

**DRAFT PROGRAM (2025 Meeting)****Guest Speakers**

NC Commissioner of Agriculture Steve Troxler - Confirmed  
Foundation President Jimmy Gentry – Confirmed  
President Shawn Harding – Confirmed  
Liz Driscoll (Milton Heath Lecture) – Confirmed  
NACD Secretary/Treasurer Mark Masters (Supervisor Breakfast) - Confirmed  
Jennifer Brooks (EE Dinner) - Confirmed

**2024 NCASWCD Officers**

President – Billy Kilpatrick (Duplin)  
First Vice President – Barbara Bleiweis (Mecklenburg)  
Second Vice President – Gail Hughes (Guilford)  
Past President – George Teague (Guilford)  
Secretary – Lena Simmons (Cumberland)  
Treasurer – Josh Myers (Guilford)  
Assistant Treasurer – Bill Yarborough (Haywood)  
NACD Brd Member – Myles Payne (Alexander)  
Alt. NACD Brd Member – Craig Myers (Davie)  
Chaplain – Marvin Cavanaugh (Stokes)  
Asst. Chaplain – Tracy Warren (Beaufort)

**81<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE  
NC ASSOCIATION OF SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS**

**JANUARY 5-8, 2025  
Sheraton Imperial  
Durham, NC**

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 4, 2025 (Additional Registration Required)**

12:00 PM to 6 PM BASIC TRAINING **Crown Room**

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 2024**

9:30 AM NC SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION WORK  
SESSION – **Empire AB**  
John Langdon, Chairperson, Presiding  
*1 Hour of Supervisor Training Credit for Work Session or Meeting*

2:00-3:00 DEA EXECUTIVE BOARD **Crystal Coast Ballroom**  
Marybeth Watkins, DEA President, Presiding

2:00-6:00 PM REGISTRATION OPEN **Empire & Auditorium Foyer**

- 2:00-6:00 PM EXHIBIT HALL REGISTRATION & MOVE IN **Imperial 1,2,3**
- 12:30-2:30 PM NCASWCD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING **Empire AB**  
 Billy Kilpatrick, NCASWCD President, Presiding  
*1 Hour of Supervisor Training Credit*
- 1:00-3:00 PM FIRST TIMERS AND NEW SUPERVISOR ORIENTATION **Crown**  
 Franklin Williams, Past President, Facilitator  
*2 Hours of Supervisor Training Credit*
- 2:00-3:00 PM AUXILIARY SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE **Park Boardroom**  
 Betty Mathews, President, Presiding
- 3:00-5:00 PM NC SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING **Imperial 4,5,6,7**  
 John Langdon, Chairperson, Presiding  
*1 Hour of Supervisor Training Credit for Meeting or Work Session*
- 5:00-6:00 PM PRESIDENT'S WELCOME RECEPTION **Empire Ballroom**  
*A complimentary reception will be served; rotating event.*
- 7:30 PM MEMORIAL SERVICE **Imperial 4,5,6,7**  
 Marvin Cavanaugh, Chaplain Presiding  
 Inspirational Message: Marvin Cavanaugh  
 Special Music: Conservation Pickers
- 9:00 PM NOMINATING COMMITTEE MEETING (\*If Needed) **Park**  
 George Teague, Immediate Past President, Presiding
- 9:00 PM INFORMAL MUSIC JAM **Crown**

**MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 2025**

- 6:00 – 7:00 AM EXHIBITOR MOVE IN **Imperial 1,2,3**
- 6:30 AM – 2:00 PM REGISTRATION OPEN
- 6:45 AM SUPERVISORS' BREAKFAST **Empire CDE**  
*Doors Open 6:30 AM*
- Barbara Bleiweis, Vice-President, Presiding  
 Invocation: Marvin Cavanaugh, Chaplain  
 Oaths of Office -- New Area Chairs
- Comments from Candidates for 2<sup>nd</sup> VP and  
 Piedmont Commission Seat
- NACD Report and Update  
 Mark Masters-Secretary/Treasurer, NACD  
*1 Hour of Supervisor Training Credit*

