



# **BEAUFORT CONSERVATION NEWS**

**Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District 155 Airport Road Washington, NC**  
**Newsletter January 2023 - March 2023**

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## **SUPERVISOR AND STAFF UPDATE**

*In addition to holding their regular meetings, the Supervisors also attend other meetings and trainings to keep informed of the priorities and upcoming issues in the field of soil and water conservation.*

*The 79th Annual NC Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts' meeting was held at the Cherokee Convention Center in Cherokee, NC on January 8-10, 2023. This year's theme was **From the Mountains to the Sea... "Preserving our Natural Resources."***

*Beaufort County Supervisor, Tracy Warren, was reappointed Assistant Chaplain for the NC Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts during the meeting.*

*Attending the meeting from the Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District were Supervisors James Allen, Tracy Warren, and Wayne Black, Other partnering agency personnel attending from Beaufort County were Kyle Gentry, NRCS, and Rodney Woolard, Farmland Preservation.*



## **2023 NCASWCD AREA 5 SPRING MEETING**

*The Area 5 Spring Meeting was held on February 16, 2023 at Camp Cale and was hosted by the Martin County Soil and Water Conservation District.*

*Attending the meeting from the Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District were Supervisors James Allen, Tracy Warren, and Wayne Black. Other partnering agency personnel attending from Beaufort County were Kyle Gentry and Anthony Hester, NRCS, and Rodney Woolard, Farmland Preservation.*

# PROGRAM NEWS



**COVER CROP**



**WATER CONTROL STRUCTURE**

## **AGRICULTURE COST SHARE PROGRAM(ACSP)**

*For Program Year 2023, the District was allocated \$46,645 from the Soil and Water Conservation Commission for the Agriculture Cost Share Program. The District opened a batching period in September 2022 to rank and fund Cover Crop applications only. Leading up to the September 2022 batching period, a total of two Cover Crop applications were received. Two Cover Crop applications and contracts were approved during the September 2022 meeting. The District received 7 additional Program Year 2023 ACSP applications for practices including Land Smoothing, Water Control Structures, Erosion Control, Residue and Tillage Management, and Lagoon Biosolids Removal. These applications were reviewed and ranked by the District's Supervisors during their January 2023 meeting. Two additional contracts were approved. One for Residue and Tillage Management and another for Land Smoothing. Additional ACSP activities performed during this period include annual spot checks of active contracts and addressing a maintenance issue on an agricultural pond repair contract.*

## **FUNDS ANTICIPATED FOR COST SHARE PROGRAMS**

*The Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District anticipates receiving cost share program year 2024 allocations for the Agriculture Cost Share Program (ACSP), the Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program (AgWRAP), and the Community Conservation Assistance Program (CCAP) from the Soil and Water Conservation Commission in July 2023. These funds will be available to assist farmers and landowners with the installation of best management practices that will decrease the amount of sediment, nutrients, nitrogen, phosphorus, chemicals, and other pollutants entering the surface and ground waters of the state. Best management practices through AgWRAP will help increase water use efficiency, availability, and storage in addition to conserving and protecting water resources.*

*For Program Year 2024, that begins on July 1, 2023, farmers, landowners, and operators may apply for cost share assistance to install conservation practices such as residue and tillage management, precision nutrient management, precision agrichemical application, cover crops, land smoothing, water control structures, agricultural pond restoration/repair/sediment removal, lagoon closures, rain gardens irrigation wells, well closures, and agricultural water supply ponds.*

# PROGRAM NEWS



## **AGRICULTURAL WATER RESOURCES ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (AGWRAP)**

*For Program Year 2023, the District was allocated \$14,974 by the Soil and Water Conservation Commission for AgWRAP practice installation. The District received one application for Conservation Irrigation Conversion, 6 applications for Irrigation Wells and two applications for an Ag Pond. Two applications for Irrigation Wells were approved at the January 2023 Board Meeting.*

## **2023 BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMP) SPOT CHECK AND CONSERVATION TOUR**

*The Program Year 2023 Annual Spot Check and Conservation Tour of permanent practices still under maintenance for ACSP and AgWRAP was conducted on February 8, 2023. Five active contracts for ACSP and AgWRAP were randomly selected for site visits to ensure that cost share practices were being maintained as required by program regulations.*



## **Development Stages of an Ag Irrigation Pond**

# ***PROGRAM NEWS***

## **2020 WATERSHED RESTORATION PROJECT (ETA FUNDS)**

### **PHASE III**

Phase III of the 2020 Watershed Restoration Project began in October of 2022. Hall American Property Pros was selected as the contractor to complete this phase. Phase III is for 81,500 linear feet and should be completed by April 2023. Eleven of the 12 segments have been completed. Canal #14 is scheduled to begin work in mid-April.

