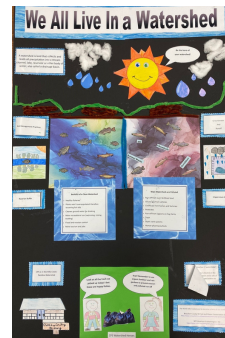


Beaufort Conservation News

Annual Report July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021



2021 POSTER CONTEST



"WE ALL LIVE IN A WATERSHED"

FALL MEETING

The Area 5 Fall meeting was held on November 12, 2020 and was hosted by the Currituck Soil and Water Conservation District. Due to Covid-19 restrictions and for everyone's safety, the Area 5 Executive Committee voted to have this year's meeting online.

Partnership reports were given. Vice Chairman Richard Cannon thanked Chairman West for his time and dedication during his tenure.

Attending the online meeting at the Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District Office were Supervisors James Allen, Tracy Warren, and Joe Rogers, Office Manager, Ann Williams, and District Resource Specialist, Nathaniel Woolard.

ANNUAL MEETING

The 77th Annual NC Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts' meeting was held virtually January 4-5, 2021. Chris Hogan, 2021 NCASWCD President, presided over the meeting.

Attending virtually were Supervisors James Allen, Joe Rogers, and Tracy Warren; Office Manager Ann Williams; and District Resource Specialist Nathaniel Woolard.

SPRING MEETING

The Area 5 Spring Meeting was held virtually on Thursday, February 18, 2021.

Chairman Richard Cannon presided over the meeting. Presentations were made on the History of Drainage, Communicating Agriculture to the Public, Feral Swine Management, and Job Approval Authority, Standing Committee Reports and Partnership Reports were made.

Attending online were Supervisors James Allen, Joe Rogers, and Tracy Warren; Office Manager Ann Williams, District Resource Specialist Nathaniel Woolard, and Education Coordinator Debbie Boyd.

ANNUAL PROGRAM NEWS



AGRICULTURE COST SHARE PROGRAM (ACSP)

The District has participated in the ACSP program since 1987. It has been, and continues to be, a superb means of helping farmers and owners of agricultural land apply conservation measures to assist in protecting our waterways and the environment.

For Program Year 2021, the District was allocated a total of \$56,504 from the NC Soil and Water Conservation Commission. Cover Crop applications were taken until the September 22, 2020 Board of Supervisors meeting where three Cover Crop applications and contracts were approved. A supplemental contract for Land Smoothing was also approved during the September 22, 2020 meeting.

Applications for all other practices were accepted until the January 25, 2021 Board of Supervisors meeting. During the meeting, two applications were approved for practices including Land Smoothing and Water Control Structures, as well as a contract for Lagoon Biosolids Removal. Both contracts were approved at the May 17, 2021 District Board of Supervisors meeting.



AGRICULTURAL WATER RESOURCES ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (AgWRAP)

Mandated in 2011, AgWRAP was established to assist farmers and landowners in increasing water use efficiency and availability on agricultural land and to conserve and protect water resources using best management practices.

For Program Year 2021, the District was allocated \$18,743 by the NC Soil and Water Conservation Commission. On January 25, 2021, during a meeting of the District's Board of Supervisors, AgWRAP applications were ranked primarily by their impact on water use efficiency. Three irrigation well applications were approved. All three contracts were approved on or before the April 19, 2021 District Board of Supervisors meeting.

2016 DISASTER RECOVERY PROGRAM

The Phase IV Scope of Work was completed in February of 2021. Beaver removal will be completed by December 31, 2021. This will exhaust all funds granted to the Beaufort SWCD from the 2016 Disaster Recovery Program.

ANNUAL PROGRAM NEWS

2020 WATERSHED RESTORATION PROJECT

Phase I of the 2020 Watershed Restoration Project got under way in February of 2021. Work was postponed in April of 2021 to adhere to the Anadromous Fish Spawning Moratorium. Work will resume on Phase I at the beginning of October 2021. Phase I should be completed by December 2021. Phase II of the stream debris removal project should begin by November 2021 and be completed by February 15, 2022.



