

# ***Conservation Technical Assistance and Cost Share Programs***

*NC Western Aquaculture Update  
September 2015*



# *The Beginning*





Dr. Hugh Hammond Bennett  
1881 - 1960



# Federal Legislation Supports Soil Conservation Movement

- Public Law 46  
Created Soil  
Conservation Service
- Shift focus towards  
private lands



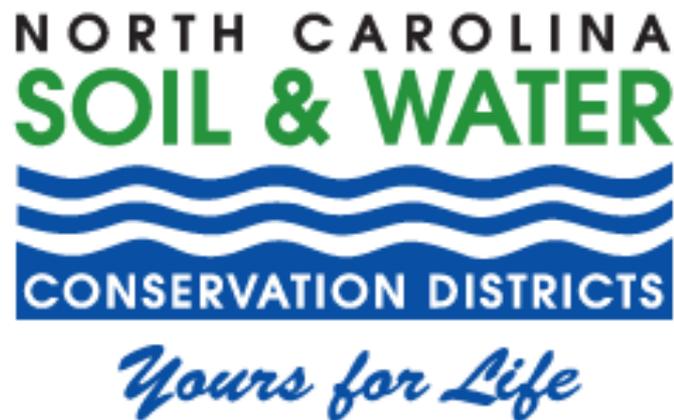
United States Department of Agriculture  
Natural Resources Conservation Service

Photo courtesy of USDA NRCS



# Creation of Conservation Districts

- President Roosevelt & Standard State District Act
- General Statute 139
- Brown Creek Conservation District is first in nation (Anson County, NC)
- Districts bridge gap between federal and state technicians and local private landowners



# Technical Assistance

- Is available regardless of cost share funding availability.
- Recommended practices are supported by technical standards
- Recommended practices are based on the resource concern and implementation feasibility.



# State Cost Share Programs



## WATER QUALITY

## WATER QUANTITY

❖ Reduce nutrients and sediment delivery to streams

❖ Manage farm pesticides

❖ Reduce freshwater loading to Primary Nursery Areas

❖ Implement BMPs to conserve and protect water resources

❖ Increase water use efficiency

❖ Increase water storage and availability

# Project prioritization

- District Boards of Supervisors set their priorities to address local natural resource concerns
- Boards adopt a written priority system for ranking applications
- Boards evaluate and approve program applications according to their prioritization system





# Aquaculture BMP Workgroup

Re-energized April 2012

## Members

NC Aquaculture Association Board Members

Soil and Water Conservation Districts (3)

NCDA Marketing Division – Pete Anderson

NCCES – Steve Gabel

DSWC Engineer – Carl Dunn

Prioritize current resource concerns

# Revision to Approved BMP's

## Waste Application System

- The potential to irrigate waste collected in a waste storage pond in lieu of recycling back to ponds is favorable under some conditions.
- Commission approved to revise language to include all waste storage structures not just lagoons.  
(July 2012)



# Revision to Approved BMP's

## Livestock Mortality Management

- Includes composters, freezers, and incinerators.
- Commission approved to revise the language to be inclusive of all animals with appropriate permits from State Vet. (July 2012)



# Agriculture Water Collection System



## WATER QUALITY

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- ❖ For water reuse or irrigation to improve water quality
- ❖ May include construction of new ponds, utilizing existing ponds, water storage tanks and pumps

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- ❖ Reduce demand on the water supply
- ❖ Decrease withdrawal from existing water supplies

# What is next?

The Aquaculture BMP Workgroup will...

- begin to address other aquaculture resource concerns.
- educate the industry and the soil and water partnership about opportunities to work together.
- Promote voluntary implementation of BMP's.

# What does this mean for you.....

- Technical and possibly financial assistance is available through the soil and water conservation partnership.
- Build the relationship with your local soil and water conservation district.

<http://www.ncagr.gov/SWC/findyourdistrict.html>

- Educate your local District about your farm, your issues, your concerns.

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