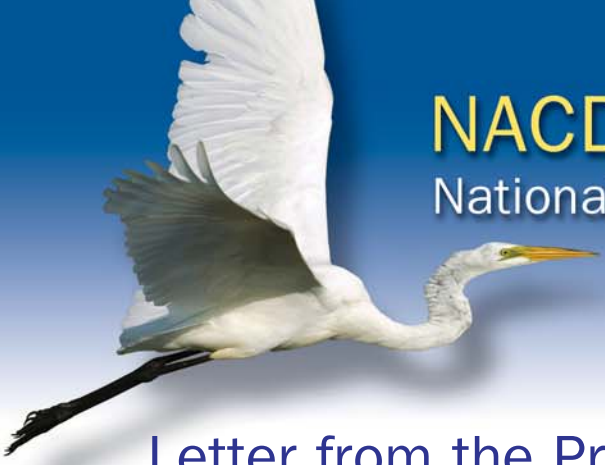


NACD | 2006 Annual Report

National Association of Conservation Districts



Letter from the President



Bill Wilson, NACD President

Dear Fellow Conservationists,

As I look back on my last year as president, I can see how far we've come. The center piece of the past year is the strategic plan developed by our Board of Directors. The plan will give focus to the next three to five years of conservation leadership for the organization. The board adopted "America's Voice for Natural Resources Conservation" as their vision for the organization. It will take commitment from all of us to live up to that vision.

Your leaders and staff have strived to make tough business decisions in 2006 that position NACD to better represent conservation districts in the months and years ahead. We've "trimmed the fat" to become more financially stable, and made serious efforts to be more transparent and responsive to our members.

Our Farm Bill Task Force identified the association's Farm Bill Principles that will guide the organization through the challenges of deliberation in that upcoming debate. NACD leaders and staff are working to ensure that conservation districts are an integral part of the decision-making process.

Recognizing that today's youth will be tomorrow's caretakers of the land, we put new energy and resources into our Stewardship and Education program. I'm excited to see the results of our new and improved materials.

In addition to our Annual Meeting and Spring Legislative Conference, NACD, along with our partners, provided additional training and information gathering opportunities to members through regional and national Biomass Conferences and a Leadership Conference.

It is an exciting time for NACD. I am confident that the individuals stepping up to lead the organization will do it well. NACD needs every district involved to accomplish its goals. Remember, "Every Acre Counts" and every conservation district should be an integral part of NACD. Let's be ready to lead the way through the upcoming challenges and opportunities for conservation.

Thank you for placing confidence in me to lead your organization.

Sincerely,

Bill Wilson
NACD President



The NACD represents nearly 3,000 conservation districts and the 17,000 district officials on their governing boards.

Conservation districts have been making a difference on the land for over 70 years. We have a solid foundation on which to build for the future. We're proud of our rich history. However, today's actions write tomorrow's history, and we take that responsibility seriously. NACD is focused on **conservation for the future**.

NACD Officers

President: Bill Wilson, Kinta, Oklahoma

President Elect: Olin Sims, McFadden, Wyoming

Second Vice President: Steve Robinson, Marysville, Ohio

Secretary/Treasurer: John Redding, Monroe, Georgia

Chief Executive Officer: Krysta Harden, Washington, D.C.



Looking Ahead

The NACD Board of Directors developed a strategic plan to guide activities for the next three to five years. Three goals emerged:

- Develop and implement a plan to educate America's communities about natural resource conservation and the role conservation districts play;
- Empower conservation district officials to understand their statutory authority, assess customer needs, and build sufficient capacity to address needs;
- Annually maintain or increase federal resources available and delivered to conservation districts.

NACD members set policy to determine NACD's work. NACD's ability to achieve goals depends on the continued involvement and commitment of our members, America's nearly three thousand conservation districts.

America's Voice for Natural Resource Conservation

Year in Review

- January 29 – February 2, NACD's 60th Annual Meeting, Houston, TX
- March 13-17, National Biomass Conference, Denver, CO
- March 26-28, NACD Legislative Conference, Washington, D.C.
- April 30 – May 7, National Stewardship Week
- August 7-9, State Association Executive Directors' Conference, Estes Park, CO
- August 21-23, Congressional Staff Tour, Savannah, GA
- August 11-13, Summer Board Meeting, Columbus, Ohio
- November 29-30, National Cooperative Conservation Leadership Conference, Nashville, TN

The above meetings, hosted by NACD, provided members opportunities to shape the association's direction, participate in education and training sessions and network with colleagues and congressional staff. Additional outreach efforts included conservation district state and region meetings, coalition meetings and conferences and extensive travel by NACD's leaders.

