

North Carolina Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts

CONSERVATION EXHIBITION VENDOR & SPONSOR PROSPECTUS

NCASWCD Annual Meeting
January 4-6, 2026



This packet includes:

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Overview

The North Carolina Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (NCASWCD) invites you to join us for the 2025 Annual Meeting on January 4-6, 2026, at the Cherokee Casino Resort in Cherokee NC. (The address is 777 Casino Drive Cherokee, NC 28719.)

NCASWCD President Barbara Bleiweis (Mecklenburg SWC District), invites all district supervisors, conservation partners, staff, and exhibitors to join in the celebration of the 88th Anniversary of Soil and Water Conservation Districts in North Carolina and the nation and the 82nd NCASWCD Annual Meeting.

The NCASWCD Annual Meeting will include outstanding speakers, breakout sessions, and workshops that will focus on exploring current and future challenges, showcasing successes, and inspiring the continued commitment to the stewardship of our natural resources.

Each year a Conservation Expo is held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting to showcase businesses, organizations, and conservation partners whose goal is to focus on environmental issues, management of land and water resources, and innovative equipment and resources that are available to conservation partners.

Please join us for the Conservation Expo event and Annual Meeting by participating as an Association Affiliate Member and Exhibitor, an Exhibitor in the Conservation Expo, and/or as a Conference Sponsor. The Conservation Expo will be housed in the hub of the meeting activities in the Cherokee Casino Convention Center.

The Conservation Expo area will offer a variety of activities including coffee/snack breaks for all conference participants, the Conservation Partners Education Forum, Soil and Water Conservation District and partner agency displays.

SWCDs represents Board Supervisors and office/field staff that work with landowners, producers, and managers to help protect land and water resources on public and private lands in North Carolina. Many of these elected and appointed supervisors, their district staff, state and federal agency partner personnel, and other conservation partners from across North Carolina, will attend the NCASWCD Annual Meeting. Exhibitors will have the opportunity to interact with over 400 conservation leaders throughout the three-day conference.

Conservation Expo Details

Levels of Membership, Sponsorship, Participation

How to be a part of the *Conservation Expo* at the NCASWCD Annual Meeting.

This is a great opportunity for displays, brochures, handouts and publicity for your company or organization. Exhibitors are invited to bring door prizes for drawings and distribute them from your booth during the Expo hours and morning breaks in Conservation Expo area.

1. Association Affiliate Membership and Expo Vendor:

Become an Association Affiliate Member by supporting the NCASWCD as a Sponsor, participate in the Conservation Expo with a prime booth location, and display information to showcase your business programs and simultaneously interact with conservation leaders. Membership levels and benefits include the following:

- **Platinum Level Affiliate - \$5,000 +**
Full registrations** for Four (4) people for Meeting (includes 5 meal choices/person- see choices below)
Prime Conservation Expo booth location in the Conservation Expo area
Electricity Provided at no charge if needed; (Please indicate on registration form if electrical is needed)
Special recognition by the President during the meeting and banquet
Logo and recognition in Annual Meeting program/booklet and Sponsorship poster in Expo area
- **Gold Level Affiliate - \$2,500**
Registrations** for Three (3) people for Meeting (includes 4 meals choices/person-see choices below)
Very Good Conservation Expo booth location in the Conservation Expo area
Electricity Provided at no charge if needed; (Please indicate on registration form if electrical is needed)
Special recognition by President during the meeting and banquet
Logo and recognition in Annual Meeting program/booklet and Sponsorship poster in Expo area
- **Silver Level Affiliate - \$1,100**
Registrations** for Two (2) people for Meeting (includes 3 meals choices/person-see choices below)
Very Good Conservation Expo booth location in the Conservation Expo area
Electricity Provided at no charge if needed; (Please indicate on registration form if electrical is needed)
Special recognition by President at banquet
Logo and recognition in Annual Meeting program/booklet and Sponsorship poster in Expo area

2. Conservation Expo Vendor and Supporter: --\$750.00

Registration for ** for One (1) person for Meeting (includes 2 meals -see choices below)
Good Expo booth location at the Conservation Expo area
Recognition in Conservation Expo area on Sponsorship poster
Electrical cost will be \$40 per table for the expo vendor level—please include in registration payment.

****Registration includes:**

Complimentary conference registration for one, two, or four people- (based on level of sponsorship above.)

