

2023 Adams County Conservation District - Goals & Objectives

Mission Statement

Promoting voluntary conservation and good stewardship of Adams County’s natural resources.

Vision Statement

Our vision is to be recognized, respected and trusted as the conservation leader of Adams County, enabling the people to sustain, use and conserve our natural resources through the 21st century, thus maintaining a balance and harmony between a profitable agricultural economy and other land uses to enhance the County’s quality of life.

Critical Natural Resources (examples): water quality and quantity, soils, forests, wetlands, stormwater, agricultural lands, riparian buffers, the Fruit Belt, outdoor recreational opportunities, and wildlife habitat.

GOALS	OBJECTIVES	2023 TARGETS
<p>1. Protect, conserve and enhance natural resources in Adams County that are impacted by agricultural operations or development-related earth disturbance activities.</p>	<p>Promote appropriate planning and management in agricultural activities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate results of the advanced nutrient management grant and explore new funding opportunities to continue and improve the program. • Review 25% of submitted Nutrient Balance Sheets to ensure accuracy. • Through the Chesapeake Bay Program inspection process, ensure that resource concerns are identified and that appropriate practices are included during plan development. • Promote and administer the PACD Ag Plan Reimbursement Program. • Coordinate the RC&D and DEP BMP Verification Contract and assist personnel in ensuring that information is properly collected and reported in an efficient manner.
	<p>Minimize erosion, sedimentation, and nutrients.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete annual self-evaluation of our Chapter 102 Program • Stay informed and be prepared for Chapter 102 e-permitting. • Exceed the Department of Environmental Protection’s (DEP) Required Output Measures required under 102 Program delegation agreement. • Conduct 350 inspections including 1 inspection of each active NPDES permitted project. • Transition to PracticeKeeper as the new Chapter 102 database to efficiently store and retrieve necessary data by July 1, 2023. • Plan, layout, survey, design and implement 75 agricultural, structural Best Management Practices (BMPs). • Coordinate with 5 producers to develop fertilizer only nutrient management plans and enter in Practice Keeper. Identify, evaluate, and pursue opportunities to make full use of Agricultural Conservation Assistance Program (ACAP) funding for BMP implementation. • Reach out to at least two non-certified municipalities to provide information about the program. • Meet with at least four certified municipalities to provide either technical help with developing a plan or administrative help with the application process and submission of a complete application.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold an informational meeting for municipalities about the types of projects that the Dirt Gravel and Low Volume Road Maintenance Program can fund.
	Promote appropriate management of stormwater.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present at 2 events to promote reforestation and lawns to meadow programs in our urban and suburban areas.
	Increase watershed protection activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install 30+ acres of forest riparian buffers and native wildflower meadows and make site preparations for 30+ acres. • Install 7,350 feet of stream bank stabilization/floodplain restoration BMPs. • Install 4,131 square feet of stormwater BMPs. • Assist in filling out permits for conservation projects
2. Promote the understanding, stewardship and wise use of natural resources.	Educate the public on conservation stewardship and promote conservation practices.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-coordinate an annual Tri-County Watershed Association Meeting. • Revive, evaluate, and modernize the Trout in the Classroom Programs and 2 County Envirothons. • Develop and align the Install & Educate Riparian Buffer Program with school curriculums and present to at least four schools. • Continue to provide and engage the Agricultural community with the Annual Soil Quality Meeting. • Provide at least 4 timely and pertinent publications to the ag community. • Coordinate with all 8 Countywide Action Plan (CAP) Advisory Teams to continue to advance relative CAP goal. • Present the Schoolyard and Best Management Practice virtual afterschool seminar series to county school administrators, teachers, and maintenance staff. • Update the ACCD's webpage to include user-friendly maps and videos. Produce and publish 5 education videos to explain ACCD programs. • Work with the Adams County Planting Partnership to distribute 20,000 native trees to county residents and assist with local volunteer tree planting projects.
3. Protect public health and safety as related to environmental issues.	Reduce the risk of Mosquito-borne Disease (MBD) transmission to the residents of Adams County.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold 3 MBD outreach events and publish at least 2 articles. • Exceed DEP's Required Output Measures required under the MBD Control and Tick Surveillance Program.
4. Sustain the organization to efficiently and effectively achieve its mission.	Ensure sufficient financial resources to fund annual operations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase District revenues through various grants and non-county funding sources. • Explore account balance levels to invest into CDs and other investment options.
	Monitor and identify emerging issues related to natural resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote and raise awareness of the non-traditional Ag BMP's identified in the County's Countywide Action Plan and find innovative ways to implement those BMPs.
	Encourage excellence in all Conservation District staff,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide the necessary tools and training opportunities to all staff and Directors/Associate Directors.

	Directors, and Associate Directors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase District staff experience with projects to increase capacity for Ag BMP engineering and conservation plan writing. • Attend stream survey training when available through the Center for Dirt and Gravel Studies.
	Maintain and establish working relationships with cooperating agencies, the County, municipalities and other groups whose work supports the Conservation District's mission.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply for at least 2 different grants to assist CAP implementation.
	Maintain the Adams County Agricultural and Natural Resources Center in support of the Conservation District and as a community resource.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to fulfill deliverables in the Ag Center Emergency Action Plan. • Update District's lobby and travel displays. • Notify County of interest to negotiate new or renewed lease no later than May 30, 2023.

2023 TARGETS – This is not a comprehensive work plan for the Conservation District. These targets may include new projects, priority projects, highlighted projects, and project targets that are not specifically numerated in the job descriptions of the Conservation District staff.