



PICKENS SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

2022 SUMMER NEWSLETTER

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



"For as the soil makes the sprout come up and a garden causes seeds to grow, so the Sovereign Lord will make righteousness and praise spring up before all nations." Isaiah 61:11

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, pickensswcd@gmail.com. Candidates must be currently teaching K-12th grade in public or private schools in Pickens County.

Congratulations to the following School District of Pickens County Teachers:

In Honor of Outstanding Performance:

Taylor Holden ~ Six Mile Elementary

Chuck Conrad ~ Daniel High School

Dawn Rucker ~ Pickens High School

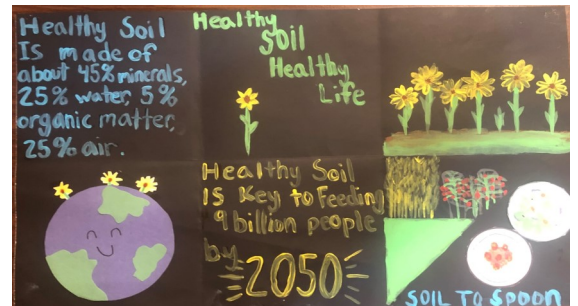
Kathryn Holcombe ~ Pickens High School

Gillian Black ~ Pickens County Career & Technology Center



1st Place K-5th Grade Carter Atcheson

Congratulations
To the Winners
of the
Education
Contest:



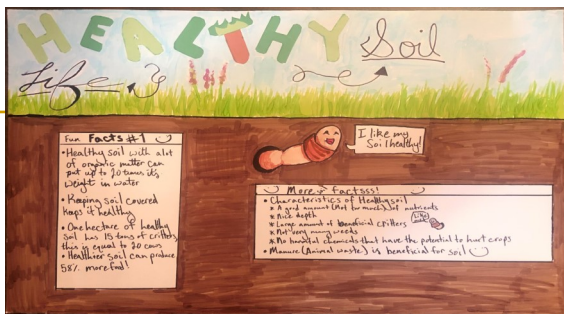
1st Place 6th-8th Grade Kennedy King



1st Place 9th-12th Grade Cory Raby



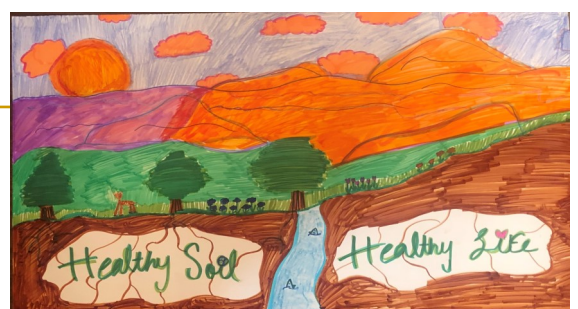
2nd Place K-5th Grade Anna Atcheson



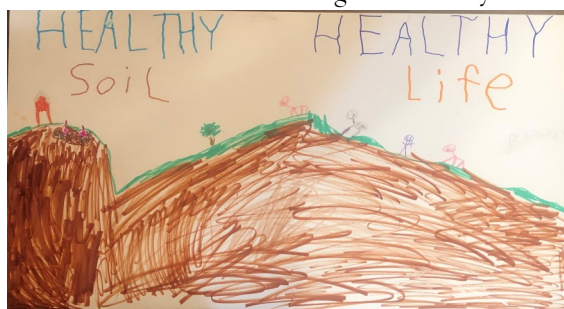
2nd Place 6th-8th Grade Maegan Kannarney



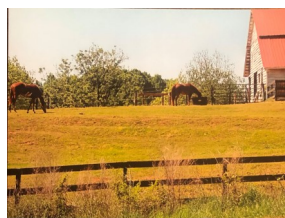
1st Place K-5th Grade Anna Atcheson



2nd Place 9th-12th Grade Rheannon Shepard



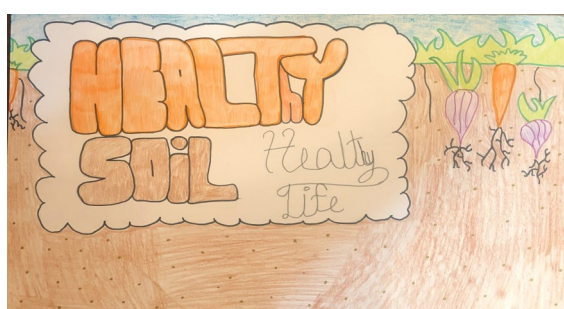
3rd Place K-5th Grade Reese Townsend



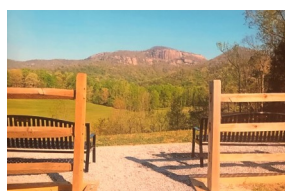
2nd Place K-5th Grade Reese Townsend



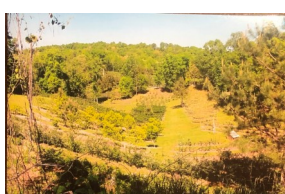
3rd Place 6th-8th Grade Ella Grace Boynton



3rd Place 9th-12th Grade Sada Dempsey



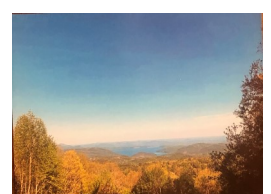
3rd Place K-5th Grade Annabelle Holland



1st Place 9th-12th Grade Sada Dempsey



2nd Place 9th-12th Grade Cory Raby



3rd Place 9th-12th Grade Rheannon Shepard



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.



