

Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioner Position to be filled in the 2022 General Election

Sample News Release

This year the Lexington Soil & Water Conservation District will have two District Commissioner Positions on the **November 8, 2022** General Election ballot.

The election of conservation district commissioners is through the petition process on a non-partisan basis. Conservation district commissioners are non-salaried officials. Candidates must be registered voters in the county in which they are seeking office. **The completed petition forms must be provided to the County Board of Voter Registration and Elections no later than 12:00 NOON, July 15, 2022 for a candidate's name to be placed on the November 8th General Election ballot.**

The conservation district is managed by a five-member board. These individuals serve as Conservation District Commissioners in each of the state's forty-six Soil and Water Conservation Districts. In South Carolina, conservation district boundaries are the same as county lines.

Conservation districts were created in 1937 by State law for the purpose of managing natural resources and assisting landowners with the latest management tools. The idea is that local citizens can best protect and conserve the natural resources in their communities.

Each year conservation district commissioners volunteer thousands of hours promoting soil and water conservation practices in urban and rural areas, and combating erosion and storm water problems. Their tasks include planning and directing a conservation program, assigning priority to resource development and serving as a community clearinghouse for information and services on natural resource issues. Regular board meetings are held, usually monthly, for setting priorities and planning with the cooperating state and federal agencies' staff.

Through a partnership with the federal and state agencies, technical, administrative and financial assistance is provided through conservation districts by the U.S. Department of Agriculture-Natural Resources Conservation Service (federal) and the S. C. Department of Natural Resources (state).

For more information contact your local Soil and Water Conservation District office online at www.dnr.sc.gov/conservation or the SC Department of Natural Resources at 803-734-4602.