BEFORE



AFTER



BEAUFORT COUNTY BEAVER BOUNTY PROGRAM



Established in 2004, the county beaver bounty program reimburses registered landowners \$10 per beaver tail for beavers trapped on their property. Fourteen beaver tails were delivered to the District's office during Fiscal Year 2020-2021. Since the program's establishment, 76 landowners and 24 trappers have registered for participation in the program. A total of \$6,250 has been paid to landowners for 625 beaver tails.

ANNUAL EDUCATION NEWS

2020/2021
CANCELLED EVENTS
DUE TO COVID-19

BSWCD Annual Dan Windley
Environmental Field Days at Goose Creek State Park

Ag Expo

Resource Conservation Workshop



ENVIROTHON EVENTS

The 2021 Areas 5 and 6 Coastal and North Carolina Envirothons were held in an online format in accordance with current guidelines aimed at preventing the spread of the COVID-19 virus. The Coastal competition was held virtually on March 16th and the State competition was held virtually on April 16th.

Over fifty Beaufort County Middle School and High School students competed in both competitions. All Beaufort County teams participating in the Coastal event qualified for the State competition.

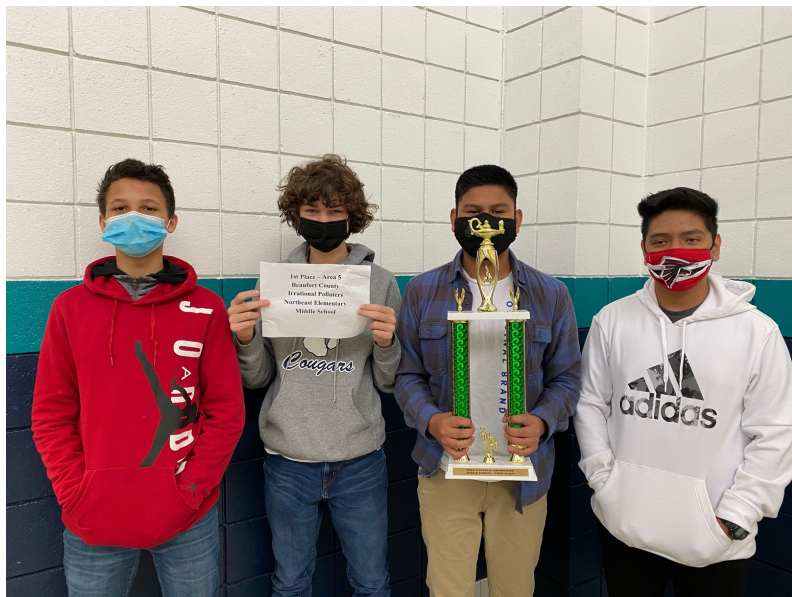
Teams representing Beaufort County in the high school competition included the Kung Fu Pandas and Macrograins from Washington Montessori High School and the Marbled Salamanders, The Clueless, and Carolina Mudpuppies from Northside High School. Middle School teams competing were the Academic Aardvarks and Enviro Eagles from Washington Montessori Middle School and Chicks With Kicks, Irrational Polluters, Climate Crew, and Nature Freaks from Northeast Middle School.

ANNUAL EDUCATION NEWS

The Irrational Polluters (Northeast) were first place in the Middle School competition and The Clueless (Northside) were first place in the High School competition, each having the highest score for Area 5 in the Coastal competition. The climate Crew (Northeast) was overall third place team for Middle School.

Each of these teams were presented trophies by Debbie Boyd, Education Coordinator with Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District, on behalf of the Coastal Envirothon.

