

## **2015-2016 LANCASTER PARTNERSHIP PLAN OF OPERATION**

### **OBJECTIVE 1: INCREASE CONSERVATION EDUCATION ACTIVITIES.**

**Responsible:** Conservation Education Committee: Commissioners Gary Moore and Nancy Fleming;  
Staff: Amanda Roberts

#### **GOAL 1: Increase Conservation Education in the Classroom.**

1. Sponsor poster contest for students who attend school or live in Lancaster County based on NACD contest. October 2015 - October 2016
2. Sponsor photo contest for Middle School and High School students who attend school or live in Lancaster County. October 2015 - October 2016
3. Sponsor bulletin board contest for Elementary Schools based on NACD contest. October 2015 – October 2016
4. Sponsor speech contest for High School students who attend school or live in Lancaster County based on NACD contest. October 2015 - October 2016
5. Sponsor essay contest for students who attend school or live in Lancaster County based on NACD contest. October 2015 - October 2016
6. Conduct in-classroom programs as requested by teachers. October 2015 – October 2016
7. Use evaluation form to determine conservation education programs' impact in schools - give to teachers/administrators for their input. October 2015 – October 2016
8. Write grants to assist with education program projects October 2015 – October 2016

#### **GOAL 2: Increase Conservation Education Special Events/Programs.**

1. Host an Arbor Celebration at a school in Lancaster County. December 2016
2. Sponsor awards at the County Science Fair for projects that incorporate natural resources. January 2016 - February 2016
3. Sponsor and staff statewide conservation camps – Envirothon, Youth Workshop, South Carolina Commissioner's School for Agriculture, Camp Wildwood. February 2016 – October 2016
4. Make presentations to two groups and organizations about conservation. October 2015 - October 2016
5. Hold Hunter's Education class or give final exams. Oct 2015 - Oct 2016
6. Sponsor Glenn Alexander Memorial Scholarship and USC-Lancaster "Lancaster County Soil and Water Conservation District" Scholarship Oct 2015 - Oct 2016

### **OBJECTIVE 2: INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS.**

**Responsible:** Public Awareness Committee: Commissioners Joe Ghent and Phil Cleveland  
Staff: Amanda Roberts, Ann Christie

#### **GOAL 1. Increase Public Awareness through Programs and Publications.**

1. Hold District affiliate recognition meeting. April 2016 – June 2016
2. Give contest winners, teachers and principals awards at the school's request. Nov 2015 - Oct 2016
3. Presentation to local officials annually. October 2015 - October 2016
4. Select Conservation Farmer of the Year. January 2016 – March 2016
5. Select Conservation Educator of the Year. January 2016 – March 2016
6. Publish Annual Report and District Newsletters quarterly. October 2015 - October 2016
7. Submit news articles on partnership events, including minority newspapers. Oct 2015 - Oct 2016

#### **GOAL 2: Cooperate With Partners.**

1. Meet annually with partners or request annual reports from them (USDA Farm Services; SCDNR Fisheries, Wildlife Management, Wildlife Diversity and Conservation Law Enforcement; SC Forestry Commission Forester; Clemson Extension Service). October 2015 - October 2016
2. Maintain District website. October 2015 – October 2016.

**OBJECTIVE 3: CONSERVE NATURAL RESOURCES THROUGH TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.**

Responsible: Natural Resources Committee: Commissioners Bill Ardrey and Gary Moore

Staff: Amanda Roberts, Ann Christie

**GOAL 1: Protect and Improve Soil and Water Quality and Wildlife Habitat through Technical Assistance.**

1. Monitor NRCS in goal achievement–report to Board quarterly. January 2016- October 2016
2. Provide aerator to the public for rent. October 2015 - October 2016

**GOAL 2: Implement Farm Bill and Other USDA Programs.**

1. Complete program signups, planning, and contracts. October 2015 - October 2016
2. Hold Local Working Group Meetings. June 2016 – November 2016

**GOAL 3: Operate and Maintain Watershed Dams.**

1. NRCS and District assist Cane Creek and Little LYNCHES Watershed Boards to inspect dams yearly, cooperating with SCDHEC Dam Safety Engineer. November 2015 - March 2016
2. NRCS and District assist Watershed Boards to formulate maintenance plans, draw up budget, secure soil samples, advertise maintenance work and select contractors, assure contractors carry out approved maintenance, apply for County funds. October 2015 - October 2016

**GOAL 4: Increase conservation in developing areas.**

1. Publicize the value of protecting drainage ways, buffers and tree corridors for protection of water quality and wildlife habitat. October 2015 - October 2016
2. Commissioners and staff meet with Planning Commission staff to coordinate natural resource concerns in the urban planning process October 2015 - October 2016
3. Publicize and/or coordinate with Planning Commission staff the importance of published soil survey information in urban planning development October 2015 - October 2016
4. As requested, inventory and evaluation reports to agencies & groups. October 2015 - October 2016

**OBJECTIVE 4: IMPROVE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCES.**

Responsible: District Operations Committee: Commissioners Nancy Fleming, Joe Ghent & Phil Cleveland

Staff: Amanda Roberts, Ann Christie

**GOAL 1: Improve Partnership Management/Administration to fulfill public responsibilities.**

1. Develop annual plan of operation and update monthly. October 2015 - October 2016
2. Review Mutual & Cooperative Agreements, including Civil Rights & EEO responsibilities. November 2015 - January 2016
3. Two Commissioners attend Conservation Partnership Conference and report to Board on activities and programs to activate and strengthen local leadership. December 2015 – March 2016

**GOAL 2: Enhance Financial Resources.**

1. Develop yearly budget. December 2015 – March 2016
2. Conduct audit. July 2016
3. Increase affiliate memberships. October 2015 - October 2016
  - a) Tailor mailing list
  - b) Commissioners make personal contacts
  - c) Presentations to two civic or business organizations

**OBJECTIVE 5: IMPROVE PARTNERSHIP COOPERATION ON PERSONNEL & CIVIL RIGHTS.**

Responsible: District Operations Committee: Commissioners Bill Ardrey, Joe Ghent & Phil Cleveland  
Staff: Amanda Roberts, Ann Christie

**GOAL 1: Implement Civil Rights Requirements**

1. Deliver programs to individuals and groups without regard to their being part of a protected group and use the civil rights statements on all public information. October 2015 - October 2016
2. Commissioners consider list of diverse candidates when vacancies occur - race, gender and other demographic factors to improve representation of all segments of the population of the county to serve those populations and that their members have the chance to participate in partnership programs. October 2015 - October 2016
3. Assist minorities to apply conservation systems. October 2015 - October 2016
4. District sponsor, NRCS advise Lancaster Fruit & Vegetable Growers Association. October 2015-October 2016

**GOAL 2: Enhance Human Resources.**

1. Review District Manager's performance annually. May 2016
2. Train and schedule Earth Team Volunteers. October 2015 - October 2016
3. Provide a work environment which is at all times free from discrimination with regard to protected groups and free of unacceptable and unwelcome verbal or physical conduct, including sexual harassment and/or intimidation. October 2015 - October 2016

*Adopted*     Feb 1, 2016    

*Reviewed*     monthly