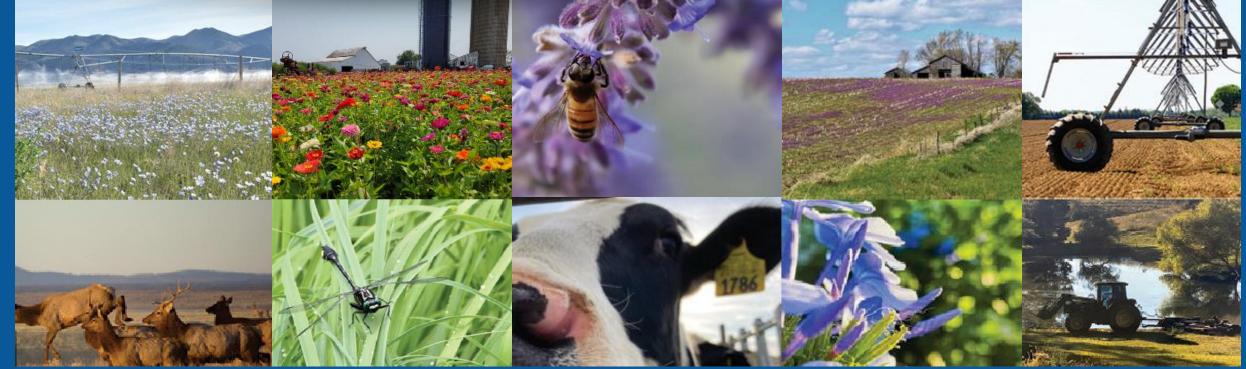


## National Association of Conservation Districts





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www.nacdnet.org

# What does NACD do?







Advocate for conservation districts with a unified voice



**Communicate** the value of conservation districts



**Educate and develop** conservation leaders



Provide grants and services to conservation districts





## **Our Brand of Conservation**







### • Locally led

- Voluntary
- Incentive-based
- Nonpartisan
- Conservation for all lands and all people

## Your NACD Leadership



President Kim LaFleur Massachusetts



Wark Wast

Georgia



First Vice-President Gary Blair Mississippi



Immediate Past President Michael Crowder

Washington



Second Vice-President Bill Simshauser

Kansas



Chief Executive Officer Jeremy Peters Washington, D.C.



# Advocacy

### and what it means for you



- NACD speaks on behalf of conservation districts with *one voice*
- NACD's Legislative Committee and Government Affairs Team develops and supports policy requests
- NACD's Spring Fly-In provides an opportunity for members to meet with their legislators on Capitol Hill



# What's up in Washington?

### Farm Bill

- One-year extension expired on September 30.
- Critical USDA programs, including conservation programs, will continue, but a full bill or additional extension will need to be passed before the end of the calendar year to prevent arcane commodity laws from going into effect.
- The congressional agriculture committees are still attempting to pass a full bill in the lame duck session. While possible, it will require immediate action and resolution of several policy disagreements related to overall funding, the nutrition title, and the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC).
- NACD is working with agriculture committee leaders to consider integrating IRA funding into a separate legislative vehicle if a farm bill is not passed this year.

# What's up in Washington? (continued)

### **FY25 Appropriations**

- Congress has until December 20 to pass a full FY25 spending bill or another Continuing Resolution.
- NACD's top appropriations priority is to increase funding for NRCS
   Conservation Operations, which supports conservation technical assistance.

### **2024 Election Update**

- Effective **bipartisan collaboration** has been one of NACD's greatest strengths since its establishment in the 1940s.
- In the coming months, NACD will be focused on connecting and working with new administration officials and Congressional members.

# **Policy Development**

### **Upcoming Deadlines:**

- November 15, 2024 deadline to submit policy sunset challenges
   NACD Board Members can challenge the sunsetting of one or more policies.
- December 13, 2024 deadline to submit NACD Bylaw amendments
   The NACD Board of Directors, region boards, the executive board, and
   state/territory associations of conservation districts may submit proposed
   bylaw amendments.
- **December 21, 2024** deadline to submit new resolutions

State or territory associations, region boards, committees, subcommittees, and the executive board may submit new resolutions for the full board to consider.



