

# CHESTER SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT NEWSLETTER AND ANNUAL REPORT—SPRING 2011



- Left to Right:
- Rodger McDaniel
- Jeff Wilson
- Allen L. Beer
- Mac Turner
- Margaret S. Hausman

## Board of Commissioners

Chairman: Allen L. Beer

Vice Chairman: Jeff Wilson

Secretary-Treasurer:

Margaret S. Hausman

D. Rodger McDaniel

Louie M. (Mac) Turner

The Chester Soil and Water Conservation District, a subdivision of state government, was organized on March 4, 1938, in accordance with Conservation District Law Number 182 of the 1937 South Carolina

General Assembly. It was originally organized as a part of the Catawba Conservation District, which included Chester, Fairfield, Lancaster, and York Counties. Chester became a single district in July 1950.

## 2011 AWARDS and RECOGNITION BANQUET

The Chester Soil and Water Conservation District held its Annual Awards and Recognition Banquet on Thursday, March 17, 2011, at the Lowrys Community Center. Chairman Allen L. Beer presided with the Rev. Dr. Dwight Pearson giving the invocation. Sixty-six members enjoyed a buffet dinner. The guest speaker for the evening was Mr. Hugh Weathers, South Carolina Commissioner of Agriculture, (right) who discussed the effects of AgriBusiness on the economy .



CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE:

<http://chesterswcd.yolasite.com>

CLICK AND SEE WHAT WE ARE ALL ABOUT!!!



Commissioner Mac Turner presented the 2011 Robbie Banks Conservationist of the Year to Rusty and Jessie Thomson. (Left). The Thompsons utilize USDA conservation practices in farming their 2400 acres. Cross fencing, livestock watering systems, rotational grazing, and pasture planting were installed for livestock. Native warm season grasses, rotational disking, thinning, and prescribed burning were installed conservation practices for wildlife/timber.

Commissioner Rodger McDaniel is shown on the left with Chester County Supervisor R. Carlisle Roddey on the right as he signs the Stewardship Week 2011 Proclamation. This year's Stewardship Week highlighted the role of forests in helping provide clean water and air and many of the

products used each day. Trees provide shade, wood products and fuel and also help clean the air. They also play a critical role in providing healthy wildlife habitat as well as jobs for our citizens. Stewardship calls for each person to help conserve these precious resources.

## STEWARDSHIP WEEK—2011



## 2011 ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS



The Essay Contest Winners from the Academy for Teaching and Learning are pictured on the left: Erin Faile, 1st place, grade 6; Sidney McDougald, 1st place, grade 8; Olivia Mills, 2nd place, grade 8; and Brian Hatchell, 3rd place, grade 8. Not pictured is Kareeshiana Donnesha Harding, second place, grade 6.

Winners from Chester Middle School pictured on the right are: Jake Wright, 1st place, grade 7; Alexis Shadae Caldwell, 2nd place, grade 7; Carey Shauna McCrorey, third place,



grade 6; and Cassandra Lynn Herr, third place, grade 7.

## ALLEN L. BEER SCHOLARSHIP WINNER



**BRANDON SCOTT GREEN** was awarded the Allen L. Beer Scholarship for 2011 at the Chester High School Awards Program on June 1, 2011. Brandon, an honors graduate, plans to enter Clemson University in the fall and major in Landscape Architecture. He is the son of Deaver and Teresa Green. This scholarship is awarded each year to a Chester County high school graduate who plans to enter college and major in an agricultural or environmental related field. The District wishes Brandon congratulations and much success in the future.

## NO-TILL FARMING

Conservation Tillage, also known as No-Till Farming, is a way of growing crops from year to year without disturbing the soil through conventional tillage, which agitates the soil with tractor-drawn implements. This can lead to unfavorable effects, like soil compaction, loss of organic matter,

degradation of soil aggregates, death or disruption of soil microbes, arthropods, and earthworms, and soil erosion where topsoil is blown or washed away. In no-till farming the soil is left intact and crop residue is left on the field, thus avoiding those unfavorable effects.



Some advantages of conservation tillage are: time savings, easier planting, more soil moisture, better soil tilth, less erosion, reduced labor and fuel needs.

You may rent a no-till drill from the District for \$9.00 per acre.



**Vice Chairman Jeff Wilson (on right) is shown presenting the 2011 Conservation Teacher of the Year Award to Mr. Mark Huey, 5th grade teacher at the Chester Academy of Teaching and Learning.**

The Chester Soil and Water Conservation District programs are administered by a board of commissioners consisting of three members elected in the general assembly and two members appointed by the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources. The District is assisted by a district Coordinator and technical staff assigned to the Chester District by the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources and the USDA-Natural Resources conservation Service. The boundaries of the Chester Conservation District are the same as the boundaries of Chester County.

The Chester Soil and Water Conservation District meets at 9:30 A.M. on the third Tuesday of each month in the Conference Room of the USDA Building at 744 Wilson Street in Chester, South Carolina. All programs and services of the Chester Soil and Water Conservation District are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to race, color, age, gender, national origin, religion, handicap, or marital status.