*The initials SB are on your nametag if you purchased this meal in advance.*

- 7:00 AM – 6:00 PM EXHIBIT AREA OPEN **Imperial 1,2,3**
- 7:45 to 9:00 AM AUXILIARY HOSPITALITY **Piedmont**  
*Food and Coffee Provided*
- 8:30 AM GENERAL SESSION **Imperial 4,5,6,7**  
 Welcome: Billy Kilpatrick, President, Presiding
- Invocation: Marvin Cavanaugh, Chaplain  
 Presentation of Colors: Association Veterans  
 National Anthem:  
 Pledge of Allegiance: Led by President
- Durham County Welcome
- Executive Director Annual Report – Bryan Evans
- Foundation/Grange – President Jimmy Gentry
- North Carolina Farm Bureau – President Shawn Harding
- COMMENTS FROM THE TOP – Commissioner Steve Troxler  
*1 Hour of Supervisor Training Credit*
- 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM BANQUET SEATING RESERVATIONS  
*(Bring name tag to make seating selection.)*
- 9:30 AM – NOON AUXILIARY INFORMATIONAL **Auditorium**  
 SESSION & BUSINESS MEETING  
*See Separate Agenda for Auxiliary Activities*
- 10:00AM BREAK
- 10:30 AM BREAKOUT SESSIONS (KEEP IN MIND CERTIFICATION CREDITS OPPORTUNITIES)  
*1.5 Hours of Supervisor Training Credit per Session*

**SESSION #1 -- 2025 Executive Committee Orientation** **Crown**  
 Barbara Bleiweis, Association 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Facilitator

*Are you an incoming 2025 Area Chair or a member of the 2024 Executive Committee who will continue serving in 2025? If so, this session is specifically designed with you in mind. You will leave the session better informed about specific duties and responsibilities for the upcoming year. There will be plenty of time for dialogue with the incoming president, regarding goals and expectations for 2025. Whether you're a first-time member of the Executive Committee or a veteran, this session is a must for getting you prepared for your role.*

**SESSION #2 – District Human Resource Topics****Royal**

*Please join us to hear from NCDA&CS staff regarding human resources topics of interest, including recognizing and preventing hostile work environments, developing leadership skills, and employee development and retention. As local soil and water conservation district supervisors work with staff to maintain a positive work environment in your district, these are topics you don't want to miss!*

**SESSION #3- Feral Swine and the District****Crystal Coast**

*Please join us to hear from staff from the NCDA&CS Veterinary Division as they discuss the Feral Swine Trapping Program. Also, districts already participating in the program will be here to share their experience and your opportunity as a District to assist with this program.*

**SESSION #4- Veterans in Agriculture****Empire AB**

*This session will identify opportunities for veterans in agriculture and programs to assist Districts in serving those who have served our country.*

**SESSION #5 - Flood Resiliency Blueprint****Bull Durham**

*The Blueprint is a first-of-its-kind program in North Carolina and represents the largest statewide flood mitigation investment in state history. An online decision support tool and associated planning will drive state, regional and community decision-making and guide the legislature in making funding decisions. When completed, the Blueprint will lead to an actionable set of projects and funding strategies that state and other government entities can implement to reduce flooding, mitigate the impacts of flooding, and increase a community's ability to maintain and quickly resume pre-storm activities following flooding. Districts desiring to attract funding for their flood resiliency priorities should attend to learn more about this landmark project for NC.*

**SESSION #6 - Community Conservation****Royal A**

*This session will discuss Community Conservation BMPS and projects. As the CCAP program continues to grow and project requests increase, information shared will provide tools that could increase the Community Conservation efforts of your District.*

**SESSION #7- Environmental Education Resources****Imperial IV**

*At this session, we will be discussing the potential for a new curriculum for District educators that have a District focus. There will also be information on the NEW Wilkes SWCD Mobile Soils Trailer.*

**Session #8 –StRAP and Contract Management****Imperial VI&VII**

*StRAP funding can support a wide variety of project types, from stream debris removal, stream restoration, and watershed structure repair. This talk will review some of the considerations that can help streamline the implementation of a StRAP funded project. Federal and State Procurement Guidelines can differ greatly with regard to the funding sources. What are the funding sources and what to consider when deciding what, if any choices I have to execute my project.*

NOON

CONSERVATION AWARENESS LUNCH

**Empire CDE**

Craig Frazier, Legislative Committee Chair, Presiding

*1 Hour of Supervisor Training Credit**The initials CA are on your nametag if you purchased this meal in advance.*

