

RESOURCE CONSERVATION WORKSHOP

The Resource Conservation Workshop is sponsored by the N.C. Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts in conjunction with the Hugh Hammond Bennett Chapter-Soil and Water Conservation Society of America, NC Soil and Water Conservation Commission, Division of Soil & Water Conservation and the Soil Science Department of NC State University.

Workshop Description:

The Resource Conservation Workshop is a weeklong intensive study and hands on conservation workshop requiring student application and participation in a wide range of conservation topics. Students are housed in NCSU campus dormitories under the guidance of live-in counselors. In order to achieve success, students should come prepared to apply themselves to meet the primary objective of this workshop -- learning about natural resources and their management in today's environment. Awards and scholarships are won and presented to students under several awards programs.

Workshop Dates:

The Resource Conservation Workshop Planning Committee will issue upcoming workshop dates not later than January 31st. The Resource Conservation Workshop is normally held in late June.

Participants:

The Resource Conservation Workshop is designed to accommodate up to 104 students. (The eight Association Areas each nominate and sponsor two counselors who are charged with overseeing a group of up to 13 students.)

Ensuring that a full workshop of students is achieved while allowing equal access to class slots for each District is a key concern. By January 31st, the Division of Soil and Water Conservation will issue a letter announcing the upcoming workshop. With the letter will be two forms, one allowing Districts to state their intentions on sponsoring students and one for registering students.

By April 15th, Districts will send in the first form, stating their intention to sponsor or not to sponsor a student, and if they would like extra slots, if available. Districts must complete this form and return it by the deadline to reserve a space in the workshop.

By May 10th, Districts will send in registration form(s) and fees. Reservations will be held until the May 10th deadline. After the deadline, unused spaces will become available to fill additional District requests for extra spaces on a first come, first served basis (based on the April 15th intent form.)

Participant Eligibility:

Students who have demonstrated an interest in natural resource conservation. **HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO ATTEND.** Priority should be given to rising sophomores, juniors and seniors. Students may participate only one time in this workshop. The intent is to seek out students who have not made up their minds about attending college

Counselors:

Counselors are selected by Association Areas. Areas agree to pay Counselor registration fees and travel allowances. Area Chairpersons will forward counselor names and registration fees to the Division of Soil and Water Conservation not later than May 10th each year.

Suggestions for Selecting and Supporting Students:

1. Decide if the District intends to sponsor one or more students. Prepare and submit intention form to the Division by April 15th.
2. Appoint a committee to interview candidates. Your committee could be made up of District Supervisors, Extension personnel, vo-ag teachers, District Conservationist or other agency personnel.
3. Secure names of students from high school counselors, vo-ag teachers, scout leaders, Envirothon advisors, Extension 4-H leaders or other professionals in natural resources areas.
4. Choose a student delegate and one alternate.
5. Contact your student delegate nominee and secure his/her commitment to attend the workshop.
6. Complete the application form and return, along with enrollment fee **MADE PAYABLE TO The NC Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts** to the Division of Soil and Water Conservation no later than May 10th of each year.
7. Provide, directly to your student, enough money for meals other than organized meals that are part of the weeks planned activities.
8. Arrange transportation for your student to and from Raleigh.
9. Arrange for local publicity in your District.
10. Ask your student to attend your District's board meeting both before and after the workshop to learn workshop objectives and report on his/her workshop experiences.

11. Students must have written permission from his/her parents to leave the NCSU campus at any time except for planned activities, which are part of the workshop. Forms are provided in the Student and Parent package (mailed from the Division). Please have the student bring these permission forms to registration on Sunday afternoon.

12. Students must have permission from their parents to drive a vehicle while at the workshop.