## WATERSHED DIRECTORS

### ROCKY CREEK

**Keith McDonald, Chair**  
**Claudia Dean**  
**Oscar L. Peay**  
**Walker A. Revels**  
**William F. Wishert**

### TINKER'S CREEK

**Jerry L. Mozingo, Chair**  
**Henry F. Allen**  
**Mike W. Allen**  
**Henry T. Westbrook**  
**David Wilson**

### BUTLER LAKE DAM



Chairman Allen L. Beer (on right) is shown presenting an Appreciation Award to Mr. Steve Counterman for his many years of service as a Watershed Director on the Rocky Creek Watershed.



**PATRON \$100**

**AME, INC.**

**AMERICAN FOREST MANAGEMENT, INC.**

**CHESTER COUNTY NATURAL GAS AUTHORITY**

**DUKE ENERGY**

**FIRST CITIZENS BANK**

**HAMILTON-DELLENEY-GRIER, P.A.**

**DR. AND MRS. CLOUD H. HICKLIN**

**ROBERT L. HOLCOMBE, JR.**

**RANDY HOPE**

**OMNOVA SOLUTIONS, INC.**

**SPRATT SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION**

**R. H. STEPHENSON**

**DR. AND MRS. SAMUEL R. STONE**

**SUSTAINING \$50**

**MRS. NANCY C. ANDERSON**

**COTTON HILLS FARM**

**B. C. DENTON TREE FARM**

**FAIRFIELD ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE**

**ANN STRINGFELLOW MCNERNEY**

**MURPHY BROTHERS, INC.**

**DR. ROBERT E. SHANNON**

**DR. JOHN D. SHERER**

**JOEY WILSON**

**SUPPORTING \$30**

**AgSOUTH FARM CREDIT, ACA**

**MRS. NORMA J. ALT**

**CAROLINA EASTERN, INC.**

**CHESTER METROPOLITAN DISTRICT**

**RONNIE E. DEAN**

**DOCK H. PRICE**

**EZELL HARDWARE**

**PEOPLE'S FURNITURE COMPANY, INC.**

**STATE FARM INSURANCE**

**JACK AND ANN SZOKE**

**ROBERT K. WYLIE**

## POSTER CONTEST WINNERS



**For the first time in 2011, the Chester Soil and Water Conservation District sponsored a Poster Contest. At left is first place winner Angilea Deann Foster pictured with second place winner La'Terrica S. Springs. Both girls are in the sixth grade at Chester Middle**

Pictured at right is third place winner, James Mike Sanders, a senior at Great Falls High School. The first place winning poster will be entered in the South Carolina Association of Conservation Districts' state contest. If the Chester entry wins the state contest, it will be entered in the national contest. The winning poster is on display at the USDA building at 744 Wilson Street. in Chester.



### **2010-2011 CONSERVATION HIGHLIGHTS IN CHESTER COUNTY**

Conservation plans were developed on 1202 acres.

Two Environmental Quality Incentive Program contracts were approved for \$69,5000.

One Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program contract was approved for \$21,000.

Conservation practices were completed on 671 acres of grazing land and 618 acres of forest land.

Five Conservation Stewardship Program contracts were approved for \$28,000.

Conservation practices that were certified for Landowners included:

Disking for Wildlife—27 acres

One Grassed Waterway

Pasture Planting—233 acres

Firebreaks—73,000 feet

Thinning for Wildlife—1082 acres

Upland Wildlife Habitat Management—48 acres

Fence—6000 feet

Wells—2

Pipeline for Water Troughs—6000 feet

Prescribed Burning—1961 acres

Tree Planting—26 acres

# **BULLETIN BOARD CONTEST WINNERS**



CLASSROOM OF LYNN ABERCROMBIE  
FIRST PLACE, ACADEMY OF TEACHING & LEARNING



CLASSROOM OF CHARLETHA JACKSON  
FIRST PLACE, CHESTER PARK SCHOOL OF INQUIRY



CLASSROOM OF JOYCE WITHERSPOON  
FIRST PLACE, LEWISVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



CLASSROOM OF JANE GLENN  
FIRST PLACE, HOME SCHOOL DIVISION

On January 18, 2011, Mr. Marc Cribb, Program Manager, Conservation Districts, SCDNR, administered the oath of office to the newly re-elected Commissioners D. Rodger McDaniel and Margaret Hausman, pictured at right.



Mr. McDaniel has served as a commissioner since 1994 and Mrs. Hausman has served since 1989. The District is extremely grateful for these two commissioners who have served a total of 38 years of faithful service.

## PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST WINNERS

First place winner, Bailie Porter, seventh grader at Lewisville Middle School, stands in front of a bulletin board that says it all about photography. Lewisville Middle School taught a special course on photography as an optional opportunity for their middle school students.



Jewell Hartsell, Second Place  
Grade 8, Chester Middle School



Hannah Levister, Third Place  
Home Schooled

The winners from grades nine through 12 are pictured at right:  
Morgan Yarborough, First Place, grade 12  
Cheyenne Herron, Second Place, Grade 9  
Emily McNeerney, Third Place, Grade 10