Included are choice of meal(s) for each person registered based on level of registration above: Meal choices include:

- Monday: Supervisor breakfast (6:00 am)
- Monday: Conservation Awareness Luncheon (Noon)
- Monday: Conservation Educational Awards Banquet (6:00 pm)
- Tuesday: NC Conservation District Employee Awards Luncheon (Noon)
- Tuesday: NCASWCD Awards Banquet: Installation of officers, and Hall of Fame recognition (6:00 pm)

When filling out the registration form, please select number of meals – based on your level of sponsorship .

- Additional or guest meals may be purchased on site during registration if needed.
- If additional meals are needed, please email Gail and she can provide cost of meals.

3. **Conservation Education Forum: Non-profit/partner agency = \$250.00**

- For non-profit agencies and other conservation partners to showcase information about their programs and simultaneously interact with conservation leaders.
- **Conference registration and meals are not included** for agencies or partners that register for this level of the Expo- Conservation Education Forum
- **Conservation Education Exhibitors will need to register for the EXPO on the EXPO link provided on next page.**
- We encourage forum exhibitors to register for the meeting as a participant at the regular conference registration link—(meals can be included with this registration)
- Additional Meal tickets can be purchased at the on-site registration table (limited numbers available).
- **Electricity access is not provided** at your table but can be arranged for an additional cost.
- Please indicate your need for electrical access in special notes on the registration form.
- **Electrical cost will be \$40 per table** for the education forum area—please include in registration payment.
- **Please contact us if you have questions before registration.** Gailhughes53@gmail.com

Expo Booth Space Details:

- All the exhibit spaces are 8' wide x 8' deep with an 6' skirted table, two chairs.
- All exhibitors will need to provide their own company/business signs for their specific display.
- Electrical access is available in vendor packages, (see details above); please request at online registration.

4. **Additional Sponsorship Opportunities**

The NCASWCD welcomes partnerships to support the 2026 NCASWCD Annual Meeting. Listed below are several ways you can increase your exposure to our membership and support this gathering of natural resource conservationists from across North Carolina. All sponsors will be highlighted in promotional materials and throughout the conference. Based on sponsorship levels, some groups will receive additional promotions and recognition.

- **Break Sponsor - \$1,500 (portion of cost also available)**
Become an exclusive sponsor of one or both morning coffee breaks held in the Conservation Expo Hall on Monday and Tuesday mornings. Sponsors will receive an optional Expo booth space, brand/company signage, name(s) listed in printed conference material distribution and recognition during the conference. (Only two Break Sponsor opportunities available – register early!)
- **Conservation Education Dinner Co-Sponsor - \$250**
Help to support the Association's Conservation Education programs throughout the year (such as the Envirothon program; Resource Conservation Workshop; and Conservation Education month). With your sponsorship, **Receive one complimentary ticket to the Conservation Education Fund Raising Dinner** on Monday evening and recognition during the dinner and conference.
- **Conservation Partner – Donate/sponsor at your comfort level**
Help support the Association's overall goals for protecting natural resources throughout the year by making a tax-deductible donation to the NCASWCD. A receipt will be provided, and recognition of donations will be made during the meeting.

Please contact us if you have questions before registration.

Gail Hughes Gailhughes53@gmail.com or Millie Langley milliejo81@gmail.com (cc both if possible)

****The NCASWCD is the 501(c) 3 non-profit organization that represents North Carolina's 96 Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) and the 492 men and women who serve as local district supervisors on their governing boards. SWCDs were established under state law to carry out the natural resource management programs at the local level. For all levels of funding and sponsorship, W-9 forms and/or receipts for donations can be provided upon request.**

DETAILS: EXPO SET UP Schedule:

- All exhibitors and vendors are encouraged to set up their booths on Sunday, Jan. 4, 2026.
- If you prefer to set up on Monday, Jan. 5th, please inform Gail Hughes via email of your planned set up time.
- Electrical connection is available for booth vendors but will need to be requested and paid (if applicable) at time of registration. (see detail below and on the sponsorship levels page.)

Dates and Hours* of the Expo: *Times for set up and break down below: (*All times are tentative and are subject to changes as needed.)

