



PICKENS SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

2021 FALL NEWSLETTER

Pickens Soil & Water Conservation District is dedicated to Natural Resource Conservation in Pickens County. Serving Pickens County since 1937



HAPPY FALL



The Pickens Soil and Water Conservation District Board Congratulates and Welcomes new Commissioner, Chuck Owens, to the board and Brian Stoddard as the new Natural Resources Conservation Service, District Conservationist, for Pickens County!



NOW IS THE TIME TO PLANT COVER CROPS

Save Our Saluda is offering financial assistance for soil conservation practices at crop farms in the Upper Saluda Watershed. Assistance for planting cover crops is:

- \$62.39/acre for single species
- \$76.23/acre for multi-species

New equipment is available for lease.

38" No Till Seed Drill

8" Roller Crimper

Cover crops improve soil health, help control weeds and prevent soil loss!

We are so happy and blessed that the financial assistance for the cover crop seed allowed us to purchase and cost share the planting for the winter cover. It was in place and growing before the flood of Feb. 2020. It held the field in place even under 4 foot of flooded river water.

-Donna Tesner, Beechwood Farms

QUESTIONS?
PLEASE CONTACT US!

info@saveoursaluda.org
(864) 270-7629 | www.saveoursaluda.org

FARM FEST 2021

JOIN THE AGRICULTURAL MUSEUM OF SC & THE PENDLETON HISTORIC FOUNDATION FOR:

TICKETS ONLY \$5

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6TH
10AM-3PM
120 HISTORY LANE
PENDLETON, SC

PARKING AT TRI-COUNTRY TECH
SHUTTLES BY CATBUS

TICKETS INCLUDE
TOURS OF
WOODBURN
HISTORIC HOUSE
& THE AG
MUSEUM!

HAY RIDE
KIDS CRAFTS
FARM ANIMALS
TRACTOR SHOW &
DEMONSTRATIONS

WWW.BGAMSC.ORG 864.646.7271



Natural Resources Conservation Service United States Department of Agriculture

NRCS is here to help farmer's improve their usage of Natural Resources. Our motto is:
"Helping people help the land"

USDA works everyday to strengthen the American agricultural economy. Despite the difficult economic climate of the past years, our efforts - coupled with the 2018 Farm Bill, the Recovery Act, and the hard work and resilience of America's farmers and ranchers - are helping American agriculture lead the nation's recovery. We maintain a strong and appropriate safety net for America's farmers, ranchers and growers which includes assistance to struggling industries, disaster assistance, and crop insurance, and provide technical assistance, access to credit, and help producers implement conservation practices.

<https://www.usda.gov/topics/farming>

To qualify, farmland must:

- be part of a pending offer from a State, tribe, or local farmland protection program
- be privately owned;
- have a conservation plan for highly erodible land;
- be large enough to sustain agricultural production;
- be accessible to markets for what the land produces;
- have adequate infrastructure and agricultural support services;
- and have surrounding parcels of land that can support long-term agricultural production.

Depending on funding availability, proposals must be submitted by the eligible entities to the appropriate NRCS State Office during the application window.

NRCS offers technical and financial assistance to help farmers, ranchers, and forest owners. To find out more, go to: www.nrcs.usda.gov/GetStarted

Get Started with NRCS, 5 steps to assistance:

1. Planning
2. Application
3. Eligibility
4. Ranking
5. Implementing

Pickens Soil & Water Conservation District NO TILL RENTAL PROGRAM

Want to improve your land without tilling the soil?

Take advantage of the Pickens Soil & Water No-Till Drill Rental Program. Contact us today to reserve your rental! Rental Fee: \$25 minimum For more rental information regarding rates and availability contact Amy Wilson 864-901-6946

No-Till Drills Improve Pastures. No-till drills plant seeds without tilling the soil. This makes pasture management easier, more economical, and reduces loss of soil. An acre meter on each drill measures use.



Advantages of No-Till Farming

- * *Less Soil Erosion*
- * *Reduce Erosion & Runoff*
- * *Less Soil Compaction*
- * *Saves You Time*
- * *Lower Fuel Costs*
- * *Use Less Fuel*
- * *Less Soil Moisture Loss*
- * *Healthier Soil*
- * *Buy Less Seed*
- * *Grow Healthier Crops*
- * *Prevent Weeds*

Why Should You Use Our No-Till Drill?

Compare the results of the same Pickens County farm planted using a No-Till Drill versus Traditional Broadcast Planting.



Yes! I want to lend my support as an Affiliate Member of the Pickens Soil & Water Conservation District and join the impressive list of individuals and businesses who believe in sharing the responsibility for the abundant natural resources in which we live, work, and play.

