

THE SOIL SCOOP

UNION SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Now Accepting Applications for the Resource Conservation Workshop June 26-July 1, 2016

Every year, Union SWCD sponsors one high school student to attend the RCW. During this week-long workshop at NC State University students are able to engage in extensive, hands on study of conservation and its application in a variety of natural and environmental sciences. Students are selected for this sponsorship based on merit and demonstrated conservation interests. There are many great scholarships awarded at the end of the workshop.

Application deadline April 15, 2016.

For more information contact Katie Anne Dayton.
Katie.dayton@unioncountync.gov Or 704-233-1621

Annual Meeting Recap

Mr. Manly West the 2015 NCASWCD President and all his helpers did a wonderful job making this year's meeting great. This meeting is a nice opportunity to interact with District Staff and Supervisors from all over the state. During the meeting agencies signed a Memorandum of Agreement to encourage strong partnerships and strengthen cooperation. The 2016 NCASWCD President, Mr. Ben Knox, has chosen his 2016 theme as "Catch the Vision." The next Annual Meeting will be held January 8-10, 2017 in Charlotte, NC.



VOLUME 2, ISSUE 3

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SPRING 2016

Union County SWCD makes great efforts to provide technical, financial, and educational assistance to the citizens of Union County to promote the proper management of our natural resources.

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The Area VIII Spring Meeting

The morning of March 2nd started out with a light breakfast and networking session for those who were able to arrive at Union Grove early. This was a wonderful opportunity to speak to other staff members and supervisors. The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Brian Harwell at 10:00am. Two very important guests, State Senator Andrew Brock and State House Representative Rena Turner, were introduced and business was taken care of. Everyone then entered a "Working with the Legislature" session where questions were asked of the two important guests. A roundtable was opened up for the agencies that provided a written report in the morning. Lunch was provided by Union Grove United Methodist Men and was delicious. After lunch, Myers Farm was kind enough to give a tour of their dairy farm operation. Everyone was able to peek inside the milking parlor and learn about the cleaning and recycling process of the sand used for bedding.



Middle & High School Students

To get started all you need is 5 students who are interested in:

- *Forestry *Water Quality
- *Wildlife *Soils
- *Current Environmental Issues

For more information about how to get your team started contact
Katie Anne Dayton 704-233-1621
Katie.dayton@unioncountync.gov

—>Area VIII's Southern Piedmont Envirothon

March 8th and 9th at Catawba College

—>State Envirothon Competition

April 29th and 30th at Cedarock Park



WEED WIPER

Available to Union County citizens for \$50 per day, \$40 per day if you're a member of the Cattleman's Association and \$75 for out of county use.

Available Services:

- *Natural Resource Best Management Practice Design and Support
- *Soil Interpretative Services
- *Nutrient Management
- *Natural Resource-Specific Mapping via GIS
- *Education and Technical Training
- *Soil and Water Resource Consultative Services

No-Till Seed Drill

Available to citizens planting in Union County for \$10 per acre. Contact our office for more information.

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Left: Marshville Elementary After School Program comparing their bodies and actions to a plant and it's actions modified from a Food, Land & People Activity.

Right: Shiloh Elementary fourth graders learning about Weathering, Erosion, and Deposition. Splashdown experiments were done in groups to show erosion.



Southern Piedmont Envirothon

The Southern Piedmont Envirothon was a great success thanks to all the volunteers from Area VIII. Both days of competition were filled with beautiful weather and positive attitudes. Congratulations to Davidson County Homeschool who took home first place in the Middle and the High School Competition!!



EQIP

Environmental Quality Incentives Program

NRCS is in charge of this voluntary program that helps producers protect soil, water, air and other natural resources while ensuring sustainable production on your farm or working forest land.

Applications received will be evaluated and ranked for funding assistance. Application deadlines for FY 2016 will be here before you know it. So complete your application today!

Upcoming Board Meetings:

(Every third Tuesday of the month)

March 15, 2016

April 19, 2016

May 17, 2016

If you would like something published in the next newsletter contact Katie Anne Dayton with the Soil and Water Conservation District.

New Email:

Katie.dayton@unioncountync.gov

Bookmark Contest:

Kindergarten-Second Grade

Theme: Farming

Deadline: April 29, 2016

For more information contact Katie Anne Dayton

Katie.dayton@unioncountync.gov

704-233-1621

Warning Signs of HPAI:

- ◇ Lack of energy and appetite
- ◇ Decreased egg production or soft/misshapen eggs
- ◇ Swelling of the head, eyelids and comb
- ◇ Purple discoloration of the wattles, combs and legs
- ◇ Stumbling, falling down, diarrhea
- ◇ Sudden death

If HPAI is suspected, information should be immediately reported to NCDA&CS Animal Health Programs at 919-707-3250.

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The North Carolina Agriculture Cost Share Program is a state funded program administered to reduce non-point source pollution into our streams, lakes and rivers. This reduction is achieved by providing cost share assistance to agricultural land-owners and operators who use Best Management Practices (BMPs) to reduce pollutants, such as sediment, animal waste, pesticides, nutrients, etc. from leaving the land and entering our waters. The Union Soil and Water Conservation District administers and implements the NC AgCost Share Program in Union County. Cost Share amounts could cover as much as 75% of costs. Please contact Charles Dunevant for more info.
704-233-1621 Or Charles.Dunevant@nc.nacdnet.net



Supervisors:

- Mr. Kelvin L. Baucom– Chairman
- Mr. Allan L. Baucom– Vice Chairman
- Mr. R. Scott Baucom– Secretary/ Treasurer
- Mr. Kenneth Mills– Member
- Mr. Wayne Moser– Member

Staff:

- Charles Dunevant– Union SWCD, District Manager
- Katie Anne Dayton– Union SWCD, Conservation Education Specialist
- Shauntae Britt– USDA NRCS, District Conservationist
- Grayson Sarif– USDA NRCS, Soil Conservationist
- Richard (Rick) Pigg– USDA NRCS, Conservation Engineering Assistant



Visit us at:
<http://www.co.union.nc.us/Divisions/SoilWaterConservation.aspx>
And
[Facebook.com/UnionCountySoilandWater](https://www.facebook.com/UnionCountySoilandWater)



 **Happy Spring!!** 

For more information contact the following:

<p>USDA Farm Service Agency 704-233-1621 3230-A Presson Road Monroe, NC 28112</p>	<p>NC Cooperative Extension 704-283-3801 3230-D Presson Road Monroe, NC 28112</p>	<p>Soil and Water Conservation District 704-233-1621 3230-B Presson Road Monroe, NC 28112</p>
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