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The Orangeburg County Soil and Water Conservation District

> <u>Education</u> <u>Coordinator</u>

> > Celebrated <u>20 years</u> in 2020



Back Row: Roy Lindsey, Commissioner; S.E. (Buddy) Felder, Associate Commissioner; and Jeff Lucas, Acting District Conservationist. Front Row: Jackie Fogle, Commissioner; Louise Hughes, Commissioner; Diane Curlee, Education Coordinator; and George Ulmer, Commissioner.

The Mission of the Orangeburg County Soil and Water Conservation District

Is to provide local leadership to implement all programs to protect, restore, or improve the natural resources of Orangeburg County.

<u>The purpose of a</u> <u>soil and water</u> conservation district is to:

Provide information about soil, water, and related natural resource Conservation

Identify and prioritize soil and water concerns

Connect landowners to sources of educational, technical, and financial assistance, to implement conservation practices and technologies

Each district serves as a means for <u>all</u> interested people in a county to work for natural resource conservation and development.



August 2019

Lisa Rigden and Diane Curlee attended the Back to School Bash event in Vance, SC. Their booth placed emphasis on handwashing. Little did they know in August 2019 what March 2020 would be like! Each bag contained a sheet explaining the correct way to wash hands and a bottle of hand washing liquid soap. Each participant received a bag.

<u>Safe Kids Super Saturday</u> was held at the Prince of Orange Mall in Orangeburg. Pictured left, Curlee and Rigden attended the event. Curlee discussed Animal Safety (Rabies) with the children and Rigden discussed the upcoming Fall Litter Challenge with their parents.

Orangeburg County SWCD & Keep Orangeburg County Beautiful

The 2019 Annual Banquet May 16, 2019 The Family Life Center

Awardees at the Annual Banquet were:

Keep Orangeburg County Beautiful, Business Partner of the Year SI Group, Adopt A Highway Orangeburg County SWCD Conservation Coach of the Year Melissa Plummer, Dean of Sciences, O-C Tech College Conservation Teacher of the Year Libby Ray, Science Chair, OPS Conservationist of the Year Francis Whetstone, Jr. Conservation Farmer of the Year Embeford Farms, SC

Speaker: Jeromy Walther of Walther Farms

Spoke on the importance of keeping up with the newest technology in irrigation. Irrigation affects soil health. One nozzle putting out too little or too much affects the entire circuit of rotation. It is very difficult to fix. It is worse than just one row in the field.

Special Recognition was given to (pictured below):

<u>Left, Emily Hughes,</u> 7th Grade Science Project on Deer Deterrent. She experimented on various oils that would keep the deer from eating plants. Right, The <u>2018 and 2019 Envirothon Team members</u>, from Orangeburg Preparatory Schools.



Conservation Project, by Emily Hughes. What can be sprayed on items to keep deer away? Mint, Garlic and Dill were tried. Garlic was found to work the best of the three.



Some of the students on the 2019 Envirothon Team from Orangeburg Preparatory School. The competition was held virtually in 2020.

The 2020 Pandemic hit the middle of March. March 19 Santee State Park visit to plan 4-H2O Summer Camp—Cancelled March 21 PLT training for Volunteers helping with a Dogwood Alliance Grant sponsored Day Camp Event to be held at SCSU was scheduled for March 28— Both were Cancelled. Growing Up Wild Workshop for SC Conservation District Employees April 2 Cancelled. You get the idea. It was a busy planning time and suddenly it STOPPED! Everything was Cancelled including Clemson's Summer Camp. We were able to provide a Week of Materials for

We were able to provide a Week of Materials for 18 children picking up materials from the North Branch Orangeburg County Library

Gabby Greenleaves at Precious Moments in Bowman, SC talking with the children about birds.