<b>Stream</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Length (ft.)</b>
Hidden Branch	Washington	1,500
Hidden Run	Washington	3,800
Mill Hole Gut	Washington	4,000
Thoroughfare Gut	Washington	7,000
Taylor Gut	Chocowinity	5,000
Cherry Run II	Washington	15,000
Decoy Run	Washington	6,000
Rice Creek	Chocowinity	4,000
Chocowinity Creek	Chocowinity	13,000
Bay Branch	Chocowinity	14,000
Tankard Creek II	Bath	3,000
Canal #14	Pantego	5,200

## **2020 WATERSHED RESTORATION PROJECT (ETA FUNDS)**

### **PHASE IV**

Phase IV of the 2020 Watershed Restoration Project began in December of 2022. Landscaping Unlimited was selected as the contractor to complete this phase. Phase IV is for 54,800 linear feet and should be completed by September 2023.

<b>Stream</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Length (ft.)</b>
Acre Swamp	Pinetown	19,000
Durham Creek	Aurora	17,000
Upper Herring Run	Washington	7,000
North Creek	Belhaven	1,800
Riverside Run	Washington	1,500
Pineygrove Branch	Washington	8,500

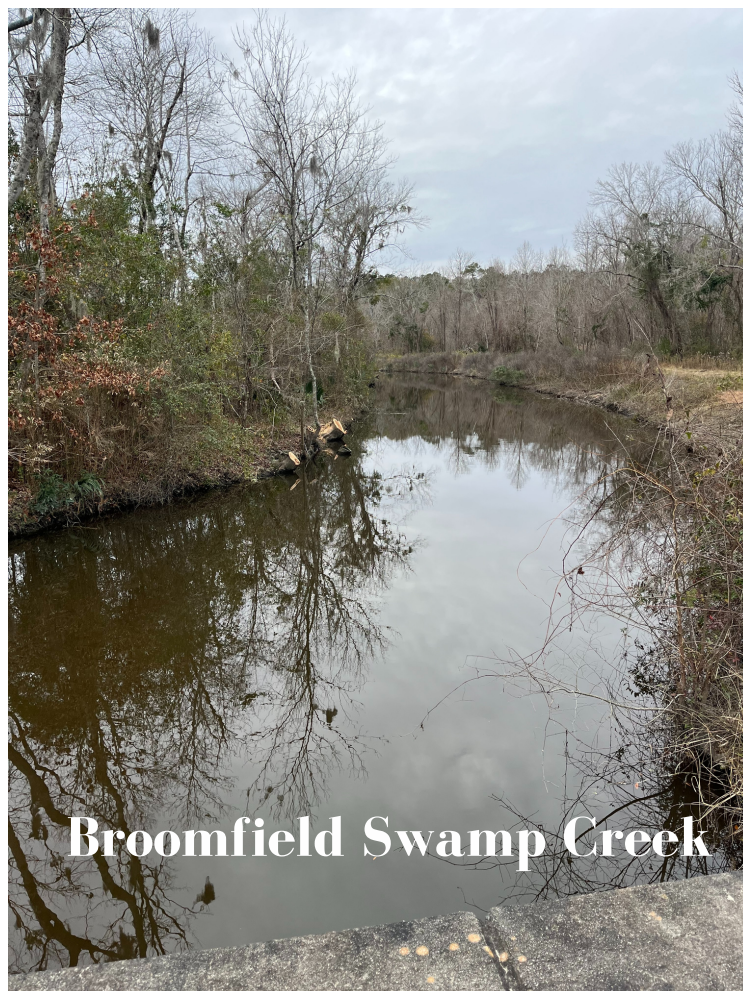
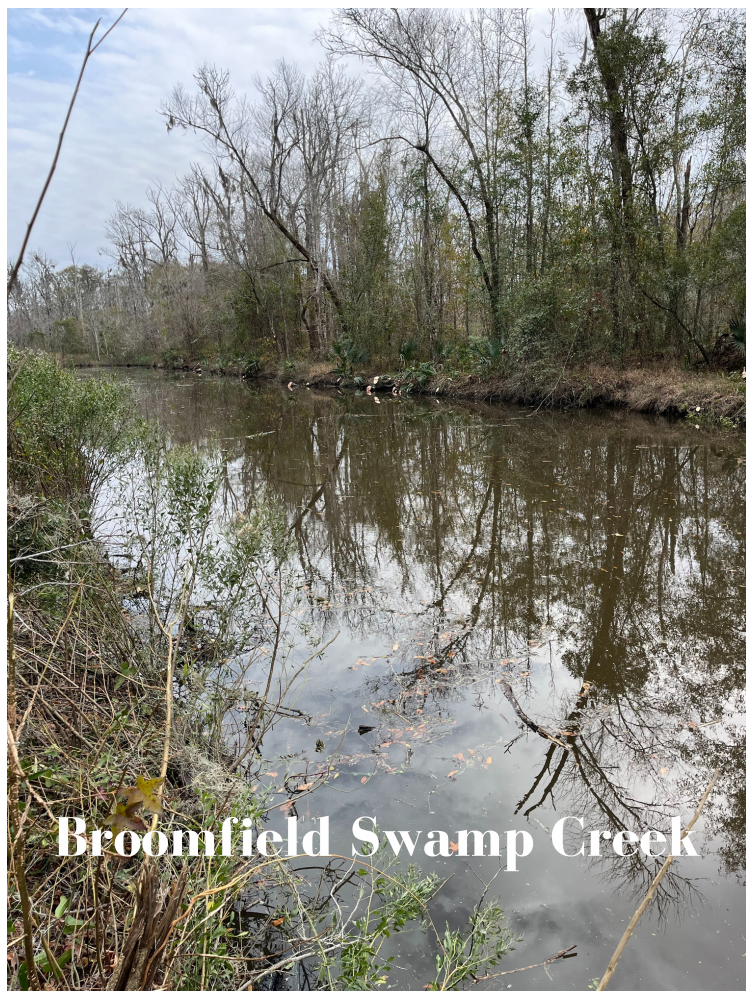
# ***PROGRAM NEWS***