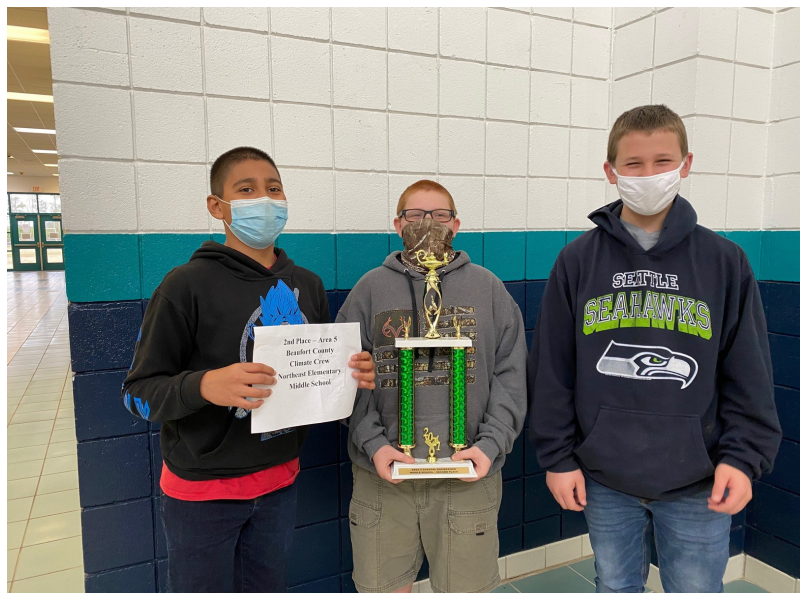
Beaufort County's Envirothon advisors were Daphne Cullom, Northside High; Melanie Simmons, Northeast Elementary; Crystal Swindell, Washington Montessori High School; and Lynn Harrington, Washington Montessori Middle School.



Irrational Polluters
Northeast
Overall 1st Middle School



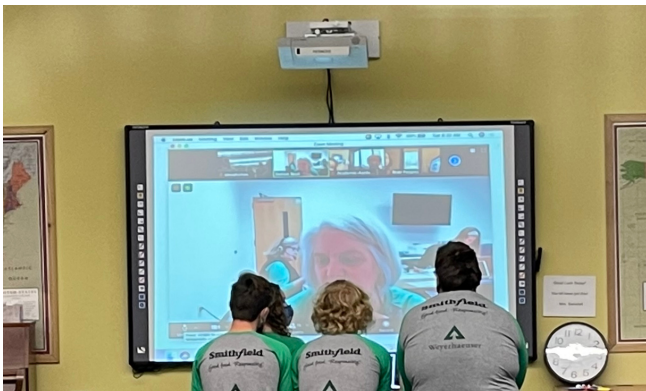
Climate Crew
Northeast
Overall 3rd Middle School



ANNUAL EDUCATION NEWS



The Clueless-Northside
Overall 1st Place High School



Virtual
Competition



Beaufort County
Online Proctors

ANNUAL EDUCATION NEWS



BEAUFORT SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT ANNOUNCES CONTEST WINNERS

"Where Does Your Water Shed?" was the theme for the 2021 poster and essay contests sponsored by the Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District. The poster contest was open to all students in third through fifth grades in the county. The essay contest was for sixth graders only.

Area schools submitting posters and/or essays were Chocowinity Primary, Chocowinity Middle, Northeast, Pungo Christian Academy, and Unity Christian Academy.

First, Second, and Third Place winners received cash prizes. Teachers who had first place student winners also received cash prizes. In addition to their awards, the first-place winners' posters from Beaufort County competed with other districts in the Area 5 competition, which includes sixteen counties. Marshall Rutledge, a student at Pungo Christian Academy, received first place and a cash prize in the Area 5 competition for fourth grade. Unity Christian Academy students receiving first place and a cash prize in the Area 5 competition were Daisy Cherry for fifth grade poster and Aubin Sadler for sixth grade essay. Marshall Rutledge was also a First Place State winner in the 4th grade poster contest. Daisy Cherry was a Second Place State winner in the 5th grade poster contest. Aubin Sadler was a First Place State winner in the 6th grade essay contest.

Debbie Boyd, Education Coordinator with Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District, presented ribbons, cash, and check prizes to the winners at an awards ceremony held on May 11th. Congratulations to all the winners!

Next year's contest theme will be "Soil and Water...Yours for Life."

ANNUAL EDUCATION NEWS



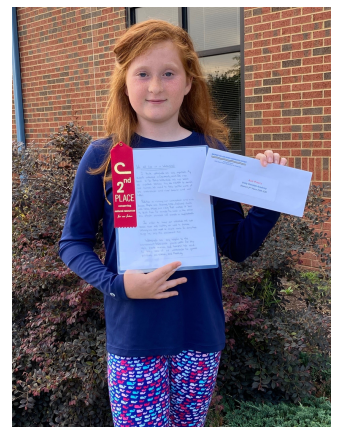
POSTER CONTEST WINNERS

Pictured with their ribbons, awards, and poster pictures are, front row left to right, Marshall Rutledge (Pungo Christian Academy), Palyn Sammons (Chocowinity Primary), and Deuce Mann (Pungo Christian Academy), middle row, left to right, Haley Woolard, Gabe Purcella, Codey Simpson, and Daisy Cherry, all from Unity Christian Academy and back row, left to right, Teachers Angie Kolibabek (Unity Christian Academy) and Susan Knox (Pungo Christian Academy).



ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS

Pictured with their ribbon, awards, and essays from left to right are Aubin Sadler, Ava Peters, and not pictured Caleb Lewis all from Unity Christian Academy. Their teacher is Angie Kolibabek.



ANNUAL EDUCATION NEWS

2021 **Congratulations** to our **2021**
State Winners!



Marshall Rutledge
1st Place
4th Grade Poster



Daisy Cherry
2nd Place
5th Grade Poster

ANNUAL EDUCATION NEWS

We All Live in a Watershed

I think watersheds are amazing. The way they help our environment, economy, and community is cool. My school's watershed is the Chocowinity Creek Watershed, and our river basin is the Tar-Pamlico River Basin. Let's talk about watersheds.

Watersheds are the land that the water flows over or under on its way to creeks, rivers, lakes, and streams, or larger bodies of water, with the water running from the land to its lowest point collecting everything it comes in contact with on its way. Your watershed community consists of all the people, plants, animals, birds and aquatic life that exist in and around that area. When the water is polluted, oxygen is depleted in the water, which can harm fish and aquatic plant life. Smaller fish are also affected by chemicals spilled into the water, which they absorb into their bodies. These chemicals can make the fish sick, and possibly make them die. Larger wildlife is also affected by polluted water, either by drinking the water or eating the plants in the water. Humans could also get sick from eating fish and wildlife from polluted areas.

Pollution of watersheds can affect our local economy too. Due to polluted water, water activities are canceled to keep people from getting sick, causing the tourism industry to lose millions of dollars each year. The same thing happens to the farming industry, due to polluted water, crop growth is affected, causing more cost to the farmer.

The polluted water could produce diseases that may affect the people in the community too. Water can become toxic and won't be good for drinking, cooking, or for any other use, until it has been cleared for use by county officials. Unfortunately, most of this is caused by people. We spill waste from our homes into the waterway polluting it. We also litter,

Pg 2

causing trash to build up in the water, and chemicals are spilled from farms and industrial plants in the area as well. If people would stop polluting, it would make our watershed a better place to live.

Here are ways to help keep our watersheds clean. Conserve water, take shorter showers, fix leaks in pipes, turn off water when not using it, and join a watershed organizational group to be an activist to help keep waterways cleaner. Industrial plants can use waste water treatment plants to minimize waste water, and farmers can reduce their waste by reducing runoff from their fields, and making the choice not to use harmful pesticides on their crops. This is so important because watersheds provide the habitats for many kinds of life. So keep our watersheds clean because we all live, work and play in a watershed.

2021



Aubin Sadler
1st Place
6th Grade Essay



BEAUFORT SWCD PROMOTES SOIL AND WATER STEWARDSHIP WEEK



The Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District wants to remind you that each of us has a connection to natural resources. The National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) celebrated the 66th year of Stewardship Week April 25 - May 2, 2021. The 2021 Stewardship Week was themed "Healthy Forests, Healthy Communities."

During the year, the Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District promotes stewardship through our various education programs. A limited number of "Healthy Forests-Healthy Communities" placemats were distributed during Stewardship Week this year due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District is a member of the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) which oversees the Stewardship Week program. Stewardship Week is one of the largest national annual programs to promote conservation. NACD represents the nation's 3,000 conservation districts, which were established to encourage resource conservation across the country.



Board meetings are open to the public and are held the 3rd Monday of each month, except July and August, at 6:00 p.m. in the office of the:

Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District
Beaufort County Agricultural Center
155 Airport Road
Washington, NC 27889



Board of Supervisors

(L to R) Archie Griffin, James Allen, (Chairman), Joe Rogers, (Vice-Chairman), Tracy Warren (Secretary), Sid Cayton

District Staff

Ann Williams
Office Manager

Nathaniel Woolard
District Resource Specialist

Debbie Boyd
Education Coordinator

USDA-NRCS

Bill Gardiner
Team 14
Supervisory Soil Conservationist

Anthony Hester
Soil Conservation Technician

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