Memberships are Tax-Deductible.

_____ \$500 Trustees of the Land _____ \$250 Guardians of the Land _____ \$100 Keepers of the Land
_____ \$50 Stewards of the Land _____ \$25 Defenders of the Land

Name: _____ Address: _____

Phone#: _____ E-mail: _____

Submit to:

Pickens Soil & Water Conservation District
144 McDaniel Avenue
Pickens, SC 29671

Telephone: 864-878-6155
E-mail: pickensswcd@gmail.com

Visit our website:
www.pickenssoilandwater.com
“Like” us on Facebook:
Pickens Soil and Water Conservation District

Pickens Soil & Water Conservation District Commissioner’s meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of each month at the Pickens Soil & Water Conservation District office located at 144 McDaniel Avenue, Pickens, SC 29671 at 8:45 a.m. in the Stillwell Conference Room (unless otherwise posted at the office)

**Pickens Soil & Water
Conservation District Board of
Commissioners**

Roddey Gettys, III - Chairman
Amy Wilson - Vice-Chairman
Kirby Player - Treasurer
Dale Mayson - Commissioner
Chuck Owens - Commissioner

Associate Commissioners

Leslie Morgan
George Hood
Alix Danker

USDA-NRCS

Brian Stoddard - NRCS District
Conservationist
Robby Holcombe - NRCS Soil
Conservationist Technician
District Manager
Aimee Brown

October 31, 2021
Halloween
Happy Halloween



November 2, 2021
Election Day



November 11, 2021 PSWCD Board Meeting
8:45 a.m.

November 11, 2021
Veterans Day



November 25, 2021
Thanksgiving Day
Happy Thanksgiving



December 25, 2021
Christmas Day
Merry Christmas



**Georges Creek
Watershed Board**

Steve Pace ~ Chairman
John Cutchin ~ Treasurer
Stewart Bauknight
Eddie Crittendon
Clay Coggins

Oolenoy River Watershed Board

Matthew Chappell ~ Chairman
Greg Thomas ~ Secretary
Jeff White ~ Treasurer
Andy Anderson
Rick Meadows

Oolenoy River Watershed Board of Directors
Bi-Monthly Meetings.

Thursday, October 28, 2021

Thursday, November 18, 2021

Location: Pumpkintown Fire Department
4205 Pumpkintown Highway
Pickens, SC 29671

Time: 6:30 p.m. unless noted otherwise.



****VOLUNTEERS NEEDED****

Volunteers are needed to participate in Pickens Soil and Water Conservation District activities. This is a great opportunity for you to participate in promoting Conservation in the Pickens County Community. For more information on volunteering: 864-878-6155 or E-mail: pickensswcd@gmail.com

**Associate Commissioners Needed for the Pickens
Soil & Water Conservation District**

Want to be an Associate Commissioner? Associate Commissioners, are officially appointed by the board as advisors and representatives. Associates do not vote on board decisions but augment the board’s knowledge and experience and assist with conservation district programs. Attend the Pickens Soil and Water Conservation District’s monthly board meetings at, 8:45 a.m. on the second Thursday of each month at the Pickens Soil and Water Conservation District office located at 144 McDaniel Avenue, Pickens, SC 29671.

Watershed District Directors are non-salaried officials who are elected to four-year terms. Candidates must be registered voters in the county & watershed in which they are seeking office. Candidates are required to file a Statement of Economic Interests and a Campaign Disclosure online with the State Ethics Commission. Want to serve on the Pickens Soil and Water Conservation District Board, Georges Creek Watershed Board, or the Oolenoy River Watershed Board? The next election date for open seats will be November 8, 2022.

Office Space For Rent

Are you looking for a small office space to rent? Contact the Pickens Soil & Water Conservation District for more information:
864-878-6155 or Email: pickensswcd@gmail.com

Advertise Your Business Here

In the Pickens Soil & Water Conservation District Quarterly Newsletter! The PSWCD Newsletter is published to over 300 Affiliate members! Contact the Pickens Soil & Water office for more information! Call: 864-878-6155 or E-mail: pickensswcd@gmail.com

