

NRCS and Conservation District Relations

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What NRCS Does –

- Develop conservation planning
 - Based on producer objectives
 - Address resource concerns
 - Areawide, whole farm, or management unit
 - Public involvement

What NRCS Does –

- Provide financial assistance
 - Work with producers to determine needs
 - Install conservation systems
 - Provide guidance on managing systems
 - FOLLOW-UP

Conservation Districts

- Organized through and under
 - National Association of Conservation Districts
 - Colorado Association of Conservation Districts

NACD: What District's Do –

- Provide historical information (photos)
- Implement farm, ranch and forestland conservation practices to protect soil productivity, water quality and quantity, air quality and wildlife habitat;
- Conserve and restore wetlands, which purify water and provide habitat for birds, fish and other animals;
- Protect groundwater resources;

CACD: What District's Do –

- Assist communities and homeowners in planting trees and other land cover to hold soil in place, clean the air, provide cover for wildlife, and beautify neighborhoods;
- Help developers control soil erosion and protect water and air quality during construction; and
- Reach out to communities and schools to teach the value of natural resources and encourage conservation efforts.

CACD –

“The objects and purposes of the Association are to assist and cooperate with Conservation Districts in the State of Colorado and other governmental or private groups, in the furtherance of the conservation and preservation of natural resources, the control of wind and water erosion and the development of sound land use”; and in particular:

CACD –

1. Facilitate the exchange of information among groups in the state engaged in the conservation of natural resources.
2. Further a constructive statewide plan for conservation of soil and water resources, flood control and river basin development.
3. Conduct and assist other groups in the development of scientific and educational programs for conservation of Colorado's resources.

CACD General Goals –

- The prevention and control of non-point source pollution.
- Reclamation of surface-mined areas.
- The improvement of the management of the state's private, non-industrialized forest lands.
- The incorporation of conservation and environmental education in school curricula.

CACD General Goals –

- The preservation and enhancement of prime and unique agricultural, range, horticultural and forest lands.
- Land use planning.
- Vigorous, creative, state and federal agriculture policy.

What District's Do –

- Are locally elected
- Non-profit status
- Determine local conservation issues
- Do outreach to local producers
- Education and Advocacy
- Source of information for other entities



Districts Role with NRCS –

- Conservation Districts link NRCS to the local community
- Provide recommendations to resource needs
- Identify target areas for conservation
- Assist in local outreach efforts
- Guide locally led work groups

What District's Can Do –

- Farm Bill lobbying
- State legislative lobbying
- Link other entities to NRCS programs
- Provide financial assistance
 - Local cost-share programs

What District's Can Do –

- Develop conservation programs
 - Targeted Conservation Planning
 - RCPP
- Develop long and short range plans
- Provide planning assistance
- Guided by Farm Bill