# Local Working Groups

Using Local Working Groups to maximize the effectiveness of federal, state, and local conservation programs


ASHE
SURRY
STOKES
ROCKINGHAM
CASWELL
PERSON
GRANVILLE
VANCE
WARREN
HALIFAX
NORTHAMPTON
GATES
PASQUOTANK
PERQUIMANS
CAMDEN
CURRITUCK
CHOWAN
PERTIE
MARTIN
WASHINGTON
TYRRELL
DARE
HYDE
BEAUFORT
PITT
GREENE
LENOIR
CRAVEN
PAMLICO
JONES
ONSLOW
CARTERET
MITCHELL
WILKES
YADKIN
FORSYTH
GUILFORD
DAVIE
DAVIDSON
RANDOLPH
CHATHAM
ORANGE
DURHAM
WAKE
FRANKLIN
NASH
EDGECOMBE
WILSON
JOHNSTON
WAYNE
DUPLIN
SAMPSON
PENDER
NEW HANOVER
BRUNSWICK
COLUMBUS
BLADEN
ROBESON
HOKE
CUMBERLAND
MOORE
LEE
HARNETT
SCOTLAND
ANSON
UNION
RICHMOND
MONTGOMERY
MECKLENBURG
CABARRUS
IREDELL
ROWAN
STANLY
ALEXANDER
CATAWBA
LINCOLN
CLEVELAND
RUTHERFORD
POLK
BURKE
MCDOWELL
BUNCOMBE
HENDERSON
TRANSYLVANIA
JACKSON
HAYWOOD
MADISON
YANCEY
AVERY
WATAUGA
ALLEGHANY
SWAIN
GRAHAM
MACON
CLAY
CHEROKEE

# North Carolina

## NRCS Service Delivery Teams



# 2020 Memorandum of Agreement

- A. Locally-Led, Voluntary Conservation
- The Parties agree that locally-led, voluntary conservation must be driven by natural resource conservation needs, rather than by programs. Its primary focus is to identify natural resource concerns, along with related economic and social concerns. Locally-led conservation consists of a series of activities and phases that involve community stakeholders in natural resource planning, implementation of solutions, and evaluation of results:

# 2020 Memorandum of Agreement

- The District will:
- • Assist NRCS and the North Carolina Soil and Water Conservation Commission (SWCC) in promoting federal, state, and local conservation programs by participating in outreach and community education activities.
- • Advocate for a strong natural resource conservation program by keeping appropriate boards, landowners, legislators, county commissioners, and other key stakeholders apprised of conservation activities within the district.
- • Assemble and chair the local working group, as chartered under the State Technical Committee and authorized by 7 CFR 610, Part C, to encourage stakeholder participation to assist the District to assess and prioritize conservation needs.
- o Encourage diverse participation in local working groups through community outreach and education, to include stakeholders from historically underserved communities.
- o Open and advertise local working group meetings to the public.
- o Develop the agenda and associated materials/information for local working groups.
- o Develop and file local working group meeting records within 30 calendar days of the meetings at the local NRCS office.
- o Adhere to local working group responsibilities and standard operating procedures, as documented in NRCS and SWCC policy (Title 440, Conservation Programs Manual).

# Local Working Groups PY 2022

- Have a stakeholder meeting in each district
- Create a rotation of host districts for LWG
- More district involvement on the agenda
- Discussions of state and local programs included
- LWG meetings moved to spring to allow for use in Strategic Plans

# District Strategic Plan

1. **Describe the agricultural nonpoint source pollution problems in the district.**
2. **What are your district's top priorities for Agriculture Cost Share Program BMP funds this year?**
   *Can include any of the following: watersheds, resource concerns, types of operations, BMPs **
3. **Describe the urban, suburban, and rural (CCAP) nonpoint source pollution problems in the district. ***
4. **What are your district's top priorities for Community Conservation Assistance Program BMP funds this year?**
5. **Describe the water quantity concerns in your district.**
6. **What are your district's top priorities for Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program BMP funds this year?**

# Priority Watersheds

- **Must be included in Strategic Plan to receive Impaired/Impacted Funds**
- **May cross district lines**
- **May have points associated with EQIP ranking**

# Ranking Forms

- Ranking forms for each cost share program uploaded with the Strategic Plan
- Use data taken from LWG to create ranking forms that address the specific resource concerns of your district
- Better use of federal and state funds

# Other Benefits

- Outreach
- Long Range Planning
- Education
- Networking/Stronger Partnerships

# Questions?