## **STREAMFLOW REHABILITATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (StRAP)**

### **PHASE I**

Phase I of the Streamflow Rehabilitation Assistance Program began in December of 2022. R.D.C. Debris Removal Construction was selected as the contractor to complete this phase. Phase I is for 22,329 linear feet and was completed in February 2023.

<b>Stream</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Length (ft.)</b>
Cypress Run	Aurora	6,100
Gum Swamp	Aurora	5,500
Broomfield Swamp Creek	Aurora	7,750
Great Branch	Pantego	2,979



## **Stream Flow Rehabilitation Assistance Program**

# EDUCATION NEWS



## 2023 Area 5 Envirothon Training Day

*The 2023 Area 5 Envirothon Training Day was held at Goose Creek State Park in Beaufort County on March 2, 2023.*

*Area Teams rotated through five stations (Wildlife, Forestry, Soils/Land Use, Aquatics/Ecology, and Current Environmental Issues) in preparation for the Coastal Envirothon on March 14, 2023.*



## 2023 Coastal Envirothon

*The 2023 Areas 5 and 6 Coastal Envirothon was held at Weyerhaeuser's Cool Springs Environmental Education Center in Craven County on March 14, 2023.*

*Beaufort County teams competing were the Young Roots, Hellbenders, and Renewable Resources from Northside High School, and the Coastal Pollutants, Trash Pandas, Tree Sparkles, and Marsh Monkeys from Northeast Middle School.*

*Qualifying teams will compete in the State Envirothon at Cedarock State Park, near Burlington, NC, on April 28-29.*

*To qualify for the NC Envirothon, three-to-five-member teams had to place in the top seven positions within their grade divisions at the Coastal event. The competition is open to public and private school, homeschooled students, 4-H groups, FFA clubs or other youth group organizations.*

## **NORTHEAST MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**ADVISOR-MELANIE SIMMONS**



**NORTHEAST  
MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**COASTAL POLLUTANTS**

**1ST PLACE OVERALL  
MIDDLE SCHOOL  
2023 Coastal Envirothon**

**(l to r) Mikal Polk, Marice Moore,  
Danny Chavez, Emerson Asby,  
Austin Alonso, Cesar Garia**



# EDUCATION NEWS



## **NORTHEAST MIDDLE SCHOOL**

### **TRASH PANDAS**

**2ND PLACE OVERALL  
MIDDLE SCHOOL  
2023 Coastal Envirothon**

*(l to r) Laney Brinn, Kinsleigh Sawyer,  
Emmalyn Hudson, Allie Davis*



## **NORTHEAST MIDDLE SCHOOL**

### **TREE SPARKLES**

**3RD PLACE OVERALL  
MIDDLE SCHOOL  
2023 Coastal Envirothon**

*(l to r) Danna Cordova, Payton Barrow,  
Alexis Hudson, Abigail Bartle,  
Itzel Garcia, Ariadna Gonzalez*



