

Macon County Soil and Water Conservation District Freedom of Information Policy

The Macon County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) was chartered by the State of Illinois as a public body corporate and politic in accordance with the Illinois Soil and Water Conservation District Act (Ill. Compiled Statutes, Ch. 70, Par. 405/1 et seq.). As such, the Macon Co. SWCD is required to implement the Illinois Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 ILCS 140) and the Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120). The Macon Co. SWCD believes that an open and honest government is essential to American democracy, and it can only be achieved through the free exchange of information between the government and its citizens. The Freedom of Information Act and the Open Meetings Act are critical tools in shining light on government actions and ultimately strengthening our democracy. (Adapted from "A Message from the Attorney General" Lisa Madigan, Attorney General, State of Illinois, September 2004.)

Description of the Macon Co. SWCD Purpose: The General Assembly declares it to be in the public interest to provide: (a) for the conservation of the soil, soil resources, water and water resources of this State, (b) for the control and prevention of soil erosion, (c) for the prevention of air and water pollution, and (d) for the prevention of erosion, floodwater and sediment damages, and thereby to conserve natural resources, control floods, prevent impairment of dams and reservoirs, assist in maintain the navigability of rivers and harbors, conserve wildlife and forests, protect the tax base, protect public lands, and protect and promote the health, safety, and welfare of the people of this State.

Budget: Funding sources are grants, sales of conservation related materials, services, and donations.

Location: 3342 N President Howard Brown Blvd, Decatur, IL 62521

Employees: We have two full time employees; Meadow Sporrer, Administrative Coordinator and Delaney Haubner, Resource Conservationist.

SWCD Board of Directors: The Macon Co. Soil and Water Conservation District Board exercises control over the policies and procedures which normally meet monthly on the 3rd Thursday of each month. Its members are:

1. Chairman: Chase Brown
2. Vice Chairman: Eric Veech
3. Secretary/Treasurer: Mark Lillpop
4. Director: David Carr
5. Director: Austin Pletsch

Reporting: We are required to report and be answerable for our operations to the Illinois Department of Agriculture, State Fairgrounds, Springfield, Illinois.

Requesting Information: You may request the information and records available to the public in the following manner: send an email or other written request to info@maconcountyswcd.com or to 3342 N President Howard Brown Blvd Decatur, IL. Oral requests will not be accepted. Your request should be directed to the FOIA Officer Delaney Haubner. You must specify the records requested to be disclosed for inspection or to be copied. If you desire any information certified, you must specify which ones.

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