Pickens County Extension Office

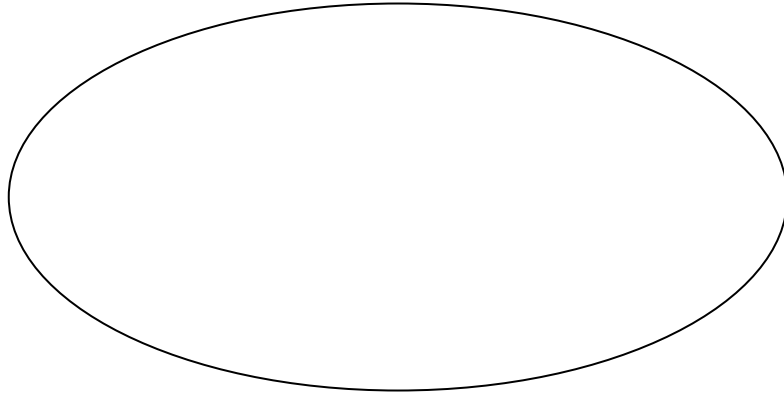
222 West Main Street, Pickens, SC 29671 ~ Phone: 864-878-1394
Clemson Extension employs local Extension Agents who provide expertise in Agribusiness, Agronomy, Food Safety & Nutrition, Horticulture, Livestock & Forages, Forestry and Wildlife Resources, Water Resources, and 4-H and Youth Development. For more information and upcoming events please visit the following link: <https://www.clemson.edu/extension/pickens/index.html>

Pickens Soil & Water Conservation District is excited to be partnering with Anderson & Pickens County Stormwater Partners, Clemson University Cooperative Extension and the Pickens County Beautification Committee

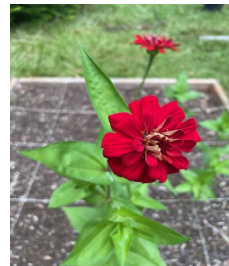
Need a Soil Sample?

Bring your soil samples to your local Clemson Extension Office located at: 222 W. Main Street
Pickens, SC 29671
Phone: 864-878-1394





Congratulations
To The Winning Photos Of
The Seed Library Garden Photo
Contest Held August 1st -31st



Seed Library at the Sarlin Library Branch in Liberty

The Seed Library was created in partnership with the Pickens County Soil and Water Conservation District to provide education on growing food and flowers, promote nutrition, and to promote sustainable gardening practices.

Library patrons can visit the Seed Library at the Sarlin Library in Liberty and take home up to five packets of seeds. They can choose from multiple varieties of vegetable, flower, and herb seeds including heirloom varieties. Seed packets come with planting instructions for when to plant, spacing, light requirements, and more.

The Liberty Library opened the Seed Library to the public on March 20th. Since then, 450 people have used the seed library, which is an average of 111 people a month. 1800 seed packets have been given out, with flowers, herbs, squash, tomatoes, and watermelons being the most popular.

Pickens County Library System received a grant from Slow Food Upstate to buy Ark of Taste seeds for the Seed Library. This program was also made possible by a contribution from The Friends of the Library.

Stop by the Sarlin Library and see the seed library as one of the activities featured on the Summer Reading Program activity list. Anyone with a library card will have access to free vegetable, herb, and flower seeds. Seeds will be stored in a vintage, card catalog cabinet. For more information, please visit: pcls.fyi or call the Sarlin Library at 864-843-5805.



How does it work?

- * The seeds are kept in a vintage library card catalog. Browse the drawers of the card catalog and select up to 5 seed packets.
- * Help keep the Seed Library stocked by using the seed check out form and showing a library card to library staff who will note the seeds you've chosen.
- * Take your seeds home to plant and enjoy!



The Pickens Soil & Water Conservation District along with the NACD Stewardship and Education Committee is excited to announce the **2022 Poster Contest and Stewardship Week theme:**
"Healthy Soils: Healthy Life."

Contact the Pickens Soil & Water Conservation District for more information by phone: 864-878-6155 or email: pickensswcd@gmail.com
Contest entries deadline will be 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 28, 2022

Conservation Teacher of the Year Award

Conservation Teacher of the Year Award recognizes a teacher who has been actively working to advance environmental and conservation education. Procedure: Submit a brief narrative describing the teacher's qualifications for this award including a list of his or her conservation education activities or programs to the Pickens County Soil and Water Conservation District. Candidates must be currently teaching K-12th grade in public or private schools in Pickens County.

Stream Bank Repair Manual

Clemson Extension is happy to announce the release of its **2021 Stream Bank Repair Manual**. This manual is intended to help homeowners and professionals choose practices that will help prevent property loss, stabilize stream banks, and protect water quality. It covers the basic practices that will be taught at upcoming workshops and also touches on native plants used for livestocking, erosion control options, and upland best management practices. The manual is available: <https://www.clemson.edu/extension/water/files/stream-bank-repair-for-sc-print.pdf>