work,**” emphasized the conservation work being accomplished by the Soil and Water Conservation Districts across the state, with special emphasis to the ongoing support provided by the many local, regional, state, and national partners working collaboratively. On Monday, December 8, the Three Rivers SWCD was recognized as the winner of the 2nd Annual Area III Outstanding District Challenge, an awards program created to recognize an outstanding SWCD and staff within Area III that consistently goes above and beyond what is expected and to recognize that district’s exceptional contributions and accomplishments. The District received an engraved trophy, and all members of the Three Rivers staff received cash awards.



Three Rivers Soil & Water Conservation District Directors & Staff

Pictured first row left: Frank Townsend, Chairman, Roland Geddes, Director, Meaghann Terrien, Conservation Specialist, Troy Johnson, Director. Second row left: Anne Davis, Administrative Coordinator, Ray Thomas, Director, Robert P. Longest, Director, Lloyd Mundie, Director, Marlene Shelor, Administrative Assistant, Wayne Pierson, Conservation Specialist, Keith Balderson, Director, Michelle Carter, District Manager (Not Pictured: Todd Henley, Director, Margaret “Prue” Davis, Associate Director, Dawn Shank, Associate Director, Jim Cox, Associate Director)

VA Agricultural Best Management Practices Cost Share Program



****Dates to Remember****

Nutrient Management Plan or Revision (NM-1)

Plan Covering: January 1, 2010—December 31, 2010

Due March 1, 2010

Nutrient Management Record Keeping (NM-2)

Records Covering: January 1, 2009—December 31, 2009

Due March 1, 2010

Cover Crop

Kill Dates: After March 15th—May 15th

No Nutrients Applied before March 1

Please call office to report kill date and acreage

Conservation Equipment Rental

Are you interested in better soil quality, water infiltration and residue management? If so, take advantage of the benefits of no-till planting. The District currently has two Great Plains No-Till Drills for rent. The 7' end wheel drill requires a 50 horse power tractor and the 12' drill requires an 85 horse power tractor. Contact the District office at 804)443-2327 ext. 101 if you would like to reserve one for spring planting.

Sustainable Timber Marketing and Harvesting Seminar

Making decisions about how to manage a forest can challenge even the most experienced natural resource manager. There are so many questions to answer about what does the landowner want to achieve? Does she/he own the property as an investment or do they own it for purely aesthetic reasons but want enough income to cover the taxes? What is the need for cash flow? Once these questions are answered the dynamics of the forests need to be understood and if that is not complicated enough there is all the technical information about how to find the best buyer for the trees and what is the best way to harvest the trees.

To help land owners and natural resource managers answer these questions, the Virginia Sustainable Forestry Initiative Committee developed a series of short courses. Tidewater Resource Conservation and Development Council is hosting the Sustainable Timber Marketing and Harvesting Class on Saturday, February, 6, 2010 at Whitcomb Lodge near Gloucester Courthouse. The registration is \$ 40 per person or \$ 50 for two sharing one set of materials. Registration is at 8:00 with the class starting at 8:30 and continuing until 5:00. Lunch is included. **To register call 804-443-1118 or email [Helen Heck@va.usda.gov](mailto:Helen_Heck@va.usda.gov)**

Topics include Planning a Timber Harvesting and Regeneration Methods, Best Management Practices for Water Quality, Wildlife Considerations, Timber Sales Process, Income Re-Investment, Taxes and Land Use Conservation Strategies. Speakers represent both private businesses and agency staff and include Rebecca McCoy, Frank Brooks, John Magruder, Jess Crawford, Jim Vadas, Galon Hall, David Slack, and Rich Steensma. A field exercise is planned if the weather is cooperative.

The class is designed for the landowners with five acres or more of forestland and resource managers. Professionals such as attorneys, accountants and real estate brokers who have clients with forestland have found the class valuable in improving their understanding of the implications of forest management. Tidewater RC&D Council is an equal opportunity provider.

