



CHESTER SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT NEWSLETTER AND ANNUAL REPORT

SUMMER 2013

BUTLER LAKE WATERSHED DAM

The mission of the Chester Soil and Water Conservation District is to promote the wise use and care of our natural resources of soil, water, air, plants and animals for the benefit of the citizens of Chester County.

The Chester Soil and Water Conservation District, a subdivision of state government, was organized on March 4, 1938, in accordance with Conservation District Law Number 182 of the 1937 South Carolina General Assembly. It was originally organized as a part of the Catawba Conservation District, which included Chester, Fairfield, Lancaster, and York Counties. Chester became a single district in July 1950. The District is governed by a Board of Commissioners pictured below:

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Seated: Margaret
S. Hausman,

Secretary-
Treasurer

Standing, left to
right:

Mac Turner
Rodger McDaniel
Jeff Wilson, Vice
Chairman
Allen L. Beer,
Chairman



The Chester Soil and Water Conservation District meets at 9:30 A.M. on the third Tuesday of each month in the Conference Room of the USDA Building at 744 Wilson Street in Chester. All programs and services of the district are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to race, color, age, gender, national origin, religion, handicap, or marital status.

ADMINISTRATION STAFF

The Chester Soil and Water Conservation District programs are administered by a board of commissioners consisting of three members elected in the general election and two members appointed by the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources and the USDA Natural Resources. The District is assisted by District Coordinator Carol Shockley, NRCS District Conservationist Bruce Andrews, NRCS Engineer Scott Glenn, and NRCS Soil Conservation Technician Jackie Heuermann.

2013 AFFILIATE MEMBERS

CORPORATE

CHESTER HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION
FIRST CITIZENS BANK
SPRATT SAVINGS AND LOAN
YORK ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

PATRON

AME, INC.
AMERICAN FOREST MANAGEMENT
JOANNA ANGLE/ Dr. W. D. ALTMAN
BARRON FUNERAL HOME
CHESTER COUNTY NATURAL GAS
CHESTER METROPOLITAN DISTRICT
DUKE ENERGY

HAMILTON, DELLENEY, GRIER & COTTON, P. A.

ROBERT L. HOLCOMBE, JR.
OMNOVA SOLUTIONS, INC.
JOHN W. PARRIS
RONALD H. STEPHENSON
SAM AND BEVERLY STONE
JOEY AND SANNA WILSON

SUSTAINING

NANCY C. ANDERSON
CAROLINA EASTERN, INC.
CARTER'S LANDSCAPE & DESIGN
FAIRFIELD ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE
ANN STRINGFELLOW MCNERNEY

REV. DR. DWIGHT PEARSON
DR. ROBERT E. SHANNON, JR.
JOHN AND BARBARA SHERER
JACK AND ANN SZOKE

SUPPORTING

AgSOUTH FARM CREDIT, ACA
NORMA J. ALT
BILO, INC.
CITY TRUE VALUE HARDWARE
DEAN EXCAVATING & GRADING, INC.
BRUCE DENTON TREE FARM
EZELL HARDWARE
ROBERT K. WYLIE

STEWARDSHIP WEEK-APRIL 29 TO MAY 5, 2013

This year's motto was "WHERE DOES YOUR WATERSHED?" The proclamation reads, "Whereas fertile soil and clean water provide us with our daily sustenance, and whereas effective conservation practices have helped provide us a rich standard of living, and whereas our security depends upon healthy soil and clean water, and whereas stewardship calls for each person to help conserve these

precious resources, therefore, I do hereby proclaim April 28 to May 5, 2013, Soil and Water Stewardship Week.

District Chairman Allen L. Beer with
Chester County Supervisor R.
Carlisle Roddey signing Proclamation



WATERSHED DIRECTORS

ROCKY CREEK WATERSHED

KEITH MCDONALD, CHAIRMAN
CLAUDIA DEAN
OSCAR L. "BUDDY" PEAY
WILLIAM F. WISHERT
CALVIN C. CLARK

TINKER'S CREEK WATERSHED

HENRY F. ALLEN
HENRY T. WESTBROOK
MIKE W. ALLEN
DAVID WILSON

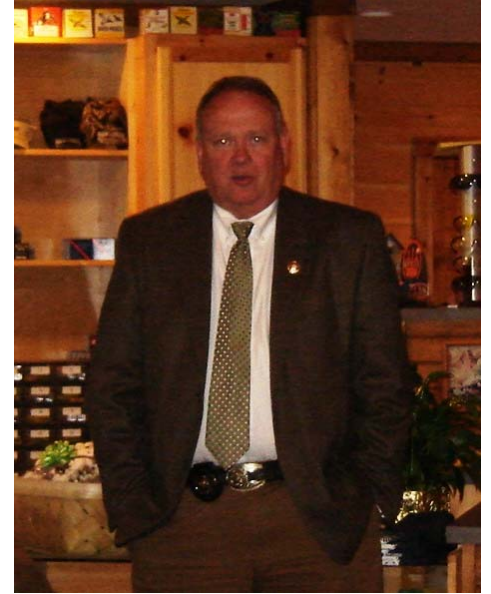
Responsibilities of the watershed directors include overseeing maintenance and repairs to the dams and

drainage canals, addressing soil and water issues in the watershed and preventing structures from being located in the flood pool. The purpose of watershed districts is to promote concentrated efforts within the watershed to establish conservation practices, including stabilization of critically eroding areas, drainage measures and flood control.

