



2025

Annual Report

Richmond Soil & Water Conservation District

History

Richmond SWCD was originally a part of the Brown Creek Soil Conservation District which formed in 1937. It was the first conservation district in the United States. In 1961, the Brown Creek District divided into five single county districts: Richmond, Anson, Union, Stanley, and Montgomery.

Today, Richmond SWCD is one of 96 local Soil & Water Districts in North Carolina that administer voluntary, incentive-driven, locally led initiatives promoting

natural resource management and conservation on public and private lands.



Mission Statement

Our mission is to take available technical, financial, and educational resources and administer programs designed to encourage individual responsibility to conserve, improve, and sustain our soil and water resources for future generations.

Conservation Partnerships



The district works closely with USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and NC Division of Soil & Water Conservation to further our mutual goals of conservation. We want to express our gratitude to these state and federal agencies for their support and cooperation.

Richmond SWCD Board of Supervisors



Left to right: Jim Chandler, Treasurer/Secretary; Jeff Joyner, Chairman; Ryan Carriker, Member; Johnny McInnis, Vice Chairman; Jerry Mac Snead, Member

The Board meets on the second Tuesday every month at 10 am to administer the business of the district and establish conservation priorities. Board meetings are open to the public.

Office Staff



Matthew Reel,
Conservation
Technician



Natalie Pattan,
Administrative
Assistant/
Education
Coordinator



Neal Bevirt,
NRCS Soil
Conservationist

Our office is located at 123 Caroline St, Suite 300 in Rockingham.
(910) 817-3229

District Cost Share Programs

Let us help you with erosion control, water quality/quantity, nutrient management, and other resource concerns!

Agriculture Cost Share Program



How do the programs work?

1

Contact our office so we can learn more about your resource concern. Our technician will assist in writing the application.

2

Applications are ranked based on resource concerns identified in the county.

3

The Board votes on applications on a quarterly basis.

4

Projects are approved by the Division Cost Share Manager.

5

Work can begin once all approvals are made.

6

Payment is reimbursed to the landowner after work is complete and meets program requirements.

\$76,088 contracted in 2024-25

AgWRAP (1 contract)

- Water supply well - \$19,000

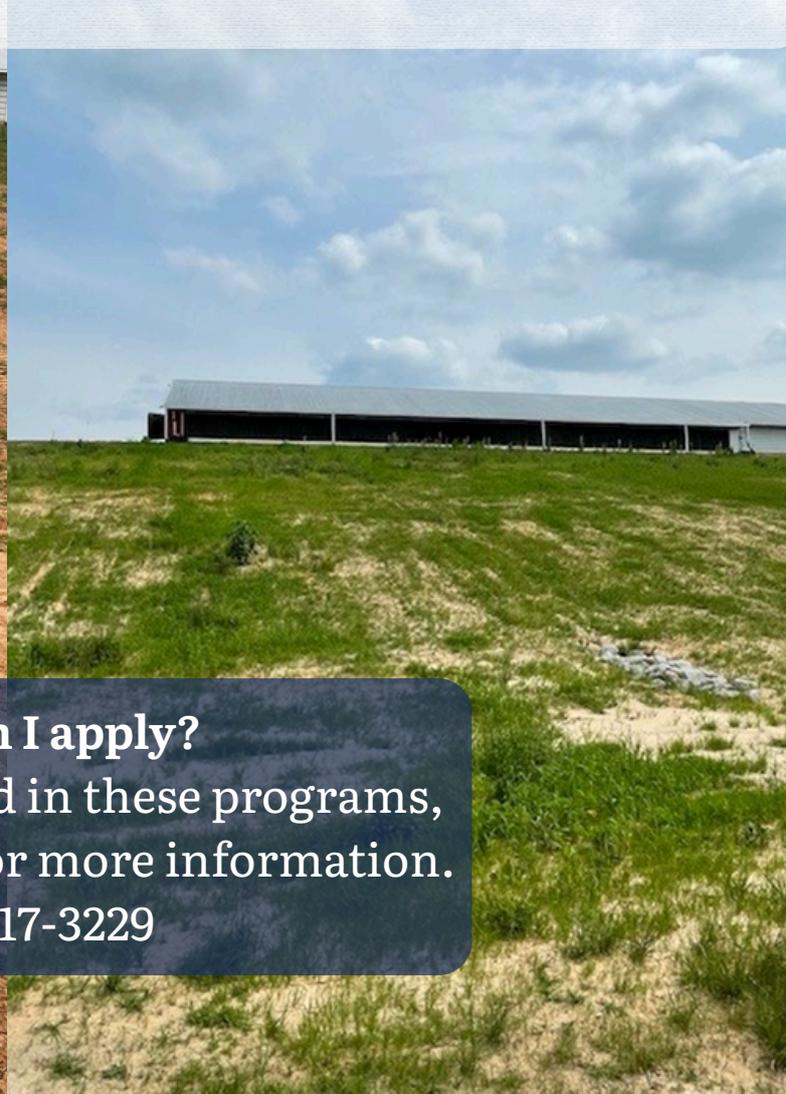
ACSP (6 contracts)

- Lagoon biosolids removal - \$25,000
- Rooftop runoff management - \$19,204
- Cropland conversion to grass - \$12,884

Before



After



How can I apply?

If you are interested in these programs,
contact our office for more information.

(910) 817-3229

Federal Cost Share Programs



Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

Helps farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners integrate conservation into working lands.

Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)

Helps build on existing conservation efforts while strengthening your operation.

Preliminary 2025 Contracts

EQIP (5 contracts) - \$44,636

CSP - Not funded yet

YEARLY APPLICATION DEADLINE

October 31, 2025

Community Events



Richmond County Agricultural Fair

This year's booth highlighted our core message: **Soil & Water for Life!** Miniature displays of best management practices were used to promote our programs and encourage conservation.

NC State Fair

Matthew and Natalie volunteered at the NC Division of Soil & Water Conservation booth at the NC State Fair where they greeted visitors and discussed the important work of local districts.



Farm City Week

Our office staff attended the Farmers' Day parade in downtown Ellerbe as well as the Farmers' Appreciation Luncheon at Millstone 4-H Camp.



Environmental Education

Library Programs



4-H Science Adventures



Envirothon



