

2021 Winter District Employees Training Series – Update 3/16/2021

Register at the link below

<https://fs3.formsite.com/ncdswc/sjvbdyoaui/index.html>

For more information go to https://www.ncagr.gov/SWC/professional_development/training.html

Course Listing

Thursday, January 14, 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Calculation Tools with out a Federal Computer – Presenter, Bryan Evans

Join a long-time district employee to learn some great tips on accessing necessary calculation tools available outside the federal system. Bryan plans to show you how to find the calculation tools and then will work a problem or two. Bryan is now Executive Director of the NC Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

Thursday, January 14, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

Virtual Food, Land & People Workshop – Tips on how to accomplish it – Presenter, Caitlyn Reilly

Let Caitlyn, graduate student at NCSU, lead you through the details of how she facilitated FLP workshops this year for her research project.

Thursday, January 21, 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

District Share Session: Organizing Local Fundraisers – Moderator, Allie Dinwiddie

Come learn about how districts bring in more funds to support conservation implementation and outreach/education efforts. During this district sharing session, Patty Dellinger (Lincoln SWCD), Sean Trollinger (Guilford SWCD) and Lisa Marochak (Durham SWCD) will be briefly presenting on what their districts do to organize yearly fundraisers (sapling, bird house, berry, rain barrel, geotextile, etc. sales) and what projects are funded from these sales support within their districts. Bring your questions and your experiences to share with the group!

Thursday, January 21, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act (LGBFCA) Training Seminar – Presenter, Kara Millonzi,

*Join Kara Millonzi from the UNC School of Government, to review the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act, and its requirements for districts. The Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act (LGBFCA) is comprised of a series of statutes that govern the budgeting processes and financial administration of, and distribution of public funds by local governments and public authorities in NC. This is relevant for districts that manage **any or all** their own finances. Most districts in NC are organized as county departments, and the county commissioners are responsible to comply with the LGBFCA, but there are a few districts that are set up independently of the county as public authorities who must comply. In addition, there are some districts that are treated as a county department for most purposes but perform some financial functions independently (e.g. have their own checking account). In these districts, both the county and the district board are responsible for complying with the LGBFCA for all funds under their control, no matter how insignificant they may seem – they are all public dollars.*

Thursday, January 28, 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

More Soil Fertility – Presenter, Dr. Luke Gatiboni

Join Luke Gatiboni, NCSU Soil Fertility Extension Specialist, for a discussion on soil fertility. He will share 2020 results from field trials, and see if he can answer the question ‘are the fertilizer recommendations based on NC soil testing reports adequate for the current crop varieties and yield levels?’ This is an opportunity to broaden your understanding of your producers’ interest in nutrient management.

Thursday, January 28, 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Water Supply Wells: A Contracting and Policy Review – Presenter, Sydney Mucha

Join Sydney Mucha, the Division's AgWRAP State Coordinator, for a review of the AgWRAP Water Supply Wells BMP. Sydney will review the policy and contracting details of Water Supply Wells, including the Well Checkout Document and other needed forms. Case studies will be presented by district employees Kayla Mounce, Wilkes, Lucas Baxley, Robeson, and Henry Faison and Melanie Harris, Sampson. This session will be great as a refresher and for those new to AgWRAP. It will provide a chance for you to learn from your peers in a fun way!

Wednesday, February 3, 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production – Presenter, Stuart Lee

Congress recognized that farmers in urban communities may not fully take advantage of USDA's resources and may need extra focus. The 2018 Farm Bill established an Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production, and it was housed within NRCS. NC NRCS has been busy implementing the farm bill's urban agriculture provisions. The Office is administering two grant programs available in your district in addition to other community actions. Join NRCS' Stuart Lee and find out more information on how you can use this program for your urban and innovative production outreach.

Wednesday, February 3, 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

CCAP Online Tests and how to Obtain Job Approval Authority – Presenters, Tom Hill and Jeff Young

Tom Hill, Division State Community Conservation Coordinator, will provide a basic overview of the online tests currently available for the Community Conservation Assistance Program (CCAP) Job Approval Authority (JAA) in the following areas; General Program and Planning, Backyard Raingardens and Wetlands, Cisterns, Critical Area Planting, and Streambank and Shoreline Protection. Jeff Young, Division Technical Services Section Chief, join the group for a discussion on how to obtain JAA for CCAP practices.

