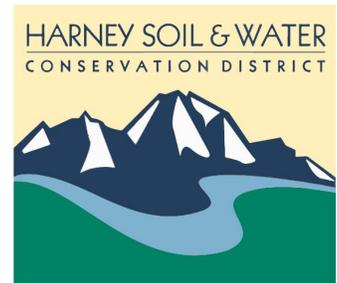




United States Department of Agriculture



**Natural Resources
Conservation
Service**

Hines Field Office

P.O. Box 848
Hines, OR 97738

Voice 541-573-6446
Fax 855-651-8903

Date: January 30, 2020
To: Harney County Local Work Group Participants
From: Zola Ryan, District Conservationist, NRCS – Hines Field Office
Shannon Brubaker, District Manager – Harney SWCD
Subject: Harney County Local Work Group Meeting

**Harney County Local Work Group Meeting
February 18, 2020
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Public Meeting Room, Harney Educational Service District
25 Fairview Heights, Burns**

You are invited to participate in the annual meeting of the Harney County Local Work Group. The Local Work Group provides input to the NRCS on local natural resource priorities and on the use of Farm Bill programs, such as the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) and the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP), to address those priorities. Participation in the Local Work Group is open to government agencies, non-governmental organizations, private landowners, and the general public.

This year, NRCS will be “sharing the floor” with the Harney Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD). Harney SWCD is preparing to write their Business Plan for 2021 – 2025 and will be gathering your input during the Local Work Group meeting.

Topics of discussion at the February 18 meeting will include an update on the progress made toward implementing the NRCS Long Range Strategy in 2019, discussion of priorities for fiscal years 2020 and 2021 Farm Bill funds, an overview of the current SWCD Business Plan, and discussion of priorities for the 2021-2025 SWCD Business Plan. An agenda is enclosed.

For more information regarding the Local Work Group or NRCS programs, please contact Zola Ryan, District Conservationist at 541-573-6446 ext. 107, or visit the USDA Service Center at 530 Highway 20 S. in Hines.

For more information regarding the Harney SWCD, please contact Shannon Brubaker, District Manager at 541-573-5010, or visit the SWCD office in the USDA Service Center.

A request for accommodations for persons with disabilities should be made at least 48 hours before the meeting to Zola Ryan, 541-573-6446 ext. 107.