

# Jasper

## SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

### Biggest Achievement of 2022

JSWCD recognized Mr. John Carswell with the prestigious award of Conservationist of the Year for 2022 at our Annual Gordon Wells Memorial Benefit. This ceremony and auction is to benefit the Blue Heron Nature Center, our communities wildlife, and conservation learning and youth center. Mr. Carswell was the owner of Cypress Creek Plantation which remains in his family today. He has done so much for the youth of Jasper County by conducting hunts, camp outs, arrowhead hunts, and seminars on natural wildlife preservation for our community. Mr. Carswell is known for being a true wildlife management steward, and his exemplary timber management of Cypress Creek is a testament to this. He placed significant acreage in a conservation easement and guided others in the Jasper community to do the same. Funds raised from this event allowed the district to refurbish our display room and continue our natural resource education efforts to our community, especially our youth. Congratulations to Mr. John Carswell for his outstanding achievement and continuing to be a sustainable land and wildlife steward.



Chairman Tommy Stanley and John Carswell at the Annual Gordon Wells Memorial Benefit.



Commissioner Stan Wells and John Carswell at the Annual Gordon Wells Memorial Benefit.

### Other Notable Accomplishments



District received Leaders Against Litter Award 2022 from the Assn. of SC Counties to Keep Jasper County Beautiful for collecting 55 tons of litter.



JSWCD hosted the Edisto/Savannah Area Conservation Districts Annual Meeting with 39 attendees from 9 counties.

### Conservation by the Numbers

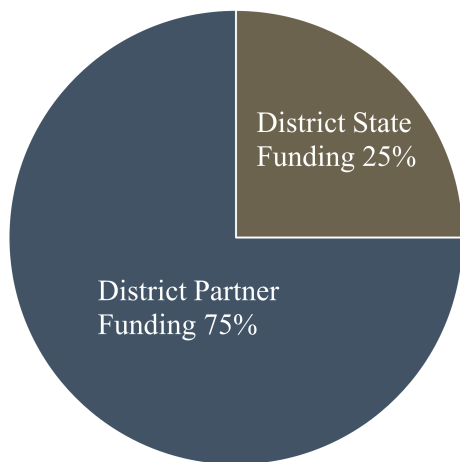
- 51 landowners served with conservation technical assistance to put conservation on the ground on approximately 1,500 acres
- 2,015 students reached with presentations on litter, recycling, container gardening, local wildlife habitat and good conservation practices
- Assisted with implementation of \$30,589 in conservation practices on more than 200 acres of land in Jasper County

### 2023 District Plans

- Increase in state appropriated funds will be used for administrative support, conservation education for the schools, and speaker series seminars for landowners utilizing the Blue Heron Nature Center
- Partner with Clemson Extension to offer certification seminars/classes
- Assist Jasper County in comprehensive plan for best management practices for developers and landowners

# 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.**

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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.