

About Us

Henricopolis Soil and Water Conservation District is a subdivision of state government responsible under state law for natural resource conservation. We are one of 47 Soil and Water Conservation Districts in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Henricopolis Soil and Water Conservation District was established in 1975. Its boundaries are those of Henrico County.

The District is governed by a five-member board of directors formed of local citizens who serve without pay. Three director positions are elected and two positions are appointed. The District employs staff to carry out and administer District programs.

The District works hand-in-hand with state, federal, and county agencies and departments, other conservation organizations, schools, and other community partners to achieve our conservation objectives.

“Henricopolis Happenings”

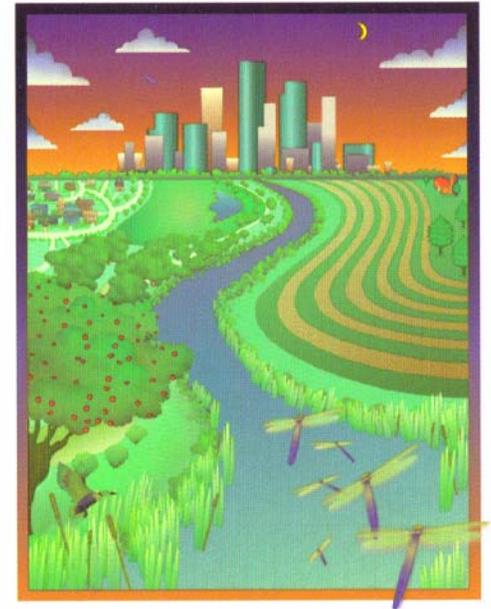
The District publishes a quarterly newsletter. Articles address local and regional conservation issues, important District news and events, and District programs. Contact us to be placed on the mailing list.

Henricopolis Soil & Water
Conservation District
8600 Dixon Powers Drive
Richmond, VA 23228
804-501-5175

e-mail: hswcd@co.henrico.va.us
www.co.henrico.va.us/swcd

Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Monday through Friday.

Henricopolis Soil and Water Conservation District



Helping Henrico County
Conserve Natural Resources

What's a watershed?

Although everyone lives in a **watershed**, most people don't know the actual meaning of the word. Put simply, a watershed is all the land that drains into a given body of water. This body of water can be a creek, pond, river or ocean. Generally speaking, the larger the body of water, the larger its watershed. The Chesapeake Bay watershed, for example, covers 64,000 square miles and drains from six states including 60 percent of Virginia.

One thing all watersheds have in common is people, and where you have people, you have land-disturbance. When people alter land - to farm, to build, to landscape, for transportation, etc. - they must ensure that changes don't cause runoff pollution for other people or plants and animals downstream that depend on clean, usable water.



The technical term for this type of pollution is **nonpoint source pollution**. There are many ways all of us can prevent such pollution to keep Virginia's creeks, rivers and bays clean and productive. The programs offered by Henricopolis Soil & Water Conservation District are intended to help address the problem of nonpoint source pollution.

Education and Outreach

The District offers many educational programs which target a variety of audiences. Henricopolis has placed increasing emphasis on classroom education programs based on the VA Standards of Learning. Resources include activities, games, models, videos, skits, and more. The District also has a variety of resources available to teachers for use in the classroom.

- Classroom programs
- Project Learning Tree, Project WET, & Project Underground activities
- Envirothon competition
- Tree planting program
- Natural Resource Conservation Week
- Soil & Water Stewardship Week
- Poster contest
- Scholarship program
- Sponsor participation in conservation-related camps
- Participation in local and community events

Please visit our website for a detailed list of available educational programs.

Agriculture Programs

- Agriculture Best Management Practice Cost-Share Program
- Conservation Planning Assistance
- Nutrient Management Planning Assistance

Conservation Programs

- Residential Soil Test Program
- Seedling Giveaway
- Rain Barrel Program
- Workshops

Technical Assistance

District staff is available to assist homeowners and help them assess the environmental impact of various site-specific problems such as soil erosion, storm-water runoff, or drainage issues.

Other Resources

The District maintains and updates a large quantity of conservation reference materials, technical sheets, and brochures in the District office. The USDA Soil Survey of Henrico County is available for review in the District office. Various maps pertaining to topography, wetland, and hydrologic information as well as historic aerial photographs are also available for review in the District office. These resources are available to both the public and private sector for review.

Please visit our website for more detailed information about the District and its programs
www.co.henrico.va.us/swcd