



# CHATHAM COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT NEWSLETTER SPRING 2016

## *District Supervisors:*

J. Lynn Mann, Chairman  
Johnny Glosson, Vice-Chairman  
Richard Hayes, Secretary/Treasurer  
Keith Stanley, Member  
R. Edward McLaurin, Member

## *District Staff:*

Henry Outz, Environmental Specialist  
Brenda Williams, District Administrator  
Susannah Goldston, Soil Conservation Specialist

## *NRCS Staff:*

Mike Sturdivant, NRCS District Conservationist  
Lauren Parker, NRCS Soil Conservationist  
Themis Stone, NRCS Soil Conservationist

The Chatham County Soil and Water Conservation District meets the second Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM in the Conference room downstairs in the Agricultural Building in Pittsboro. This is an open meeting. If you would like additional information please contact our office at 919 542-8240.

## **New Ag Center coming along**



Chatham County Agriculture & Civic Center

Image # 160322 0155  
Date : 03.22.2016  
888.542.0231

## Local students SWEEP environmental science competition

### Chatham County students SWEEP environmental science competition

PITTSBORO, NC – On March 22, eight teams of middle and high school students from Chatham County successfully participated in the Piedmont Regional Envirothon at Elon University in Alamance County, which attracted more than 175 participants. Envirothon is a hands-on environmental education program, widely known across the nation.

Two Chatham County teams won the coveted first place positions and a total of seven teams qualified for the state competition. Eight teams of students from Woods Charter, Northwood High School and Margret Pollard Middle School competed in teams of five members each.

“The Chatham County teams faired exceptionally well and we are so proud of them,” said Brenda Williams with the Chatham County Soil & Water Conservation District.”

In the High School Division, the Woods Charter’s PhioSlothicals Team won first place. Others placing in top seven were: Northwood’s G3 Team, third place; Wood Charter’s Cecil’s Sitting by the Seashore Team, fourth place; and Woods Charter’s Turtle Turnovers Team, seventh place.

In the Middle School Division, Woods Charter’s team, Naturally Treeific, secured first place; Margaret Pollard Middle School’s Five Fire Foxes Team finished in fifth place, while the school’s Enviro-Nats Team placed sixth.

All these teams advance to the state finals, which is slated for April 29-30 at Cedarock Park in Alamance County. The winning high school team for that event advances to the national competition, with all expenses paid.

Envirothon immerses middle and high school students in a year-long learning process that combines in- class curriculum with hands-on field experiences facilitated by resource professionals such as soil scientists, foresters and wildlife specialists. This intense training culminates in a competition where teams are tested in five subject areas: Soils/Land Use, Aquatic Ecology, Forestry, Wildlife, and a current environmental issue. Scores determine winning placements.

“Envirothon students often become serious stewards of our natural resources and advocates for a healthy planet” said John Peeler, North Carolina’s Envirothon Committee Chair. “What bigger legacy can we leave?”

At the local level, the Envirothon competition is coordinated by soil and water conservation districts and sponsored by the North Carolina Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

For more information on how to participate in the Envirothon competitions, please visit <http://www.ncenvirothon.org> or contact the Chatham County Soil & Water Conservation office at 919-542-8240.

## Now Accepting Applications for the Resource Conservation Workshop June 26-July 1, 2016

Every year, Chatham SWCD sponsors high school students to attend the RCW. During this week-long workshop at NC State University students are able to engage in extensive, hands on study of conservation and its application in a variety of natural and environmental sciences. Students are selected for this sponsorship based on merit and demonstrated conservation interests. There are many great scholarships awarded at the end of the workshop.

### Application deadline April 22, 2016.

For more information contact Brenda Williams ([brenda.williams@chathamnc.org](mailto:brenda.williams@chathamnc.org)) or 919-542-8240

Website for additional information and application at:  
<http://www.ncagr.gov/SWC/educational/RCW.html>

2016-2017 Contest Theme:  
Soil & Water... Yours for Life  
Be on the look out for contest information  
that will be sent out at the end of summer!

**Upcoming  
Board Meetings:**  
(Every second Tues-  
day of the month)  
April 14, 2016  
May 12, 2016

Chatham Soil & Water Conservation District is presently taking applications for the following ag programs:

Ag Cost Share Program (ACSP)  
USDA Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP)  
Community Conservation Assistance Program (CCAP)  
Lagoon Closures  
Outdoor Learning Centers  
No-till Drill Rental

We also have CDs of the Chatham County Soil Survey for \$5 each

Call our office if we can help you at [919-542-8240](tel:919-542-8240)

