



PICKENS SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

2021 WINTER NEWSLETTER

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



HAPPY NEW YEAR



Pickens Soil & Water Conservation District along with the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SC DNR) and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Welcomes our newly elected and re-elected Commissioners!

Oath of Office for Kirby Player was held on Monday, December 14, 2020, conducted by Tyler Brown - SCDNR Program Manager Conservation Districts. Oath of Office for Stewart Bauknight, Clay Coggins, Greg Thomas and Rick Meadows, was held on Thursday, January 14, 2021, conducted by Chris Workman - Watershed Program Manager Conservation Districts SCDNR

Georges Creek Watershed

John Cutchin - re-elected

Stewart Bauknight - re-elected

Clay Coggins - newly elected

Pickens Soil & Water Conservation District

Kirby Player - newly elected

Oolenoy River Watershed

Greg Thomas - newly elected

Rick Meadows - newly elected



Pictured left to right: Amy Wilson, Kirby Player, Roddey Gettys, III and Dale Mayson



Pictured left to right: Clay Coggins, Stewart Bauknight, Greg Thomas, Rick Meadows and Chris Workman



Pictured left to right: Dale Mayson, Clay Coggins, Stewart Bauknight, Greg Thomas, Rick Meadows, Chris Workman, Kirby Player and Roddey Gettys, III



Pictured left to right: Tyler Brown, Kirby Player and Ben Setzler Jr.



Coming Soon in 2021- The Seed Library!



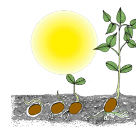
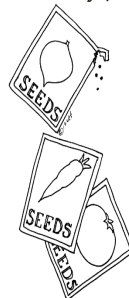
The Pickens County Library System and the Pickens County Soil & Water Conservation District are partnering to bring a seed library to the Sarlin Library in Liberty.

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.

Check back for updates at [pcls.fyi](https://www.pcls.fyi) or call the Sarlin Library at

864-843-5805.



Stream Bank Repair Program

Clemson's Stream Bank Repair program works with homeowners, land managers, park staff, and landscape professionals to address unhealthy stream banks that are suffering from erosion and instability. Workshops will provide insight on how watersheds function and will identify steps needed to stabilize and revegetate stream banks.

We'd love to hear your feedback on how you have managed streams on your property! This information will help Clemson Extension continue to build meaningful programs to address issues throughout the state.

Stream Bank Repair workshops are offered October – March. One important step in the process of stream bank repair is using live cuttings called livestock from dormant species such as elderberry, black willow, and tag alder. These live stakes must be harvested and installed during the plants dormant season (October-March).

The Stream Bank Repair program will be offered throughout the state beginning in Fall/Winter 2020/2021. Subscribe to the Stream Bank Repair newsletter to receive information on upcoming workshops and events!

<https://www.clemson.edu/extension/water/stream-bank-repair.html>

STEVEN O'SHIELDS CLEMSON UNIVERSITY

Cooperative Extension Water Resources Extension Agent
Carolina Clear Program

313 South Towers Street, Anderson, SC 29624

864.359.3385 www.clemson.edu/CarolinaClear



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.



Pickens Soil & Water Conservation
District Board of Commissioners

Roddey Gettys, III - Chairman
Amy Wilson - Vice-Chairman
Kirby Player - Treasurer
Dale Mayson - Commissioner
Toni Vitanza - Commissioner

Associate Commissioners

Leslie Morgan
George Hood
Alix Danker

USDA-NRCS

Lynne Newton - Acting District Conservationist
Robby Holcombe - Soil Conservationist Technician
Matt Brown - Soil Conservationist

District Manager

Aimee Brown

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

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

April 4, 2021
Easter Sunday

April 8, 2021
PSWCD Monthly Board Meeting
8:45 a.m.

May 13, 2021
PSWCD Monthly Board Meeting
8:45 a.m.

June 10, 2021
PSWCD Monthly Board Meeting
8:45 a.m.

Georges Creek Watershed Board

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

Oolenoy River Watershed Board

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

Oolenoy River Watershed Board of Directors
Monthly Meetings.

Regular meetings are the 4th Thursday of each month.

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

Time: 6:30pm unless noted otherwise.

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)

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.

_____ \$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

Memberships are Tax-Deductible.

