

Greenville

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Biggest Achievement of 2022

Greenville SWCD worked with Roper Mountain Science Center (RMSC) on a rainfall simulator that is housed in their new Environmental & Sustainability Building. This project required design modifications of a standard simulator to render it suitable for indoor use. Additionally, custom images were created to highlight the function of the simulator. This simulator educates middle school students on stormwater issues in an urban landscape with demonstrations on how rainfall penetrates the ground on surfaces such as asphalt, shingles, permeable pavers, and grass/plants. In 2022, 42,720 students participated in education sessions and learned about soil health!!

In addition, smaller, tabletop simulator models continue to be used at RMSC for other courses/grade levels continuing GCSWCD's mission to educate on stormwater issues and impacts.



The rainfall simulator is in use at Roper Mountain Science Center for K-12 students.



District Manager Kirsten Robertson demonstrates a tabletop rainfall simulator in action.

Other Notable Accomplishments



After school programs focused on soil health were implemented at six locations.



We partnered with Save Our Saluda on a streambank restoration project and a streambank workshop.

Conservation by the Numbers

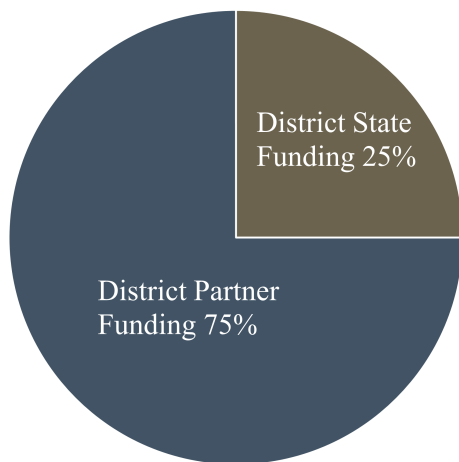
- 1,278,339 constituents reached by conservation and stormwater programs
- 45,643 students learned about stormwater, pollutants, and soil health
- 1,100 acres impacted by conservation practices
- Online outreach efforts seen by 249,392 viewers

2023 District Plans

- Continue successful programming using increase in state appropriated funds
- Increase outreach and education impact in South Carolina with a focus on stormwater education, farmer/landowner outreach and programming, and facilitating conservation practices in the county

South Carolina Soil and Water Conservation Districts - 2022 Impact

State FY23 Conservation District Funding



For every \$1 of state appropriated funds to Conservation Districts, \$3 on average is leveraged to implement conservation programs in South Carolina.

Conservation Districts assist with Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Farm Bill Programs which brought more than **\$55 million** to South Carolina's private lands for conservation implementation in federal FY22.

More than 72,000 students were reached by conservation district youth oriented programs such as school gardening, seed libraries, SC Envirothon, Arbor Day and Earth Day events, stormwater education, scholarships, and conservation related contests, etc.

More than 1.3 million adults were educated on conservation topics including Farm Bill Programs, pollinator promotion, stormwater mitigation, invasive species control, prescribed fire, water quality and conservation, habitat restoration, land easements, etc.

More than 44,000 acres statewide were impacted by conservation rental equipment available through conservation districts (no-till drills, prescribed fire equipment, hog traps, etc.).

SC Envirothon State Champions took **17th place** overall at the 2022 international NCF-Envirothon Competition competing against teams from the US, Canada, and China.

Programs involving land easements, habitat restoration, invasive species removal, water conservation, watershed improvement, litter removal, and conservation education are just a handful of the vast conservation topics implemented statewide by Conservation Districts.