2013 AWARDS BANQUET

The Chester Soil and Water Conservation District held its annual Awards and Recognition Banquet on Thursday, March 21, 2013, at the Rocky Creek Sporting Clays Pavilion. Chairman Allen L. Beer presided with the Rev. Dr. Dwight Pearson giving the invocation. Over 60 members enjoyed a buffet dinner. The Robbie Banks Conservationist of the Year Award was presented to Joanna Angle by Chairman Beer. Vice Chairman Jeff Wilson presented the Conservation Teacher of the Year Award to Jennifer Adkins, special needs teacher at Ches-

ter Park School of Inquiry. Anne Hull and Lavinia McDonald were given special recognition for their many years of service to the district as Earth Team volunteers. The NEWS AND REPORTER was presented an Honorary Affiliate Membership for their continued service by providing district information to the Chester County area. The guest speaker for the evening was Col. Alvin A. Taylor, director of the S. C. Department of Natural Resources, who presented a brief address on the current status of his department.



PHOTOS FROM AWARDS BANQUET



At left, Chairman Beer with the 2013 Robbie Banks Conservationist of the Year, Joanna Angle. Below are Lavinia McDonald, Anne Hull, Earth Team Volunteers, and Chairman Beer. On the right are Nancy Parsons from the NEWS AND REPORTER and Mr. Beer.



ARBOR DAY PROJECT

Arbor Day began in the state of Nebraska in 1872 as the brainchild of Julius Sterling Morton, a Nebraska journalist and politician. The movement has grown over the past 140 years throughout the United States and the world. In South Carolina, Arbor Day is celebrated the first Friday in December of each year.

In 2011 Chester SWCD gave away 50 free trees to Chester County citizens for the first time. This Arbor Day Project was so successful that the Board decided to continue it in 2012. The trees were available December 3-7, 2012, at J. B. Greenhouses and Nursery, 2082 Great Falls Road. The free trees were Saw Tooth Oak and Leland Cypress and were distributed one per Chester

County household on a first come, first serve basis.

December is an excellent time to take stock of the trees on your property by inspecting them and taking note of any broken branches or evidence of disease or insect infestation.

2013 CONTEST AWARD WINNERS

Each year the Chester Soil and Water Conservation District sponsors four educational contests for students who attend school in Chester County or who live in Chester County. They are the Bulletin Board Contest, the Essay Contest, the Photography Contest, and the Poster Contest. The theme for 2013 contests was **“Where Does Your Watershed?”**

BULLETIN BOARD CONTEST WINNERS



ACADEMY OF TEACHING AND LEARNING
LYNN ABERCROMBIE, GRADE 2



CHESTER PARK SCHOOL OF INQUIRY
JENNIFER ADKINS, SPECIAL NEEDS CLASS



LEFT: CHESTER PARK CENTER OF LITERACY THROUGH TECHNOLOGY, BILLIE JO MORRISON GROUP.

RIGHT: THE GLENN SCHOOL, JANE GLENN BELOW; LEWISVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, MARILYN PRESSLEY





SHOWN ABOVE ARE THE WINNERS IN THE 2013 ESSAY CONTEST: ON THE LEFT ARE THE WINNERS FROM LEWISVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL (LEFT TO RIGHT: EMILY RENEE STREICHER, AMANDA NICOLE RENWALD, SHELLEY LOVERN, HANNAH MCCALLISTER, MORGAN ANN STREICHER, SAMUEL JAMES CATOE, JOHN BLAKE STROUD). CENTER IS LA'TERRICA SHERELLE SPRINGS, CHESTER MIDDLE SCHOOL. RIGHT IS MAC TREVEILER, LEWISVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL.



POSTER CONTEST WINNERS

ON THE LEFT IS TYRONE KELLY, FIRST PLACE WINNER, LEWISVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL. CENTER IS KATHRYN L. MERANTO, FIRST PLACE, THE ACADEMY FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING. ON THE RIGHT IS VICTORIA ANN DUBE, SECOND PLACE, HOME SCHOOL.



PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST WINNERS

EMILY MCNERNEY
CHESTER HIGH SCHOOL

LIZA WILSON
WESTMINSTER CATAWBA

GEORGINA CARTER
THE ACADEMY

CHESTER SWCD

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THE 2013 ALLEN L. BEER SCHOLARSHIP WINNER IS SHANNON SNELGROVE, VALEDICTORIAN OF THE CLASS OF 2013 AT CHESTER SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL. SHE PLANS TO ENTER CLEMSON UNIVERSITY IN THE FALL AND MAJOR IN LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE/HORTICULTURE. CONGRATULATIONS SHANNON.

NO-TILL FARMING

CONSERVATION TILLAGE, also known as no-till farming, is a way of growing crops from year-to-year without disturbing the soil through conventional tillage.

CONVENTIONAL TILLING agitates the soil in various ways, usually with tractor drawn implements. This can lead to unfavorable effects, like soil compaction, loss of organic matter, degradation of soil aggregates, death or disruption of soil microbes, arthropods, and earthworms, and soil erosion where topsoil is blown or washed away.

In no-till farming, the soil is left intact and crop residue is left on the field, thus avoiding those unfavor-

able effects. Advantages of conservation tillage as listed by the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources are:

REDUCED LABOR AND FUEL NEEDS

TIME SAVINGS

EASIER PLANTING

MORE SOIL MOISTURE

BETTER SOIL TILTH

LESS EROSION



SUNFLOWER NO-TILL DRILL

The Chester Soil and Water conservation district invites everyone to participate in the effort to conserve natural resources and aid in the prevention of soil loss here in Chester County by renting a no-till drill for planting needs. The District has two no-till drills available to rent for \$9 per acre. Last year our drills were used for no-till farming on over 300 acres in Chester County.