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

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

****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

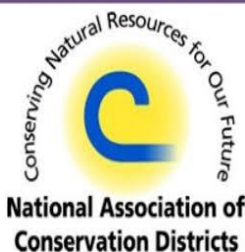
Associate Commissioners Needed for the Pickens Soil & Water Conservation District

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

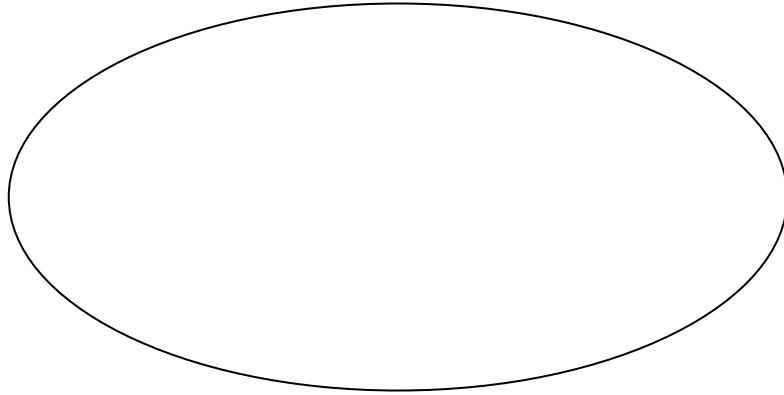
Want to serve on the Pickens Soil and Water Conservation District Board, Georges Creek Watershed Board, or the Oolenoy River Watershed Board? The next election date for open seats will be November 8, 2022.

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



DNR





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.

The NACD Stewardship and Education Committee is pleased to announce the 2021 Poster Contest theme: **"Healthy Forests, Healthy Communities"**



Parents, Educators & Residents of Pickens County!!! Take advantage of this awesome opportunity for your children/students of Pickens County. Awards will be given. Teacher with the most posters turned in will receive an award. There are five categories for judging/ winners:

- Kindergarten to 1st Grade
- 2nd Grade to 3rd Grade
- 4th Grade to 6th Grade
- 7th Grade to 9th Grade
- 10th Grade to 12th Grade

Poster Contest for Grades K-12

Individual project for Pickens County Homeschool, Public, or Private School students. Winning entries will advance to the state level! Mail or hand deliver by

Thursday April 29, 2021

You can drop posters off at the Clemson Extension Office located at 222 W. Main St. Pickens, SC 29671 or Pickens Soil & Water Conservation District Office located at 144 McDaniel Ave Pickens, SC 29671 Questions? Contact: Janine Sutter, at jsutter@clemson.edu 864-878-1394 or Aimee Brown, pickensswcd@gmail.com 864-878-6155

Do you like writing or taking pictures?

Also available is the

Essay Contest and Photography Contest

Contact us today for more information

Why Participate? Designing a poster and researching the theme gives you a voice in your community on important conservation issues. Good posters tell important stories to present and future generations. Posters capture people's attention with a powerful graphic, and inspire with a message to your community.

Pickens County Extension Office

222 West Main Street, Pickens, SC 29671 ~ Phone: 864-878-1394
Clemson Extension employs Extension Agents who work closely with state extension specialists and researchers located on campus and at the various research and education centers located across the state. Your local Extension Agents 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>

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



Pickens County 4-H

222 W. Main Street, Pickens, SC 29671
Pickens County 4-H is an organization of young people who wish to "Learn by Doing" in Pickens County, SC. Contact Janine Sutter call: 864-878-1394 ext. 122 or email: jsutter@clemson.edu

Join Today



South Carolina's Clemson Extension Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program - EFNEP

Choose Health: Food, Fun & Fitness- CHFFF FREE Nutrition Classes & Cooking Demonstrations

The Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) has moved to virtual programming!
<https://www.facebook.com/SCClemsonEFNEP/>
College of Agriculture, Forestry and Life Sciences



Who Can Participate?

Youth 8-12 years old

Interested? Contact Us!

Upstate Region: Shana Madden
smadden@clemson.edu

What is CHFFF?

- * A series of virtual hands-on interactive lessons
- * Teaches the importance of healthy eating and active play
- * Offers an opportunity to connect with peers
- * Eligibility: Youth aged 8-12 years old and who receive free or reduced -priced lunch

Participants Will Learn To:

- ✓ Choose healthy snacks
- ✓ Develop healthy eating habits
- ✓ Increase physical activity
- ✓ Practice safe food handling