

March 22, 2021

To: Participants in the Locally Led Conservation II Training Series Session #4

From: LeAnn Buck, Executive Director, MASWCD
Keith Kloubec, Assistant State Conservationist-Programs, NRCS

Welcome to the final session for staff of the March online training series where the spotlight is on **Locally Led Conservation**.

This week's session is *Making Local Working Groups Customized*. Specifically, the aim of this session is supporting you to take ideas away from this training series to make your Locally Led Conservation even better (even if you go virtual).

- **Setting the Stage for Today** –LeAnn and Keith
- **Diversifying Participation with Effective Recruiting** - Molly Voeller, Public Affairs Specialist, NRCS
- **Hosting an Effective LWG Meeting Online** – Lisa Hinz, University of Minnesota Extension, and Donna Rae Scheffert, Leadership Tools, Northfield
- **Better Together: SWCDs and NRCS** – Sara Gronfeld, Traverse SWCD and LeAnn
- **Small Group Discussion:**



What ideas do I have to enhance my Locally Led Conservation work? What next best step(s) am I going to take with Locally Led Conservation goals or actions?

- **Closing** – Keith and LeAnn

NOTES: Included in this packet is a handout with each segment of the agenda and space for your key take-aways, notes, and action ideas to jot down as you go along.

TIPS FOR SUCCESS:

1. Log onto Zoom 5-10 minutes before the session begins to be sure your connections are working well. You will be in a waiting room.
2. Preference for participation is for video camera on and muted.
3. Use the chat feature to share questions and ideas, and as time allows a response will be given or look for follow-up information after the session.
4. The session will be recorded (exception is the breakout discussion) and posted in April after the conclusion of the series. We encourage live participation as that will have the greatest benefit.

Thank you for investing in this time. We value your active involvement.

Locally Led Conservation Training Series

#4 Making LWG Customized



How to take ideas from this training series to make your Locally Led Conservation even better (even if you go virtual)

Agenda and Presenters

Welcome, Purpose, Goals, and Game

Keith Klobec, NRCS _____

LeAnn Buck, MASWCD _____

Donna Rae Scheffert, Leadership Tools

Lisa Hinz, U of MN Extension _____

Key Ideas and Notes

Diversifying Participation with Effective Recruiting

Molly Voeller, NRCS _____

Hosting an Effective LWG Meeting Online

Donna Rae Scheffert, Leadership Tools

Lisa Hinz, U of MN Extension

Better Together: SWCDs and NRCS

LeAnn Buck, MASWCD

Sara Gronfeld, SWCD _____

Discussion:

*What ideas do I have to enhance my
Locally Led Conservation work?*

*What next best step(s) am I going to take
with Locally Led Conservation goals or
actions?*

To share: *What 2-3 ideas does our group
have for enhancing locally led
conservation work?*

RESOURCE CONCERN CATEGORIES

RESOURCE CONCERNS

Air Quality Emissions		Pest Pressure
Emissions of airborne reactive nitrogen		Plant pest pressure
Emissions of greenhouse gases - GHGs		
Emissions of ozone precursors		Salt Losses to Water
Emissions of particulate matter (PM) and PM		Salt transported to groundwater
Objectionable odor		Salt transported to surface water
Aquatic Habitat		Soil Quality Limitations
Aquatic habitat for fish and other organisms		Aggregate instability
Elevated water temperature		Compaction
		Concentration of salts or other chemicals
Concentrated Erosion		Organic matter depletion
Bank erosion from streams, shorelines, or water		Soil organism habitat loss or degradation
Classic gully erosion		Subsidence
Ephemeral gully erosion		
Degraded Plant Condition		Source Water Depletion
Plant productivity and health		Groundwater depletion
Plant structure and composition		Inefficient irrigation water use
		Surface water depletion
Field Sediment, Nutrient, and Pathogen Loss		Storage and Handling of Pollutants
Nutrients transported to groundwater		Nutrients transported to groundwater
Nutrients transported to surface water		Nutrients transported to surface water
Pathogens and chemicals from manure, biosolids, or compost applications transported to groundwater		Petroleum, heavy metals, and other pollutants transported to groundwater
Pathogens and chemicals from manure, biosolids, or compost applications transported to surface water		Petroleum, heavy metals, and other pollutants transported to surface water
Sediment transported to surface water		
		Terrestrial Habitat
Field Pesticide Loss		Terrestrial habitat for wildlife and
Pesticides transported to groundwater		
Pesticides transported to surface water		Weather Resilience
		Drifted snow
Fire Management		Naturally available moisture use
Wildfire hazard from biomass accumulation		Ponding and flooding
		Seasonal high water table
Inefficient Energy Use		Seeps
Energy efficient equipment and facilities		
Energy efficient farming/ranching practices and field		Wind and Water Erosion
		Sheet and rill erosion
Livestock Production Limitation		Wind erosion
Feed and forage balance		
Inadequate livestock shelter		
Inadequate livestock water quantity, quality, and		