NO-TILL SEED DRILL



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 Wednesday 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

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

Associate Commissioners

Leslie Morgan
George Hood
Alix Danker

USDA-NRCS

Brian Stoddard - NRCS District Conservationist
Robby Holcombe - NRCS Soil Conservationist Technician

Racquel Slaton - NRCS Soil Conservationist

District Manager

Aimee Brown

Wednesday, August 10, 2022
PSWCD Board Meeting 8:45 a.m.

Monday, September 5, 2022
Labor Day

Wednesday, September 14, 2022
PSWCD Board Meeting 8:45 a.m.

Wednesday, October 12, 2022
PSWCD Board Meeting 8:45 a.m.
Monday, October 31, 2022
Halloween

Tuesday, November 8, 2022
Election Day

Wednesday, November 9, 2022
PSWCD Board Meeting 8:45 a.m.

Thursday, November 24, 2022
Thanksgiving Day

Saturday, December 24, 2022
Christmas Eve

Sunday, December 25, 2022
Christmas Day

Georges Creek Watershed Board

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

Oolenoy River Watershed Board

Andy Anderson ~ Chairman
Greg Thomas ~ Secretary
Jeff White ~ Treasurer
Oolenoy River Watershed Board of Directors
Bi-Monthly Meetings.
Location: Pumpkintown Fire Department
4205 Pumpkintown Highway, Pickens, SC 29671
Time: 6:30 p.m. unless noted otherwise.
Thursday, September 20, 2022
Thursday, November 17, 2022

Planting Bulbs for Spring Color, Monday, September 19, 5:30-6:30pm,
Sarlin Library: 15 S. Palmetto St. Liberty

Fall can be a down time in the garden, but let's use our time wisely and prepare for spring. Join Clemson Extension agent, Kerrie Roach, as she shows how to create plantings of fall bulbs for a spring explosion of color. Learn which bulbs are best for the area, how to select healthy bulbs, planting, and care throughout the seasons. For ages 18 and up. Call 843-5805 to register.

****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 & and 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

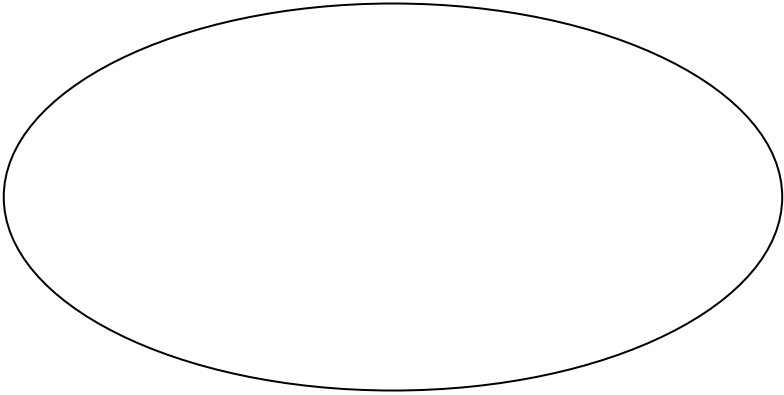


Pickens County 4-H

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: 864-878-1394 ext. 122
or email: jsutter@clemson.edu

Join Today





On April 11, George and Nancy Bennett were at the Larry Winn, M.D. Cancer Care Unit at Prisma Health Baptist Easley Hospital to dedicate a special gift—a brass bell for patients to ring to celebrate the end of their cancer treatment. George Bennett is a cancer survivor, and during his treatment, he looked forward to the day he would be able to ring the bell at his infusion center. On the morning he rang the bell, both him and Nancy were overcome with emotion at the symbolism behind ringing the bell and finishing his cancer treatments. On their drive home, the decision was made to reach out to cancer centers across the state of South Carolina to ensure a bell is placed in each infusion unit, so those finishing treatments have the chance to ring the bell in celebration.

We at the Pickens County Soil and Water Conservation District add our congratulations and gratitude to the Bennett's and especially Roddey Gettys. Part of Roddey's 44 years of community service has been with our District. This past February Mr. Gettys was recognized for 20 years of service as a Soil and Water District Commissioner here in Pickens County.

Roddey we salute you and recognize you are still “ringing” the bell of conservation with great enthusiasm and faithfulness to remind your fellow citizens to steward of beautiful natural resources.

We appreciate you Roddey!



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 ten 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.

For upcoming monthly events information, call or stop by the Sarlin Library and see the Seed Library. 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.



Pickens County Cattlemen's Association

Pickens County Cattlemen's Association offers informative meetings on a myriad of subjects including pasture management, calving problems, animal health, and selecting the right bull, just to name a few. We are committed to the cattle industry and the promotion of beef. We are stewards of the land and the animals. If you have cattle and live in Pickens County, or surrounding counties, we urge you to join the PCCA or your local Cattlemen's association and the South Carolina Cattlemen's Association

(www.sccattle.org) in order to stay up on the latest information. If you have no cattle, but enjoy a good steak, come join us at a meeting and see where your beef is raised. Visit pickenscountycattle.com to fill out a membership form.