



# Resource Conservation Workshop

Photo Links, Workshop Summary, & Winners

The photos from the 2015 Resource Conservation Workshop are now available online at the URL below. [go.ncsu.edu/rcw2015](http://go.ncsu.edu/rcw2015)

NC Soil & Water Conservation Districts did an outstanding job of selecting the 96 students that participated in this year's 52<sup>nd</sup> Resource Conservation Workshop. Comments from counselors and staff were consistently 'brightest, best behaved, most courteous' group of students ever. And thanks are in order to the eight Association Areas who were responsible for supplying counselors and for paying counselor registration and stipend fees. Please note that more male counselors are still needed.

After a week of classroom and field sessions and a written exam, the culminating Award Luncheon was held on Friday, June 26<sup>th</sup>. Students' parents attended before taking the trip home. Dick Fowler, NCASWCD Executive Director, was a gracious Master of Ceremonies; and Association President, Manly West, gave an inspiring closing statement.

The counselors worked hard to narrow the list to only eight students who would be interviewed for the prestigious S. Grady Lane Scholarship. Grady Lane was the first chief of the NC Soil and Water Conservation Section. He was devoted to the RCW for a number of years but died at an early age. Grady's family established the scholarship in his honor to be awarded to a student who embodied high moral character and studious habits (requires a minimum 75 percentile grade on final test) and has a financial need.

This year's scholarship judging panel consisted of Division of Soil & Water Conservation Director, Patricia Harris; NCASWCD President, Manly West; Dale Threat-Taylor of Wake SWCD and representing NCCDEA; and Beth Farrell of the NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. The eight interviewed students were also considered for the NC Conservation District Employees Association's scholarship.

Leadership staff for the RCW were: Ralston James, DSWC; Liz Driscoll, NCSU Soil Science & Horticulture; Shedrick Samuels, NCSU McKimmon Center administration; and Eric Pare, DSWC.

Counselors who served from Soil & Water Conservation Districts were: Dennis Testerman, Cabarrus SWCD; Pamela Steuer, Caldwell SWCD; Leslie Meadows, Alexander SWCD; Elizabeth Hamm, Pitt SWCD; Sherry Harris, Chowan SWCD; Elissa Riley, New Hanover SWCD; Brian Lannon, Camden SWCD; Hannah Hursey, Cabarrus SWCD; Katie Dayton, Union SWCD. Other volunteer counselors were Freda Pyron, Kaitlin Bunch, Tara Hughes, Eric Pare, and Ralston James.

The four days of resource topics were taught and facilitated by an innumerable number of resource professionals and university staff. I won't list all the names here, but special thanks is extended to the organizing groups: NCSU Soil Science Department (Soil Science Day), Falls Lake US Army Corps of Engineers (Water, Wildlife, Recreation & Fish Management Day), Clemmons Educational State Forest (Forestry and Forest Management Day), and Wake Soil & Water Conservation District (Soil & Water Day).

Merit Scholarships and Cash Awards were given to the following students for their high placement on Friday's exam.

1<sup>st</sup> Place----Kadin Peterman.....Orange SWCD----\$500.00 scholarship plus \$100.00  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place----Tuan Nguyen.....Wayne SWCD----\$275.00 scholarship plus \$100.00  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place----Joey Mitchell.....Davidson SWCD----\$100.00  
4<sup>th</sup> Place----Henry Lindbo.....Chatham SWCD----\$75.00  
5<sup>th</sup> Place---Eliza Witherspoon.....Transylvania SWCD---\$50.00

The following students were nominated by counseling staff to be interviewed for the prestigious S. Grady Lane Scholarship.

#### Grady Lane Nominees

Lindsay Barnes – Johnston SWCD  
Kristofer Blankenship – Stanley SWCD  
Cloey Goins – Hyde SWCD  
Nathaniel Han – Mecklenburg SWCD  
Ashlyn Helfinstine – Alexander SWCD  
Pelmon Hundson – Sampson SWCD  
Sydney Singleton – Davidson SWCD  
Eliza Witherspoon – Transylvania SWCD

And the following students were awarded scholarships on the results of their interviews with the judging panel.

S. Grady Lane Scholarship----Eliza Witherspoon-----\$500.00 scholarship – Transylvania SWCD  
DEA Scholarship-----Lindsay Barnes-----\$1,000.00 scholarship – Johnston SWCD  
Area 1 Glen Carson Memorial Scholarship-----Eliza Witherspoon--\$250 scholarship

The Resource Conservation Workshop is a wonderful product of the North Carolina Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts' educational programs. Every member of the Conservation Partnership can be proud of the RCW. Thanks to each of you for your loyal support.