

SOUTHERN CONSERVATION DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT



A Look Back At

FY 17

July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017

Serving

**Fayette, McDowell, Mercer, Raleigh, Summers
And Wyoming Counties**

SCD office is located at

463 Ragland Road

Beckley, WV 25801

Office Telephone Number 304-253-0261

Office Fax Number 304-253-0238

Office Hours

Monday – Friday

8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Special Events/Programs for FY17

SCD Election of Board Officers/Directors

Chairman	Virgel Caldwell	Mercer County
Vice Chairman	Carl Mullins	McDowell County
Secretary	Dvon Duncan	Wyoming County
Treasurer	Oscar Vecellio	Raleigh County

Curtis Murphy was appointed to serve as Vice Chairman at the April 13, 2017 board meeting.

SCD WVACD Directors: Carl Mullins (July 2016-March 2017) and Ray Lafferty

*Dvon Duncan was appointed to serve from March 2017-June 2017



The District in coordination with the WV Conservation Agency carried out the FY17 AgEP program. During the fiscal year one hundred thirty-three completed applications were approved for cost share for the following practices: Lime, Exclusion Fence, Pasture Division Fence, Pond Cleanout, Watering Systems, Nutrient Management, Invasive Species, and Frost Seeding. The District would like to thank WV Legislators for continuing to fund this vital conservation program.

Dvon Duncan was selected as the **2016 SCD Supervisor of the Year** and was submitted as the SCD nominee for the 2016 state Carroll Greene Award.

She received her supervisor of the year award at the SCD banquet held October 11, 2016.



Thank you Dvon for helping carrying out SCD programs.

The SCD Marketing Committee developed the **FIRST SCD Calendar** featuring conservation pictures from all six counties. Calendars were provided to SCD cooperators as a thank you for all they do to help with conservation and agriculture in Southern WV.

Carl Mullins was recognized at the SCD banquet as the 2016 WVACD Member At Large.



In special memory of Carl Mullins (Carl passed away on March 26, 2017 at the VA Hospital in Beckley)

Election of Supervisors – Changes to SCD Board

John Farrell and Travis Prince begin serving their elected terms on the SCD board beginning July 1, 2016.

SCD 2016 Conservation Farm

The SCD Conservation Farm for 2016 is owned and operated by Roger Bolen and his mother Lorene Bolen. The farm is in Mercer County



The Bolen's were honored at the October banquet.

2016 SCD Photo Contest

SCD supervisors submitted the following winning photos to the WVACD for state judging:



Photo submitted by Marty Walker



Photo submitted by Leisa Moran

The photo submitted by Leisa Moran won 2nd place in the WVACD state contest. The photo was submitted to NACD for the National contest to be held in 2017.

2016 SCD Poster Contest



The SCD submitted winning posters from Wyoming County students. The poster submitted by Kyra Ellison won 1st place in the WVACD state contest. The poster was submitted to NACD for the National contest to be held in 2017.

Women in Ag

The 2nd Annual SCD Women in Ag Workshop was held May 24, 2017 at the Raleigh County Conference Center. Speakers included WVU Extension, WV Department of Agriculture, and the WV Conservation Agency. Topics included: raised gardens, locally grown food and marketing, eating the rainbow, WVCA/SCD Agricultural Enhancement Program and pollinator programs.

Dvon Duncan participated in the **State Women in Ag Conference** held in November at Glade Springs Resort.



Water Festivals

Dvon Duncan participated in the Wyoming County Water Festival. The SCD provided backpacks and water bottles for students attending the festival.





SCD Employees and Crew Work

Virgel Caldwell continued to serve as the Chair of the SCD Equipment Committee overseeing district employees and work being completed by the crew. Dave Parkulo continues to carry out the duties of the SCD Conservation Crew Foreman. Both Dave and Virgel work closely with the WV Conservation Agency to carry out the necessary work on flood control structures in Mercer and Raleigh counties. OM&R meetings are held every other month to review work or issues that may develop on the structures.

Rehabilitation Projects

Virgel Caldwell, Curtis Murphy and Becky Floyd continue to assist with the ongoing rehabilitation projects for Brush Creek Sites 9, 14 and 15. Monthly teleconferences are held with partnering agencies.

319 Projects

The SCD continues to work with WVCA staff and other partnering agencies on the following 319 projects: YMCA Piney Creek Runoff and Erosion Project; Sewell Creek Project; and Athens Project changing to Summers County Project (site to be selected by Agency staff and District board). Thanks to Marty Walker, Jennifer Skaggs, Becky Floyd, Dennis Burns and Dvon Duncan for their assistance with these projects.

Other Projects

The District is partnering with the WV American Chestnut Chapter, Piney Creek Watershed and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service to help restore the population of American Chestnut trees in southern WV. The District's \$500.00 donation made them a Bronze Seed Level Member of the American Chestnut Foundation.



The WV Chapter of the American Chestnut Foundation provided two Chestnut trees to the Piney Creek Watershed for the YMCA 319 project site.

Ag Day at the Capitol

District provided lunch for legislators representing their counties (Ag Day 2017)



Becky Floyd, Dvon Duncan and Ray Lafferty attended the Legislative Breakfast held on Ag Day.

SCD Committees

Building Committee

Finance and Administrative Committee

Equipment Committee

Marketing Committee

Education/319 Committee

Safety Committee

Ag Enhancement Committee

Forestry Committee

Oscar Vecellio, Committee Chair

Virgel Caldwell, Committee Chair

Virgel Caldwell, Committee Chair

Dvon Dunan, Committee Chair

Dvon Duncan, Committee Chair

Randy Prince, Committee Chair

Curtis Murphy, Committee Chair

John Farrell, Committee Chair

Mountain RC&D

Dvon Duncan and Oscar Vecellio serve as the SCD representatives on the Mountain RC&D board. The Mountain RC&D Field Office is now located in the SCD building.

Donations

The District donated \$500.00 to Jr. and Sr. Conservation Camps.

The District donated \$320.00 to purchase trees for the Glen Rogers Memorial Site

A \$100.00 donation was made to help with the WV Watershed Day.

SCD Farm Field Day

Held at John Farrell's Farm in Summers County on June 16, 2017

Approximately 125 landowners attended. The day included:

- Live music provided by Jimmy Hatfield
- Lunch provided by District
- Mercer County Commission on Aging provided line dancing
- Various conservation agencies set up booths and displays
- Lime demonstration and district rental equipment on site for landowners to view
- Soil pit demonstrated by NRCS
- Local vendors set up booths and displays highlight local grown items
- Conservation games and door prizes
- Thanks to Kim Fisher and Jennifer Skaggs for their help with the games and registration table
- Thanks to all agencies who participated.
- Special thanks to Dave Parkulo and SCD crew employees for their hard work in preparing for the event and cooking lunch

Special Thanks to John Farrell for hosting the field day on his farm!



SCD – serving Southern WV

The SCD was formed in 1944 for promoting soil and water conservation. Other high priorities include flood restoration, conservation education and watershed maintenance on dams and channels in the SCD counties.

SCD Mission

The mission of the Southern Conservation District is to provide local self-government leadership and initiative in the development and conservation of soil, water and related resources. A balanced planning, education and management program that protects, restores and improves those resources will be accomplished in cooperation with landowners, government agencies and private organizations.



SCD Building, 463 Ragland Road, Beckley, WV