# Communications & Publications

### stay informed





### Stories for and by you

- Weekly eResource
- Quarterly The Resource
- Monthly Forestry Notes
- Weekly news, Conservation Clips

# Youth Education & Outreach



- 2024 Stewardship theme: "May the Forest Be With You Always"
- 2025 Stewardship theme: Home Is Where the Habitat Is"
- Photo and poster contests
- NACD Education Hub is a one-stop-shop for K-8 materials



# Leadership Development

# NACD invests in developing conservation leaders

- NACD Board of Directors provides opportunities to work on a national scale
- In-person educational and training opportunities at Annual and Summer Meetings

National Conservation Foundation (NCF)

Next Generation Leadership Institute





Agriculture Future of America (AFA) + NACD

Sustainability Institute

# **Outreach & Technical Assistance Grants**



#### Bring in new people

Involve new and historically underserved producers in conservation

#### **Build Resilience**

Improve economic and environmental resilience in rural and urban communities





#### **Address Issues**

Food security, heat equity, clean water, and more

#### Learn more here



# **Urban and Community Conservation Grants**

Learn more here





Provide urban technical assistance and small-scale conservation in both urban and rural areas

### Eligibility

Conservation districts, state associations and agencies, tribal organizations, RC&Ds



# Friends of NACD District Grants Program



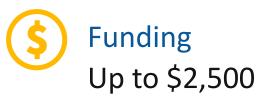
### Mission

Conduct new activities or test novel approaches to district operations



Eligibility

Member conservation districts



Learn more



Now seeking proposals through November 30, 2024!

# Climate-Smart Commodities Grant Program





### Eligibility

Public and private entities, must involve conservation districts



#### Funding

**\$80** million for outreach, technical, financial, and marketing assistance

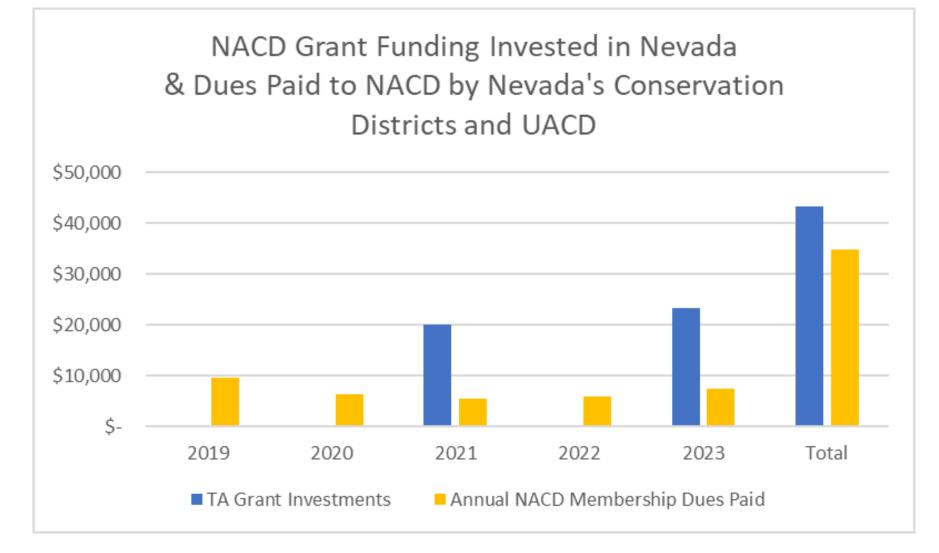


Foster private-public partnerships, implement climate-smart practices, support participation in markets

#### Learn more



## Investing in each other



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# 2025 NACD Annual Meeting



### February 8-12, 2025

Hyatt Regency Salt Lake City, UT



Online registration open through **January 17, 2025**! Onsite registration available

Scan to register online



# Get Involved





We can get more conservation on the ground together!



#### Attend a meeting





#### Apply for grants



### Share your input



Share your stories



Grow your membership





### Contact Info

### **Bill Simshauser**

2nd Vice President

bill-simshauser@nacdnet.org





### Contact Info

### **Rachel Theler**

Southwest Region Representative P: 719-398-3423 rachel-theler@nacdnet.org





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