



# Charles Soil Conservation District Annual Report 2010

The Charles Soil Conservation District serves an area that is changing rapidly from rural agricultural to suburban residential, commercial and industrial land uses. The Potomac and Patuxent rivers border the district in the west, south and east, and are the focus of multi-agency conservation programs. Although the District's main priority is to provide the agricultural community with technical assistance to conserve valuable soil and water resources, development pressures have generated an increased workload in the District's sediment and erosion control and pond review responsibilities. More than 60 percent of the land area of the county remains forested.

## MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2010

**Soil Conservation and Water Quality Plans (SCWQPs)**— Developed 33 comprehensive SCWQPs to help farmers protect natural resources on 1,900 acres of farmland. Updated 14 additional plans covering 500 acres.

**Best Management Practices (BMPs)**—Worked with farmers to install 144 BMPs to control soil erosion, manage nutrients and protect water quality. BMPs installed included 67 agronomic and 23 structural BMPs.

**Cover Crops** —Provided technical assistance to farmers who planted 7,151 acres in cover crops in Fall 2010.



**Erosion and Sediment Control**—Reviewed 1,465 erosion and sediment control plans for construction projects protecting over 2,790 acres.

**Agriculture Conservation Rental Equipment** – Coordinated and provided technical assistance to farmers who planted 379 acres utilizing no-till equipment offered through a subsidized rental program in conjunction with USDA-NRCS. Acquired three additional pieces of

agricultural conservation equipment for rental via a grant from Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission.

**Technological Support Systems** –

- ✓ Web Soil Survey
- ✓ Aerial Photo Database
- ✓ Web Site





**District Summer Intern & Scholarship Program** – Provided a District summer internship and scholarship to a Southern Maryland college student studying Environmental Science.



in June 2010.

**Conservation Education—**

- ✓ Provided ongoing training for high school students participating in the Envirothon, an outdoor natural resources competition for students interested in learning about the environment. Over 75 students from all six of the county’s public high schools participated in the 2010 Envirothon. La Plata High School represented the County at the Annual Maryland Envirothon Competition

- ✓ Sponsored the Annual Charles County MASCD Coloring Contest for Charles County elementary students and Poster Contest for middle and high school students.
- ✓ Provided conservation resources to local elementary, middle and high schools involved in environmental education and Green School programs.



**Navy Shoreline Stabilization Project** – Performed project management for Phase II contract of NSF Indian Head Shoreline Stabilization project which saw construction begin in 2009. In 2010, in partnership with RC&D, the District was awarded the contract to manage Phase III of the project.

**Awards –**

- ✓ Charles Rice, Chairman, received the MASCD Leadership Award.



- ✓ The Hancock Family of Old Fields Farm, Nanjemoy, was awarded the 2009 Cooperator of the Year award at the Charles SCD Annual Cooperator Dinner.





**Publicity** – Sponsored displays at the following locations and events publicizing the District and its programs:

- ✓ Charles County Public Libraries
- ✓ Charles County Fair
- ✓ Cooperative Extension Annual Crop Dinner
- ✓ Charles SCD Annual Dinner

**Workshops & Demonstrations** –

- ✓ Partnered in press day at Navy shoreline stabilization site
- ✓ Partnered in Charles County Board of Education Career Day
- ✓ Partnered in MDE Living Shoreline presentation
- ✓ Partnered in Chongqing Delegation Conservation Day
- ✓ Hosted Southern Area Dinner Meeting



**STAFF**

Luis Dieguez	District Manager – SCD
Terry Heinard	District Conservationist – USDA-NRCS
Dee Dee Saunders	Administrative Specialist – SCD
Sue Pirner	Secretary – SCD
Gail Myers	Area Engineer – USDA-NRCS
Susan Davis	Resource Conservationist – USDA-NRCS
John Downs	Soil Conservation Planning Technician – SCD
Julie Okronley	Soil Conservation Planning Technician – SCD
Jerry Spence	Soil Conservation Planner – MDA
Donnie Gilroy	Soil Conservation Technician – MDA
Sara Lewis	Soil Conservation Planner – Regional Equine Specialist – MDA
Glenn Gass	Contract Area Engineer

**Retirements** –

- Terry Heinard, NRCS

**New Hires** –

- Jacob Dieguez (NRCS Summer Intern)
- Rosemary Ury (District Summer Intern)

**Temporary Assignments** –

- Susan Davis, NRCS
- Rachel Yeatman, NRCS





## **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Charles Rice	Chairman
Jeffrey Bossart	Vice Chairman
Jack Welch	Treasurer
Michael Rice	Supervisor
Wayne Hancock	Supervisor
Frances Warring	U.M. Extension Agent
David Thorne	Associate Supervisor
Wes Tomlinson	Associate Supervisor

## **Charles Soil Conservation District**

**CharlesSCD.com**

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