



Spring Newsletter
May 2018

The Onslow Soil and Water Conservation District is committed to serve the citizens of Onslow County by preserving, protecting, and enhancing our natural resources.

Onslow County Soil & Water Conservation

Student Selected to Attend the Resource Conservation Workshop

Rising senior Morgan Holmer from Jacksonville, NC was carefully selected by our District to participate in the Resource Conservation Workshop. As an active member of the Future Farmers of America, Morgan is highly passionate about agriculture and excited to learn more about conservation in hopes of having a career in this industry.

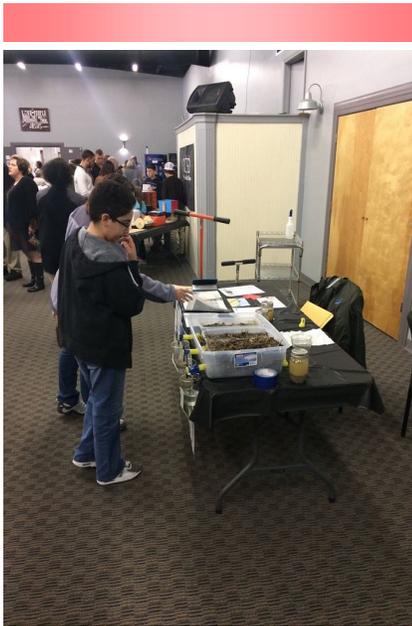
The Resource Conservation Workshop is a weeklong workshop and involves study and hands on participation in a wide range of conservation topics. Students are housed at NC State University campus under the guidance of live in counselors. Topics to be covered will include wildlife and fisheries management, forest management, nonagricultural uses for soils, water quality and watershed management . This workshop will provide students to learn about various career paths, pursue education goals, and potentially receive scholarships for higher education. This year the workshop is being held June 24-29th, 2018.

We are so proud to be sponsoring Morgan and cannot wait to see what she accomplishes!



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Reaching Out Towards the Community

We had the opportunity to showcase what our District does and educate students on the importance of protecting our natural resources at Liberty Christian Academy Science Fair in Richlands, NC!



*"I consider the soil conservation districts movement one of the most important developments in the whole history of agriculture."
-Hugh Hammond Bennett, Father of Soil Conservation*

AgWRAP Projects

We have completed a few of our Agricultural wells with the help of our AgWRAP program.

One well that was completed helped the landowner provide water for his cattle.

The second well helped this landowner irrigate his blueberry crop. Thanks to the AgWRAP program, with this project we were able to provide funding and the irrigation design!

Agricultural Water Resource Assistance Program



Conservation Stewardship Award Recipient



Technician Donna Wallace (right) presenting Worth Shipp (left) the Conservation Stewardship Award

At the 2018 Agricultural Banquet, we had the pleasure of presenting Mr. Worth Shipp the 2017 Conservation Stewardship Award.

This award recognizes local landowners who have shown a commitment to protecting natural resources by incorporating a variety of conservation practices while working with the Soil & Water District, and our partnership agency NRCS.

Mr. Worth Shipp has shown to be a leader in conservation while growing for Butterball and managing a cattle operation. The many conservation practices that this farmer implemented into his operation includes:

- **Waste management storage structure**
- **Mortality incinerator**
- **Grade stabilization structures**
- **Livestock well**
- **Waterers**
- **Stock trails**
- **Heavy use areas**
- **Fencing with pasture establishment for rotational grazing**



We thank Mr. Worth Shipp for his dedication to protecting natural resources!

Grassed Waterway Project



This grassed waterway will save 7.3 tons/acre/year of sediment from entering nearby waters which will improve water quality.



Ag Cost Share Project

We have completed a grassed waterway to help protect nearby waters from sedimentation and nutrient loading.

Grassed waterway means a natural or constructed channel that is shaped and graded to required dimensions and established in suitable vegetation for stable conveyance of runoff to improve the water quality.

The benefits landowners see from a grassed waterway is reduced soil erosion.

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program



Check out the great drone footage we were able to capture! Stay tuned as this project gets underway!

Onslow SWCD has been assisting this landowner with securing a conservation easement, incorporating stream buffers, and a cattle crossing. This will improve the overall efficiency of the operation, protect water quality, and improve the landowners pasture quality.