## **NORTHEAST MIDDLE SCHOOL**

### **MARSH MONKEYS**

**2023 Coastal Envirothon**

*(l to r) Issac Rojas, Daniel Adame,  
Tyler Radcliffe, Koda Small, Keyono Cesnik*



# ***EDUCATION NEWS*** **NORTHSIDE HIGH SCHOOL**

***ADVISOR-DAPHNE CULLOM***

## ***NORTHSIDE HS*** ***YOUNG ROOTS***

***2ND PLACE OVERALL***  
***HIGH SCHOOL***  
***2023 Coastal Envirothon***

***(l to r) Tyson George, Jack DeHoog,  
Chris Alonso-Burgos, Nick Edwards***



## ***NORTHSIDE HS*** ***THE HELLBENDERS***

***6TH PLACE OVERALL***  
***HIGH SCHOOL***  
***2023 Coastal Envirothon***

***(l to r) Mason Newman, Tucker Proctor,  
Wilson Cleary, Khloe Hewitt, Caleb Jefferson,  
Evan Roberson***



## ***NORTHSIDE HS*** ***THE RENEWABLE RESOURCES***

***(l to r) Nichaya Weston-Riddick,  
Keniyah Whitley, Bailey Singleton,  
Madalyn Gibbs, Starla Fuller***



# FARM SERVICE AGENCY UPDATE



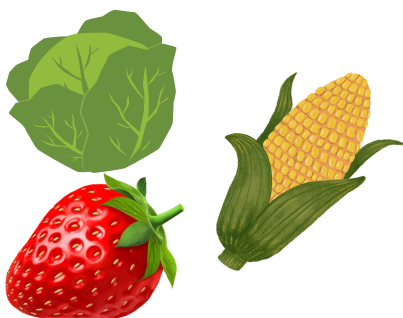
## **Reminder to Complete Crop Acreage Reporting Requirements to FSA**

Producers are reminded to report all planted to acres to FSA by the applicable final crop reporting date. Acreage reporting is important and required for program participation and compliance. Please let us know when ready and we will prepare your maps for email or pickup.

May 15th	Cabbage (PP 1), Green Beans (PP 1), Strawberries, Potatoes
July 15th	Corn, Soybeans, Tobacco, Cotton, Peanuts, Sorghum, Sweet Potatoes
	Sweet Corn, Cucumbers (PP 1), Squash (PP 1), CRP and all other crops
September 15th	Cabbage (PP 2), Cucumbers (PP2), Green Beans (PP 2), Squash (PP 2)
September 30th	Aquaculture, Flowers, All Value Loss Crops
January 15th	Wheat, Oats, fall planted small grain

**Pandemic Assistance Revenue Program (PARP)** provides financial assistance for producers who suffered at least a 15% decrease in allowable gross revenue for the 2020 calendar year, as compared to 2018 or 2019. Go to [Pandemic Assistance Revenue Program | Farmers.gov](https://www.farmers.gov) for details, or contact the FSA Office for the Application and Resources. The deadline for signup is June 2, 2023.

**Emergency Relief Program Phase 2 (ERP-2)** covers losses to crops, trees, bushes and vines due to a qualifying natural disaster event in calendar years 2020 and 2021. Phase 2 intends to fill additional assistance gaps and cover eligible producers who did not participate in existing risk management programs. Go to [Emergency Relief Program \(usda.gov\)](https://www.usda.gov) for details, or contact the FSA Office for the Application and Resources. The deadline for signup is June 2, 2023.



Beaufort-Hyde FSA Office

155 B Airport Rd

Washington, NC 27889

252-946-1076 ext. 2





*Board Meetings are open to the public and are held  
the 3rd Monday of each month, except  
July and August, at 5:30 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**



**James Allen**  
(Board Chairman)



**Tracy Warren**  
(Board Vice Chairman)



**Sid Cayton**  
(Board Supervisor)



**Archie Griffin**  
(Board Secretary)



**Wayne Black**  
(Board Supervisor)

### *District Staff*

*Ann Williams*  
*Office Manager*

*Nathaniel Woolard*  
*District Resource Conservation Specialist*

*Debbie Boyd*  
*Education Coordinator*

### *USDA-NRCS*

*Kyle Gentry*  
*Team 14*  
*Supervisory Soil Conservationist*

*Anthony Hester*  
*Soil Conservation Technician*

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