



10-Minute Supervisor Trainings

Kentucky Soil and Water Conservation Commission

February 2016

Research Committee

This committee strives to ensure methods to protect and conserve our natural resources are based on sound research.

The committee recommends conservation districts carry out the following actions:

- Districts should make every effort to ensure pertinent research from institutions and organizations is accessible and available to landowners throughout the Commonwealth.
- Districts should utilize the Kentucky Agriculture Science and Monitoring Committee website (http://ky.water.usgs.gov/projects/ky_ag_monitoring_committee/index.html) to share information from research facilities such as the University of Kentucky, regional universities, USGS in Louisville, USDA-ARS (Agricultural Research Service) and the Department of Agriculture and others.
- Districts should work with DOC and NRCS in determining needed research and implementing new practices that continue to improve water quality, productivity, and the environment.
- Districts should tailor existing and emerging technologies into Kentucky agricultural enterprises such as carbon sequestration and selling credits; odor control associated with large animal operations; and wetland restoration techniques.
- Districts are highly encouraged to continue to promote the use of no-till and minimum tillage along with grassland systems due to their proven benefits in reducing soil erosion, energy conservation and farm operating costs.
- Districts should participate in watershed monitoring activities such as Watershed Watch, and other water testing programs because of the increased emphasis on reduction of pollution by nutrients, sediment, pathogens and other sources of water quality impairment.
- Districts should actively participate in the Kentucky Agriculture Science and Monitoring Committee (KASMC).
- Districts should work to integrate reclamation practices with all land disturbing activities to minimize aquifer damage, minimize sludge ponds and to protect both quantity and quality of water supplies.



- Districts should take advantage of training opportunities available through KACD, the Division of Conservation, UK, NRCS, USDA-ARS, USGS and other agencies with technical capacity in the area of nutrient management.
- Districts should develop reclamation practices that will enhance productivity, aesthetics, building sites, wildlife habitat and recreation, plan reclamation for long-term site stability by minimizing subsidence, slumping, piping, and wind and water erosion and should partner with the KACD and the Division of Mine Reclamation and Enforcement to address reclamation efforts.
- Districts should develop programs that will inform those individuals involved with land disturbing activities on how to minimize off-site damages, control erosion on-site and enhance soil stability. Districts should continue research on urban erosion problems through refinement of construction BMP's for urban uses and provide technical guidance to address urban land-disturbing activities by building upon experience in rural areas and through the distribution and use of the Kentucky Erosion and Sediment Control Field Guide.
- Districts should support the Kentucky Forestry Conservation Act and the use of BMP's for silviculture operations.
- Districts should encourage the KY State Legislature to increase funding to research institutions/organizations for continued research in the agriculture and natural resources areas and support local conservation districts.