



NOMINEE APPLICATION FORM
for Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioner
(to be completed by applicant)

Instructions

This nomination form is to be completed by the nominee and submitted to the local Conservation District for action. This form, along with a resumé and Conservation District Certification Form must be forwarded to the Chief of Conservation Districts, SCDNR, P. O. Box 167, Columbia, SC 29202, for action by the DNR Land, Water, and Conservation Division Advisory Committee and the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources Board.

SECTION I Personal Information

Name: _____ Spouse's Name: _____

Home Address: _____

Business Address: _____

I am a resident of _____ County and live in Congressional District # _____.

I _____ a registered voter in South Carolina.

Home Telephone Number: _____ Business Telephone Number: _____

Mobile Number: _____ E-Mail Address: _____

Sex: _____ Race: _____

Social Security #: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Drivers License #: _____

Briefly explain why you want to be a Conservation District Commissioner.

Please list civic, community, church, agricultural, environmental, or other organizations, which you belong to and the offices you held in each:

What do you see as the biggest challenges in natural resources conservation in your district and in the state of South Carolina?

SECTION II ATTACH RESUMÉ

(Form continued on back)

SECTION III Overview of Opportunities Associated with District Commissioner Position

A district commissioner is an appointed or nonpartisan elected member of the governing body of a Conservation District. In taking the Oath of Office, a commissioner commits to exercising the rights and responsibilities of Commissioners as spelled out in Soil and Water Conservation District's Law, See. 48-9-10 of the South Carolina Code of Laws. This law charges Conservation Districts with the responsibility of providing first-line leadership in developing and implementing plans to meet conservation needs of the district. It also charges districts with the responsibility of finding the sources with which to plan and implement programs that will address the conservation needs of the district.

In order to be an effective member of the Conservation District board, a commissioner must:

- Be familiar with the State Law.
- Help identify conservation needs and assist with the planning to address these needs. Planning should be done on an annual and long-range basis.
- Work with all agencies with conservation interests and expertise to meet conservation needs.
- Cooperate with other districts and/or agencies to develop and carry out conservation plans.
- Determine funding needs and find sources of funds to meet the conservation needs.
- Keep the public informed about conservation programs.
- Stay abreast of conservation issues and speak out wherever and whenever the opportunity arises to educate the public on issues that affect our natural resources.
- Find ways to evaluate the progress of the district's conservation programs. Evaluations should be done annually and on a long-range basis.
- Work with other districts through the SC Association of Conservation Districts to assist the SC Department of Natural Resources and USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service to develop programs that are suitable for conservation districts.
- Finally, never relinquish responsibilities to staff! Staff, whether district, SCDNR, or Natural Resources Conservation Service, exists to help commissioners carry out the district programs. The commissioner's responsibilities are to plan and implement these programs; staff is to assist in that effort.

If appointed as a Conservation District Commissioner by the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources, I agree to attend district board meetings and carry out the duties of the office to the best of my ability.

Signature of Nominee

Date

SECTION IV Standing Committees

Sign up for one or more of the State Conservation Districts Standing Committees (Rank 1-7: 1 highest)

_____ **Awards Committee-** This committee encourages all Conservation Districts to actively promote and participate in all awards programs available to them. Recognition of accomplishments and achievements in natural resource conservation is an integral part of the "grass roots" Conservation Districts program.

_____ **Operations Committee-** This committee assists Conservation Districts in their day-to-day operations, development of policies and procedures, administrative activities, and other areas involving district commissioner leadership.

_____ **Education and Public Affairs Committee-** This committee seeks to provide for every citizen, both students and adults, the opportunity to acquire the necessary skills, values, attitudes and commitment needed to conserve and improve our natural resources.

_____ **Envirothon Committee-** The purpose of this committee is to plan, coordinate, and conduct an annual Envirothon competition for high school students in the state. The event is designed to help future leaders learn about environmental issues so they can make informed decisions and broaden the student's knowledge of environmental resources such as soils, water, forestry, wildlife, and other current environmental issues.

_____ **Forestry, Wildlife, and Recreation Committee-** This committee seeks to assist Conservation Districts, the SC Department of Natural Resources, and other related natural resource agencies in their efforts to develop and maintain programs relating to forestry, wildlife, and recreation.

_____ **Land Use, Water Quality and Research Committee-** This committee seeks to increase public awareness in the wise use of the state's natural resources including, but not limited to land use, watershed management, wetlands, water quality, community planning, growth management and use of natural resource related technology.

_____ **Legislative Committee-** This committee seeks to develop, maintain, and cultivate relationships with local, state, national groups, and legislators to influence legislation which affects Conservation Districts and natural resources.