1:30 PM

COMMITTEE CHAIRS' AND RECORDERS' MEETING **Auditorium**

## 2:00-5:00 PM RESOURCE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Community Conservation Committee	<b>Imperial VI&amp;VII</b>
District Operations Committee	<b>Imperial IV</b>
Education Committee	<b>Bull Durham</b>
Finance Committee	<b>Crystal Coast</b>
Legislative C ommittee	<b>Royal</b>
Natural Environment Committee	<b>Crown</b>
Research and Technology Committee	<b>Royal A</b>
Water Resources Committee	<b>Empire AB</b>

*Supervisor Training Credits offered based on presentations*

6:30 PM	CONSERVATION EDUCATION DINNER	<b>Empire CDE</b>
	Gail Hughes, Education Committee Chair, Presiding	
	Education Awards: Envirothon Hall of Fame	
	EE Awards and Recognitions	
	Teachers of the Year	

*The initials ED are on your nametag if you purchased this meal in advance.*

8:00 PM	AUXILIARY AUCTION	<b>Empire CDE</b>
9:00 PM	INFORMAL MUSIC JAM	<b>Crown</b>

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2025**

7:45 to 9:00 AM	AUXILIARY HOSPITALITY	<b>Piedmont</b>
7:30 to 5:00 PM	REGISTRATION OPEN	
7:00 to 2:00 PM	E X P O OPEN	<b>Imperial 1,2,3</b>
8:30 AM	GENERAL SESSION	<b>Imperial 4,5,6,7</b>
	Billy Kilpatrick, President, Presiding	
	Invocation: Marvin Cavanaugh, Chaplain	
8:45 AM	Ongoing Projects - Biochar, Swine Trapping	
9:05 AM	Will Harman – Improving Stream and Floodplain Resiliency	
	Post Disaster	
	ELECTION – Coastal 2 <sup>nd</sup> VP, Piedmont Commission Seat	

10:00 – 10:30 AM BREAK

**In Expo**

10:30AM GENERAL SESSION Resumes  
Billy Kilpatrick, President, Presiding

**Milton Heath Lecture – RCW - Building Future Conservationist**

Liz Driscoll, NC State University

*1 Hour of Supervisor Training Credit*

**AWARD PRESENTATIONS**

Length of Service

NCASWCD Outstanding Employees of the Year and District Awards

9:30 –Noon AUXILIARY INFORMATION SESSION  
and BUSINESS MEETING

**Auditorium**

NOON DEA LUNCHEON

**Empire CDE**

Marybeth Watkins, DEA President, Presiding

*The initials DL are on your nametag if you purchased this meal in advance.*

1:30 PM NRCS STAFF MEETING

**Auditorium**

1:30 PM NCASWCD BUSINESS MEETING

**Imperial 4,5,6,7**

Barbara Bleiweis, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Presiding

Parliamentarian, TBD

**REPORTS**

NRCS Comments

Tim Beard, State  
Conservationist

District Employee's Association Report

Marybeth Watkins,  
President

Auxiliary Report

Betty Mathews, President

RC&D Report

Matt Settlemyer,

Southwest Council ED

Division Comments

David Williams, Director

Foundation Report

Jimmy Gentry, President

Amanda Sand, Exec. Dir.

*1 Hour of Supervisor Training Credit***ACTION ITEMS**

Nominating Committee Report	George Teague
Other Actions Items (TBD)	
Committee Reports	Committee Chairs

6:30 PM BANQUET

**Imperial 4,5,6,7**

Billy Kilpatrick, President, Presiding

Invocation: Marvin Cavanaugh, Chaplain

OUTSTANDING N.C. CONSERVATION FARM FAMILY AWARDS

PIEDMONT REGION – Advantage Outdoors, LLC

MOUNTAIN REGION – D&amp;M Farms

Hall of Fame Induction Franklin Williams, HOF Chair

President's Award, Billy Kilpatrick

NC Foundation Presentation Jimmy Gentry, President

Outgoing President's Remarks Billy Kilpatrick, President

Installation of 2025 NCASWCD President

Handing Over the Gavel Billy Kilpatrick, 2024 President

Incoming President's Remarks Barbara Bleiweis, 2025 President

9:00 – 11:00 PM INFORMAL MUSIC JAM **Crown****WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2025**9:00 AM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE BREAKFAST MEETING **Crystal Coast***1 Hour of Supervisor Training Credit*





Hotel Map