Building on



NACD CEO Krysta Harden met with new NRCS Chief Arlen Lancaster during his first days on the job, continuing a strong partnership between NACD and NRCS.



NACD President Bill Wilson and President Elect Olin Sims take a break from helping with coastal clean up day. Members of the Conservation Partnership worked with the Hancock County Conservation District to clean up a section of coastline devastated by Hurricane Katrina.



NACD's 2006 Executive Board (left to right): John Compton, Steve Redding, Olin Sims, Bill Wilson, Jim Lacy, Mike Mosel, Joe Lomas



NACD President Bill Wilson provides testimony on USDA's Watershed Programs before the Conservation Subcommittee of the House Agriculture Committee.

a Solid Past

NACD's mission is to *"To serve conservation districts by providing national leadership and a unified voice for natural resource conservation."*



The Garrison Farm was one of many stops on NACD's 2nd Annual Congressional Staff Tour in Georgia where Hill staffers learned about conservation challenges and opportunities.



NACD Second Vice President Steve Robinson is interviewed by a farm broadcaster at NAFB's Trade Talk event in Kansas City, Missouri.



Steve Robinson, Bob Cordova, Krysta Harden, Gene Schmidt, John C and Mike Barlow.



NACD President Elect Olin Sims testifies before the Senate Agriculture Committee on the conservation programs in the 2002 Farm Bill.

Communications and Public Relations

NACD increased the emphasis on communications and public relations. As we better educate the public, we build support for our conservation principles, programs and activities.

- Developed communications strategies to provide additional support for Canon Envirothon, improve Stewardship Program reach, and better coordinate public messages with our partners.
- Provided members with current and relevant association news through *NACD News & Views*, eNotes and the association website (www.nacdn.org).
- Placed a renewed emphasis on external communications, working with partner groups and reporters to expand the reach of NACD's message and attending Trade Talk (hosted by the National Association of Farm Broadcasting).

Membership Services

NACD renewed its commitment to quality, affordable opportunities and services for members. Superior member services strengthen our base and empower individual districts and officials.

- Developed a concept and framework for a national conservation district official accreditation program to ensure all conservation district officials have access to basic training.
- Redesigned Stewardship education materials and distribution system to provide polished, educator-friendly materials to districts in a timely fashion.
- Revised national meeting structure to provide a more targeted, cost-effective opportunity for member involvement. Began assessment of region structure and committee structure to improve association effectiveness.
- Provided leadership training for state and national leaders through sponsorship of the Conservation Partnership Leadership Training Conference.

Policy and Grassroots Efforts

NACD elevated conservation district priorities at the national level to ensure policies that support wise use of our natural resources. In the past year we:

- Increased NACD's visibility and credibility on Capitol Hill.