Wednesday, February 10, 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Digging into the Properties of Soil- Dalton Buchanan

Join Dalton Buchanan, Division Interpretive Soil Scientist, for another professional training on the properties of soil that are important in conservation technicians' jobs. Topics covered will include hydrologic soils groups and bulk density.

Wednesday, February 10, 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Forestry Training Session – Presenters, Tom Gerow, A.J. Lane

Join Tom Gerow, NCFS Water Resources Forester, and A.J. Lane, NCFS Watershed & Conservation Forester, for an enlightening overview of the water quality requirements on forestry sites. The session will include how BMPs support compliance with those requirements, findings from BMP studies in NC, and will show some examples of forestry BMPs in action. In addition, we will explain how SWC Districts could assist in certain cases after the NC Forest Service inspects a site. References to forestry BMP resources will be provided, most of which are available on the NCFS website.

Wednesday, February 17, 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Riparian Buffer Rules in Nutrient Sensitive Watersheds

Presenters; Joey Hester DSWC, Shelton Sullivan NCDWR, Christy Perrin & Grace Fullmer WRRRI

Join in to learn about Riparian Buffer rules and about new educational tools. This session will introduce Soil & Water Conservation Districts to the various riparian buffer rules which have been implemented across the state. The session will provide a brief background to the nutrient strategies themselves, a discussion on the buffer rules, allowable activity within a riparian zone, how to determine compliance with the rules, and the

permit process for variance request and buffer mitigation. This session is for Conservation District employees who work in one of the nutrient sensitive watersheds.

Wednesday, February 17, 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Partnership Model for SWCDs & Public Schools- Presenters: Erin Hines, Karen Archer, and Angela Upchurch.

Join Erin Hines, Gaston SWCD, to learn about her unique partnership with Gaston County Schools' curriculum coordinators. This model partnership is something every SWC District educator could strive for and implement. See how Erin tailors her outreach effort to teachers' needs and helps them meet learning standards' goals.

Wednesday, March 10, 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

JAA Update and information on the new online Training Calendar – Presenter, Jeff Young

Join Jeff Young, Division Technical Services Section Chief, to get up-to-the-minute news on the NC Soil and Water Conservation Commission's Job Approval Authority program authorized by the NC General Assembly this past session. Also learn about NCDA&CS's IT group's project to create an interactive on-line training calendar for the Conservation Partnership. On the calendar site you will be able to search for relevant training for your job in addition to trainers being able to post training opportunities directly to the calendar.

Wednesday, March 10, 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Marketing Your District to the Public – Presenter, Ralston James

Join Division Regional Coordinator, Ralston James, in a discussion and exploration leading to a District's Marketing Plan. What is it that your district wants to accomplish? How do you get there? What direction does your district want to go? How to explore your district's strengths? How does your district partner with local agencies and associations to accomplish its marketing goals? Attend this session and come away with some great ideas to help your district's outreach efforts.

Wednesday, March 17, 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Public Records Requests to Districts – Presenters, Bryan Evans, Kristina Fischer, Ralston James

The materials made or received by government agencies in NC in carrying on public business are considered "public records". The NC General Assembly has declared that public records and public information compiled by local government are the property of the people. This may be complicated in district offices as there is some information protected by NC General Statute 139-8.2 and by federal law in the federal files that may be co-located in field offices. Join Bryan Evans, Executive Director NCASWCD, Kristina Fischer and Ralston James, Division Regional Coordinators, to learn some best practices for districts in responding to public records requests and hear about the resources available for districts on this subject.

Wednesday, March 24, 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. **Session topic changed from Wildlife BMPs (delayed to 4/7).**

Soil Loss and RUSLE2 Refresher– Presenters, Josh Spencer, Rafael Vega

Planners will learn about principles of soil loss, USLE, RUSLE2 and its considerations that affect conservation of natural resources as part of the conservation planning process. The event will include a demo for calculations.

Wednesday, March 24, 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Introduction to Hemp Agriculture – Facilitator, Rafael Vega; Presenters: Sam Cook, NCSU; Arnab Bhomik, NCA&T; Lucian Lucia, NCSU; Mike Harrington, Shaw University.

Join Rafael Vega and a panel of experts for a discussion and an introduction to hemp agriculture.