Sunday, January 4	2:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Booth Set-up – Exhibit Hall area is unofficially open to early arrivals
Monday, January 5	7:00 am – 8:00 am	Booth Set-up
	7:00 am – 6:00 pm	Exhibit Hall Open -morning break ~9:45
Tuesday, January 6	7:00 am – 2:00 pm	Exhibit Hall Open –morning break ~9:45
	12:00 pm – 2:00 pm**	Booth Tear-down (Vendors responsibility)

Setup and Take Down:

Setup and take down of all exhibits is the sole responsibility of the Exhibitor.

Due to location of Tues. Banquet, booths must be taken down no later than 2:00 pm **

Exhibit Booth Space and Conservation Education Forum Assignment

Exhibit Booth space will not be assigned until payment is received. Exhibit Booth space will be assigned based on level of sponsorship, and availability. The method of determining space assignment shall be established by the NCASWCD and Expo partner, the Hugh Hammond Bennett-Soil & Water Conservation Society.

Cancellation of Exhibit Space or Conservation Education Forum Space:

If it is necessary for the Exhibitor or the Conservation Education Forum participant to withdraw from the NCASWCD 2026 Annual Meeting, please notify Gail Hughes at gailhughes53@gmail.com on or before December 17, 2025.

Due to financial commitments to the hotel, no refund requests will be honored after December 17, 2025.

Door Prizes and Giveaways:

Exhibitors are invited to bring door prizes and/or giveaways for drawing and distribution from your booth during the two morning breaks in the Expo Area – this can be a good opportunity to get additional publicity for your company or organization.

Security and Liability: The Expo area will be unsecured in the evenings; therefore, the NCASWCD cannot guarantee the security of items left unattended. By participating in the Conservation Expo or the Conservation Education Forum, exhibitors specifically agree that they release the NCASWCD from any and all liability related to their participation in the Conservation Expo or the Conservation Education Forum

REGISTRATION for all Expo participants:

For all Association Affiliate Membership and Expo Vendor, Conservation Expo/Exhibitor, Conservation Education Forum and/or Sponsorships:

FINAL On-line Exhibitor registration deadline is December 5, 2025.

Early registration is encouraged to guarantee availability of booth space.

Company /Vendor LOGO for printed Conference materials:*

Once registration is completed, please send a high-resolution company logo no later than **December 5, 2025** to Gail Hughes at gailhughes53@gmail.com

***To guarantee inclusion in the conference printed materials, logos must be received by Dec. 5, 2025.**

Please register at this link :

<https://fs3.formsite.com/ncdswc/s0kwo9ekbh/index>

OR

If you need more information/details about the Annual meeting and Registration links, please Visit the Annual Meeting website –

<https://www.ncagr.gov/divisions/soil-water-conservation/district-supervisors/professional-development/upcoming-events#NCASWCDAnnualMeeting-2723>

2. Click on the **Expo Registration link** (5th bullet on the main screen)
3. Fill out registration information – items marked with an * are required
4. After reviewing items to be submitted, click the “Submit” box at the bottom of the screen

Please Note: Due to high fees with pay pal, we prefer payment by check, but if you do need to pay by credit card, please reach out to Gail Hughes at gailhughes53@gmail.com for link to pay with card .

HOTEL ACCOMODATIONS: 2026 NCASWCD 82nd ANNUAL MEETING –

January 4-6, 2026 Harrah’s Cherokee 777 Casino Drive Cherokee, NC 28719 Room rate = \$79 plus tax and Resort Fee of \$34.99 For reservations = or online at: Book Online Here Reservation Code = S01SOIL Cutoff date for block rate = December 3, 2025

**Room cancellations should be made directly through the NCASWCD office through the end of business hours after December 3 to avoid losing hotel rooms out of the block. Credit card may be required to guarantee reservation. **If paying by check, please communicate with the hotel directly, as checks may not be accepted onsite at check-in. ** All reservations should be made in individual names per room with separate credit cards to ensure cancelled rooms can be provided to those who do not have a room.

QUESTIONS:

If you have questions about the Expo, levels of participation, meals, or details, Please contact our HHB-SWCS partners,
Gail Hughes gailhughes53@gmail.com (919.306.2696) or
Millie Langley milliejo81@gmail.com (336.263.4626)

If you have problems with online registration-
Contact Gail, Millie, or Kristina Fischer @ 910.352.7771 or kristina.fischer@ncagr.gov