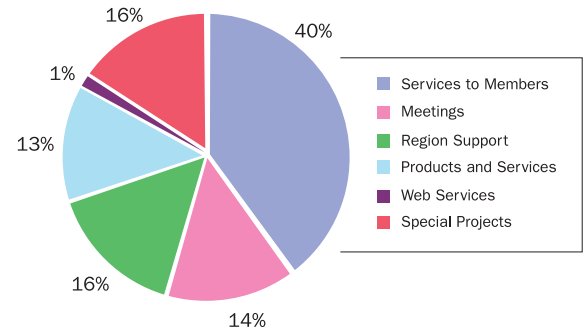
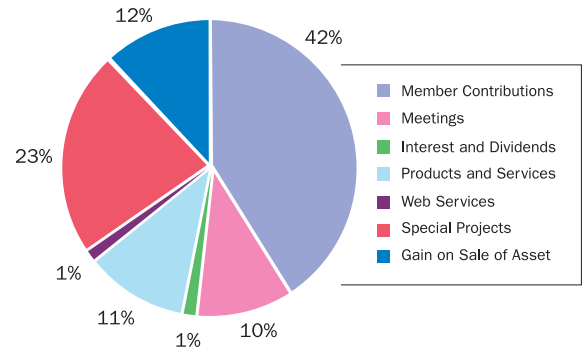
- Testified at three congressional hearings in Washington, D.C. on the Farm Bill and technical service providers at the request of Congress, demonstrating NACD's authority as a technical resource on the conservation delivery system.
- Hosted a conservation tour with high level congressional staff to further understanding of the work of conservation districts, equipping staff members who will draft the 2007 Farm Bill conservation provisions with an increased knowledge of districts.
- Leveraged policy efforts with partners and coalitions to keep conservation district priorities at the forefront of policy development
 - Abandoned Mine Lands reform became law, providing more consistent funding to states for reclamation efforts. Efforts were led by districts in Pennsylvania, coordinating with NACD for policy insight, and communication with broader network of interested districts.
 - Engaged in national renewable energy initiatives and discussions, including hosting regional and national biomass conferences to highlight ongoing work of local districts.
- Increased outreach to NACD members on policy efforts in Washington, D.C. to strengthen grassroots network
 - Increased collaboration with state associations leaders through regular conference calls, providing up-to-date information on legislative and regulatory developments.
 - Engaged NACD grassroots network in Congressional contacts on policy priorities. Grassroots communications demonstrate the strength of our organization through our unique ability to reach out to members of Congress from across the nation.
 - Sought NACD Board and State Association involvement in policy priority setting process, allowing NACD members to set the course of their association.
 - Conducted a review of our policy development process, implementing strategies to better engage members in crafting NACD policies.

Financial Information

Statement of Activity *For the year ended September 30, 2006.*

REVENUE	2006	2005
Member Contributions	\$1,652,888	\$1,644,301
Meetings	419,422	373,911
Interest and Dividends	59,004	122,397
Products and Services	439,493	492,615
Web Services	48,539	38,414
Special Projects	910,256	1,140,905
Gain on Sale of Asset	479,440	-
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 4,009,043	\$3,812,543
EXPENSES		
Services to Members	\$1,429,040	\$1,505,881
Meetings	518,999	482,313
Region Support	564,636	525,418
Products and Services	471,304	696,726
Web Services	41,881	37,298
Special Projects	58,800	493,375
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$3,584,667	\$3,741,011
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	\$424,376	\$71,532

Copies of NACD's financial statements may be obtained by writing to:
NACD, 509 Capitol Ct, NE, Washington, D.C. 20002



Associate Member Partners *(individuals contributing \$100 or more)*

Robert Abell	Cecil Currin	John Handly	William Lange	Gene Schmidt
David Allen	Terry Davis	Charles Hanley	Glenda Lewis	Jerry Snodgrass
Judy Baird	Robert Dobbs	David Hansberger	Wilson Murray	Donald Spickler
Warren Baird	Rich Duesterhaus	Roger Hansen	Richard Parker	Mary Jane Spickler
Edward Baker	Dean Edson	Krysta Harden	Thomas Quink	Neil Strong
Bill Berry	Calvin Evans	Raymond Hughbanks	Roger Rayburn	Robert Ternes
Mark Besse	Fred Feldmann	Larry Jacobs	Connie Richmeier	James Todd
Jeffrey Bohr	Richard Foose	Irvil Kear	R. Roe	Garry Tom
Ray Brownfield	Jonathan Gerken	Gene LaManna	Ronald Rohall	Patrick Truman
Sherman Bryant	Joe Glassmeyer	Arlen Lancaster	Mark Rose	Franklin Varley
Stephen Cauthen				

Top 10 Contributing States

Ohio	\$85,615
Indiana	\$66,663
North Carolina	\$65,696
Texas	\$65,174
Illinois	\$62,434
Minnesota	\$60,110
Arkansas	\$58,900
Alabama	\$54,250
Missouri	\$53,078
Iowa	\$52,266

100% District Participation

Alabama	New Jersey
Arkansas	Ohio
Delaware	Rhode Island
District of Columbia	Virginia
Louisiana	West Virginia
Maryland	Wyoming
Nebraska	

Federal Partners

NACD currently has agreements with the following partners:

- USDA Farm Service Agency
- USDA Forest Service
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- DOI Bureau of Land Management



conserving
natural resources
for our future

509 Capitol Court, NE • Washington, DC 20002-4946
P 202-547-6223 • F 202-547-6450 • www.nacdnet.org