This project will be funded through our CREP program, in which annual payments may be made to eligible landowners interested in pursuing a conservation easement.

Also, grant funds have been obtained to help repair a portion of streambank which has been severely eroded from tropical storms and recent hurricanes.

This project will rebuild the bank and stabilize to prevent further erosion and sedimentation!



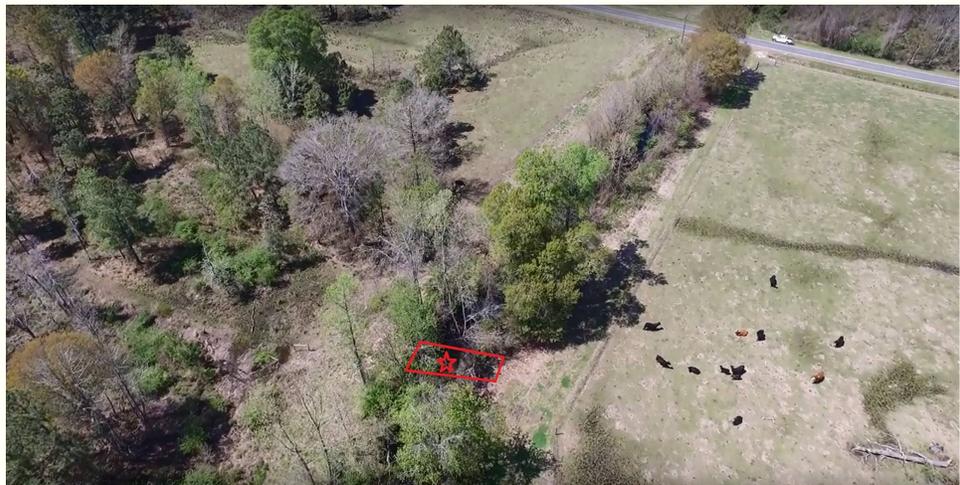
Streambank to be repaired



Streambank portion to be repaired & stabilized



Proposed Stream Crossing



Location of Stream Crossing

UTILIZING OUR RESOURCES



Onslow County Soil & Water Conservation is preventing the amount of storm water runoff in urban areas by partnering with the City of Jacksonville Stormwater Department through our CCAP Program!

The upcoming project consists of removing a large impervious surface and replacing the area with a rain garden and other native vegetation to help combat runoff issue within the city.

Upcoming Projects

Our district has submitted an EPA 319 Grant to help improve water quality in urban areas around the city and coast. The projects consist of a marsh sill (330 linear ft), stream restoration, and storm water wetlands/ grassed swale. The requested funds are in the amount of \$150,000.



Financial Services



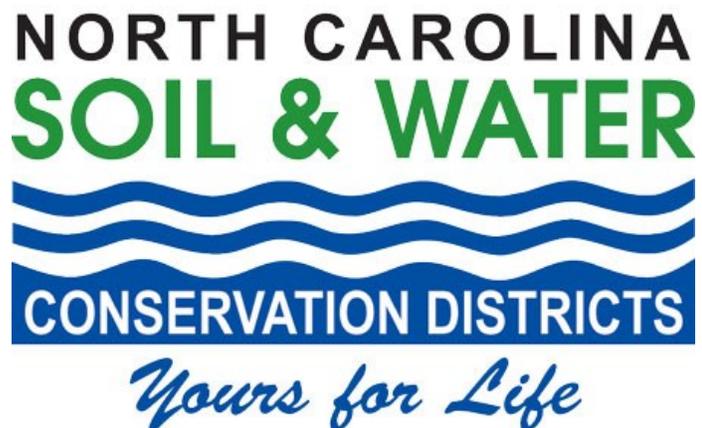
Onslow Soil and Water Conservation District can help you by providing technical and financial assistance through our Cost Share Programs. Onslow SWCD administers and implements the North Carolina Agricultural Cost Share Program, Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program, Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, and the Community Conservation Assistance Program. The benefit of these Cost Share Programs is to help local landowners or land occupiers offset the costs of installing conservation practices that protect and improve water quality by controlling soil erosion and reducing sedimentation.



Cost Share amounts could cover as much as 75% of costs.



Please contact our local office for more information at (910)- 937-1306



If you would like something published in the next issue or wish to be added to the e-mail list, please contact Nicole Edwards @ Nicole_Edwards@onslowcountync.gov



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