



Conservation District Directors

Carl Keller Jr. - Farm Director, Chair
Ed Wilkinson - Farm Director, Vice-chair
Michelle Kirk - Farm Director, Treasurer
Jim Martin - Commissioner Director
Charles A. Bennett - Public Director
Rick Crouse - Public Director
Dave Benner - Farm Director

Associate Directors

Sue Cipperly Alan Zepp
Patrick Naugle George Weikert
Eric Mains

Staff

Adam McClain - District Manager	Ext. 3044
Mary Smith - Staff Accountant	3041
Susan Landauer – Admin. Specialist	3040
Brian Sneeringer - Ag Conservation Technician Supervisor	3050
TJ VonHagn – Ag Conservation Tech	3047
Ben Smith – Ag Conservation Tech	3043
Anastasia Miller – Chesapeake Bay Tech	3046
Russell Ryan - Resource Conservationist	3048
Debra Musselman - Resource Cons. Tech	3051
Vy Trinh – Watershed Specialist	3045
Ricky Whitmore – Community Countywide Action Plan Coordinator	3053
Christina Anders - Mosquito-borne Disease Control Coordinator/Conservation Tech	3049

ADAMS COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT



*Conserving Natural Resources
For Our Future*

***Mission** is to promote voluntary conservation and good stewardship of Adams County's natural resources.*



Adams County Conservation District
670 Old Harrisburg Road, Suite 201
Gettysburg, PA 17325
Phone: 717-334-0636 /Fax: 717-334-0786
www.adamscountypa.gov

The **Adams County Conservation District (Conservation District)** was established by the Adams County Commissioners on November 14, 1947 under the provisions of Act 217, “State Soil and Water Conservation District Law”. The Conservation District Board of Directors (Board) is nominated by local “nominating organizations” and appointed by the County Commissioners. The Board is comprised of four farming members, two public members, and a County Commissioner.

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.



Cover crop installed to keep soil in the field over winter

As professionals, we strive to achieve community satisfaction by providing technical excellence, a positive attitude, consistency, cooperation, and good judgment in program administration.



Newly constructed grass waterway

Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP)

The purpose of the CBP is to reduce sediment and nutrients entering the Chesapeake Bay by ensuring that agricultural operations meet state compliance standards through farm inspections; assisting operators and landowners in completing agricultural erosion and sedimentation plans and manure management plans. Staff also assists producers with the installation of agricultural best management practices (BMPs) such as manure storage structures, barnyard runoff control projects, waterways, terraces, and diversions as well as educating and promoting the use of no-till and cover crops to increase soil quality.

Dirt, Gravel and Low Volume Roads Program

The Dirt, Gravel and Low Volume Roads Program provides funding to local municipalities to address water quality problems on dirt, gravel and low volume roads (less than 500 vehicles per day). Stream crossings are necessary to allow for vehicle

travel and the intersection of these roads and streams is something that can and does create water quality problems. The goal of this program is to help provide the resources to local municipalities to maintain the roads that intersect streams and other water bodies in an environmentally sensitive way that can improve and protect our local water quality.



Culvert crossing replaced on Bittle Road, Germany Twp from a 30 inch pipe to 9 foot wide box culvert

Chapter 102 Erosion Control Program

The purpose of this program is to minimize accelerated erosion from earthmoving activities by establishing a strategy for erosion and sediment control within a particular project. An Erosion and Sediment Control Plan is required for earthmoving activity, such as home construction, land development, and stream bank improvement. At a minimum it should contain provisions to: (1) Limit the amount of grading (2) minimize the length of time the earth is exposed, and (3) trap any sediment on the site. The District is responsible for reviewing E&S Plans, performing routine inspections, conducting workshops, and investigating complaints.



Active erosion is controlled with silt sock

NPDES Program

For earthmoving activities in Adams County, the Conservation District administer portions of the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program for Pennsylvania’s Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). Most earthmoving activity disturbing more than one (1) acre must have a NPDES permit. The District will receive, review, and acknowledge portions of the permit.

Watershed Specialist

The Watershed Specialist is a resource to both the public and private sectors. This program provides technical assistance to all watershed stakeholders to improve the quality and quantity of surface and groundwater resources in Adams County and the Commonwealth. The focus of this work relates to watershed assessment, procurement of funding, technical assistance, educational outreach, and the creation and implementation of work plans and strategies to restore and protect groundwater and surface water resources. Through this program, the Conservation District has partnered with countless local organizations for the protection

of groundwater and surface water resources county-wide.



Volunteers installing a riparian buffer

Education and Outreach

The District provides many educational and outreach opportunities throughout Adams County to residents of all ages and to local elected officials. County programs include the High School and Middle School Envirothons, Trout in the Classroom program, Rain Barrel program, Soil Health meeting, Manure Management workshops, private well water testing, and many other natural resource related workshops and presentations.



2023 High School Envirothon winners

Mosquito-borne Disease Control Surveillance Program

The primary goal of this program is to mitigate the risk and transmission of mosquito-borne diseases such as West Nile Virus and Zika to humans. To accomplish this, DEP and the Conservation District have established a comprehensive surveillance and control plan. The plan involves identifying areas within the County that contain mosquito breeding habitat and collecting mosquitos for testing.

Once mosquito populations are found to be infected with the virus, the population is reduced using an integrated pest management approach. The Conservation District and/or DEP treats the infected area with techniques including habitat reduction, larval pesticide application, and/or adult mosquito spraying.



Mosquito larvae surveillance

For more information about the Adams County Conservation District’s programs, call 717-334-0636 or visit www.adamscountypa.gov.