LLC2 #4 EXAMPLE: Prioritization Spreadsheet



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	A	B	C	D	E	F
1		EXAMPLE: Prioritizing Resource Concerns				
2		Example Tool: Google Sheet				
3			Small Groups			
4		Farmstead Resource Concern	<i>Sample group:</i> Kelly, Maria, John, Abe	<i>Sample Group:</i> Stuart, Esther, Phyllis, George	Each R.C. TOTAL =	
5	1	Emissions of airborne reactive nitrogen	10	10	20	
6	2	Emissions of greenhouse gases			0	
7	3	Emissions of ozone precursors			0	
8	4	Emissions of particulate matter	5		5	
9	5	Objectionable odor		10	10	
10	6	Energy efficient equipment and facilities			0	
11	7	Energy efficient farming/ranching practices and field			0	
12	8	Feed and forage balance			0	
13	9	Inadequate livestock shelter			0	
14	10	Inadequate livestock water quantity, quality			0	
15	11	Nutrients transported to groundwater	15	5	20	
16	12	Nutrients transported to surface water	10		10	
17	13	Petroleum, heavy metals, etc. transported to ground water	10	25	35	
18	14	Petroleum, heavy metals, etc. transported to surface water			0	
19		TOTALS =	50	50		
20						

[INSERT SWCD LOGO HERE]

Media Advisory

Contact:

[NAME]

[EMAIL]

[PHONE]

[NAME] Soil and Water Conservation District to Convene Community Discussion on Local Conservation Priorities

Local meeting provides opportunity to make voice heard at the national level

What: The [NAME] Soil and Water Conservation District's annual Local Working Group meeting will take place on [DATE]. The annual community discussion provides an opportunity for landowners and people with an interest in agriculture, forestry and conservation to review and provide input on local conservation practices, and set future priorities for the region. The recommendations from this meeting will be sent to the United States Department of Agriculture.

While this meeting is open to the public, likely attendees include local agricultural producers, environmental agencies, and government agencies related to conservation.

When: [DATE]
[TIME]

Where: [NAME OF LOCATION]
[STREET ADDRESS]
[CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE]

###

[INSERT SWCD LOGO]

Join us for a Community Discussion about Conservation Priorities in our Region

[DATE], [TIME]

**[NAME OF LOCATION]
[ADDRESS]**

You're invited! The **[NAME]** Soil and Water Conservation District is hosting a community discussion on **[DATE]** at **[TIME]** at **[LOCATION]**. This annual meeting provides an opportunity to help set local conservation priorities and seek resources from state and national entities to implement conservation practices.

The **[NAME]** Soil and Water Conservation District's annual Local Working Group meeting provides an opportunity for landowners and people with an interest in agriculture and conservation to review and provide input on local conservation practices, and set future priorities for the area. The recommendations from this meeting will be shared with the Minnesota State Technical Committee of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), the lead agency on the implementation of the natural resources conservation provisions of Farm Bill legislation. [Click here](#) to learn more about the purpose of local working group meetings.

This meeting is open to the public, local agricultural producers, environmental agencies, and government agencies related to conservation. RSVPs are appreciated but not required.

Visit **[INSERT SWCD WEBSITE]** or contact **[NAME, TITLE]** at **[EMAIL/PHONE]** for more information or to RSVP.

Sample Agendas

[INSERT SWCD LOGO & INSERT USDA LOGO]

[NAME] Soil and Water Conservation District Local Working Group Meeting

Date: [INSERT]

Time: [INSERT]

Location: [INSERT]

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING:

- An open discussion to review funded local conservation efforts and provide input to inform future priorities for the area for Fiscal Year 2022

AGENDA: (75 minutes)

1. Welcome & Review: 10 minutes

- Welcome and introduction of facilitator and planning partner/team
- Introduction of meeting attendees
- Review meeting purpose
- Review action items from last meeting (if held in the last two years)
- Review the agenda
- Collect contact information from meeting attendees

2. Present SWCD Draft Priorities: 30 minutes

- Highlight key efforts and review current fiscal year decisions
- Review proposed priorities
- Introduce discussion to gather feedback, proposed revisions, and additions

3. Discuss Proposed Practice Changes and Technical Practice Recommendations: 15 minutes

- Introduce discussion to gather feedback and additions

4. Decision/Action Items: 15 minutes

- Establish/finalize the 2022 set of priorities

5. Next Steps: 5 minutes

- Wrap up and discuss the next steps in the process
- Thank individuals for attending

6. Adjourn

VARIATION – AGENDA FOR LONGER MEETING: (90 minutes)

1. Welcome & Review: 10 minutes

- Welcome and introduction of facilitator and planning partner/team
- Introduction of meeting attendees
- Review meeting purpose
- Review action items from last meeting (if held in the last two years)
- Review the agenda
- Collect contact information from meeting attendees

2. Develop SWCD Draft Priorities: 40 minutes

- Highlight key efforts and review current fiscal year decisions
- Share a list of resource causes appropriate to the area
 - Ask participants to discuss this key question: What conservation priorities might be our focus in the coming year?
- Record and review developing priorities
- Introduce discussion to gather feedback, proposed revisions, and additions

3. Discuss Proposed Practice Changes and Technical Practice Recommendations: 20 minutes

- Introduce discussion to gather feedback and additions

4. Decision/Action Items: 15 minutes

- Establish/finalize the 2022 set of priorities

5. Next Steps: 5 minutes

- Wrap up and discuss the next steps in the process
- Thank individuals for attending

6. Adjourn

Whaaat? Where is that?

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Then click on county
of choice.

