“You can’t really know where you are going until you know where you have been.” - Maya Angelou

First SWCD established in NC & WI’s Soil Conservation District enacted – Chapter 92

1937

All 48 states enacted District Law

1945

Every WI county had an SWCD/SCD and the Association was formed

1946

NACD was established by SWCDs/SCDs

1953

WI SCDs were abolished and, in their place, LCDs and LCCs were formed

1982

WACD formed for LCCs

1984

WALCE formed for LCDs

2012

The two WI associations merged
“You can’t really know where you are going until you know where you have been.” - Maya Angelou

WI SCDs were abolished and, in their place, LCDs and LCCs were formed


Land Conservation Departments = Conservation Districts
Soil and Water Conservation Districts
Resource Conservation Districts
Soil Conservation Districts

Land Conservation Committees = Conservation District Commissioners
Conservation District Board Members
Conservation District Supervisors
What We Do

1. Provide one voice for conservation

2. Advocate for programs, policy, and funding for conservation on Capitol Hill and throughout the country

3. Communicate through publications, blogs and social media

4. Provide direct services to districts

5. Develop conservation leaders
NACD Publications

- eResource
- The Resource
- Forestry Notes
- Conservation Clips
- Daily Roundup

Go to www.nacdnet.org, click on the News Link >>> then click on the Publications Link to subscribe!
Direct Services

• Resources for Wisconsin, Resources for the future

To name just a few, NACD offers:

• Webinars

• The Soil Health Champions Network

• Grant Opportunities

• Stewardship and Education Materials & Resources
Soil Health Champions Network

Who are soil health champions?

• Farmers, ranchers, woodland owners, and a variety of land managers (both rural and urban) from across the nation who practice and promote good soil health management systems.

For more information on this network, contact Beth Mason (me) at beth-mason@nacdnet.org or 317-946-4463
Technical Assistance Grants

- $49 million in Technical Assistance Grants funding has been awarded nationwide

- NACD’s North Central Region has been awarded a total of $10,227,726 million, or 21% of total funding.
Urban Agriculture Conservation Grants

- Grants provide up to $60K to support planning or staffing for technical assistance

- Grants are open to any district working within a community agricultural space, even in areas that are not traditionally “urban”
Friends of NACD District Grants

- Friends of NACD have awarded nearly $60,000 in grant funding

- Up to $2,500 is available for conservation districts

- No match required

- Applications period is each fall
Stewardship & Education Materials

NACD members can access **stewardship & education materials** free of charge

“One Water” 2023

Free materials and print on demand services available at an affordable price!
Sneak Peek at 2024 theme...

MAY THE FOREST BE WITH YOU ALWAYS

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS STEWARDSHIP WEEK 2024
NACD Benefits Program

- Gold level or above and become eligible for insurance benefits
- Coverage for: health and wellbeing, including ACA-compliant health benefits, life insurance, auto/home protection and more

www.nacdnnet.org/mercer-benefits/
NACD and Wisconsin’s Land Conservation Departments Investing in Each Other

Since 2018, NACD has invested a total of $1,931,075 in grant funding in Wisconsin.
Providing Regional Representation & Connections

- PROGRAMS
- RESOURCES
- PEOPLE
- EVENTS
- LEGISLATION
- PROJECTS
- ISSUES
- PARTNERSHIPS
- POLICIES
- LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
- RESOURCE CONCERNS

Map of regional states:
- MN
- WI
- MI
- IL
- IN
- OH
- MO

States highlighted in blue.
NACD is a member of the National Conservation Planning Partnership (NCPP) along with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS); National Conservation District Employees Association (NCDEA); National Association of State Conservation Agencies (NASCA); and the National Association of Resource Conservation and Development Councils (NARC&DC) to promote and improve conservation planning.
Updates from NACD

- NACD & the 2023 Farm Bill
- NACD Government Affairs update
- Climate Smart Ag Program Funding
NACD & the 2023 Farm Bill

- Monitoring Congressional activity

- Creation of the NACD Farm Bill Task Force
  [https://www.nacdnet.org/about-nacd/what-we-do/farm-bill/](https://www.nacdnet.org/about-nacd/what-we-do/farm-bill/)
  - Farm Bill Principles
  - Farm Bill Recommendations

- NACD testimony from President Michael Crowder - September 20
  - Locally-led conservation model
  - Support Farm Bill conservation programs
  - Flexibility for producers within these programs
  - Update on NACD’s Farm Bill Task Force

- Forestry priorities

- Working with NACD members on talking points/info for outreach
Government Affairs Update

Farm Bill
  • On time?
  • CBO cost projections
  • SNAP

RCPP

Hearing: House Ag Subcommittee on Conservation, Research, and Biotechnology
Climate-Smart Commodities Grant

- NACD selected as a partner in USDA’s $2.8 billion Climate Smart Commodities program
- Program supports the production and marketing of climate-smart commodities through a set of pilot projects that provide voluntary incentives
Climate-Smart Commodities Grant

NACD Project Components

• Advance Pilots to Scale Climate-Smart Practices

• Carbon and Greenhouse Gases Quantification and MRV

• Market Facilitation and Access
Upcoming Events

• **July 13 – 18**: 2023 NACD Summer Conservation Forum and Tour | Bismarck, ND

• **July 23 – 29**: 2023 NCF-Envirothon Competition | Sackville, New Brunswick, Canada

• **January 11 – 12**: 2024 NACD North Central Region Partnership Meeting | Springfield, IL

• **February 10 – 14**: 2024 NACD Annual Meeting | San Diego, CA

• **April 28 – May 4**: 2024 Stewardship Week
NACD 2024 Annual Meeting
San Diego, California
February 10 - 14, 2024

Stay tuned for more information to come!

✓ Inspiring national speakers
✓ Informational/educational breakout sessions
✓ National Awards celebrations
✓ Local tours, and so much more!

https://www.nacdn.org/news-and-events/annual-meeting/