

Darlington

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Biggest Achievement of 2022



Through additional state appropriated funds, Darlington Soil and Water Conservation District was able to launch a school wide gardening and composting project with the environmental club at Mayo High School for Math, Science & Technology. We were able to provide funds to cover all supplies needed to turn food waste into compost which is then used for the on-site garden. Through this project, the plan is to bring back the existing garden space into a community-oriented, volunteer-based area. In order to do this, the environmental club is planning on initiating a garden and composting committee at the school to educate the students, staff, and faculty about the importance of food waste reduction, gardening, and composting. We are excited to see how this program grows and impacts our students and community!

"We are so grateful for your funding! We will strive to create a thriving on-campus gardening and composting program to inform our peers about the importance of agriculture. We cannot wait to start our project. Thank you again." - Hannah Jewell-Mayo, Environmental Club President

Other Notable Accomplishments



Sponsored Lee Academy Clay Shooters which is a program that instills life skills, ethics, and values through the shotgun sport.



Supported Darlington County Sheriff's office Youth Deer Hunt.

Conservation by the Numbers

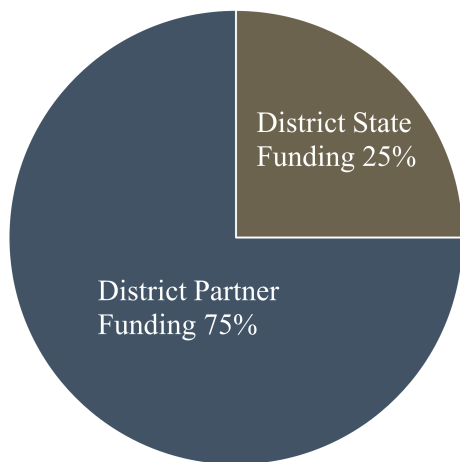
- Approximately 300 students will learn about gardening and composting at Mayo High School for Math, Science & Technology
- Around 50 youth attended the Darlington County Deer Hunt and were educated on safety of the sport, while teaching them to respect the beautiful outdoors and adopt good ethics
- 60 landowners served with conservation technical assistance to put conservation on the ground

2023 District Plans

- Launch a seed library
- Sponsor SC Envirothon team
- Start another Composting Project
- Participate in SCACD Poster Contest
- Construct bird boxes for nesting sites

South Carolina Soil and Water Conservation Districts - 2022 Impact

State FY23 Conservation District Funding



For every \$1 of state appropriated funds to Conservation Districts, \$3 on average is leveraged to implement conservation programs in South Carolina.

Conservation Districts assist with Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Farm Bill Programs which brought more than **\$55 million** to South Carolina's private lands for conservation implementation in federal FY22.

More than 72,000 students were reached by conservation district youth oriented programs such as school gardening, seed libraries, SC Envirothon, Arbor Day and Earth Day events, stormwater education, scholarships, and conservation related contests, etc.

More than 1.3 million adults were educated on conservation topics including Farm Bill Programs, pollinator promotion, stormwater mitigation, invasive species control, prescribed fire, water quality and conservation, habitat restoration, land easements, etc.

More than 44,000 acres statewide were impacted by conservation rental equipment available through conservation districts (no-till drills, prescribed fire equipment, hog traps, etc.).

SC Envirothon State Champions took **17th place** overall at the 2022 international NCF-Envirothon Competition competing against teams from the US, Canada, and China.

Programs involving land easements, habitat restoration, invasive species removal, water conservation, watershed improvement, litter removal, and conservation education are just a handful of the vast conservation topics implemented statewide by Conservation Districts.