

# SAMPSON SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

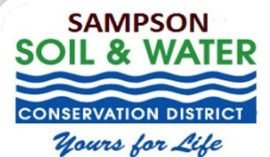


## ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023

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SAMPSON SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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## SAMPSON SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



**Pictured from left to right: Vice Chairman James Lamb, Curtis Barwick, Chairman Henry Moore III, Tommy Hobbs and Craig Thornton.**

The Sampson SWCD Board of Supervisors is made up of five board members, three of which are elected and two who are appointed by the NC Department of Agriculture, Division of Soil and Water. The Supervisory Board seats are non-partisan and unpaid; therefore, the Supervisors receive no financial gain from serving on the Board. They volunteer their time and experience to the benefit the landowners in Sampson County.

The Sampson SWCD Board of Supervisors come from various agriculture backgrounds that encompass many different aspects and perspectives of farming and land use. All are dedicated to conservation stewardship and preservation for future generations.

The people of Sampson County are very fortunate to have these gentlemen willing to serve as the Sampson SWCD Supervisory Board. Each one of them contributes greatly to the success of conservation efforts in Sampson County.



## SAMPSON SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



James Lamb, Henry E. Moore, III and Craig Thornton were sworn in for another 4 year term on December 5, 2022 by Judge William Sutton.



## SAMPSON SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT STAFF



Pictured from left to right:

**Cameron Knudsen**, Soil & Water District Technician

**Melanie Harris**, Senior Soil Conservationist-Department Head

**Candice Adams**, Program Support Specialist, Education Coordinator

**Henry Faison**, Soil Conservationist



**Sampson SWCD Mission Statement:** 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.



## SAMPSON NRCS STAFF



From left to right: **Dwayne Faircloth**-Soil Conservationist, **Liana Guy**-Soil Conservationist, **Ja'Bioas Glenn**-Supervisory Soil Conservationist and **Matt Swinarski**-Soil Conservation Technician



**United States  
Department of  
Agriculture**

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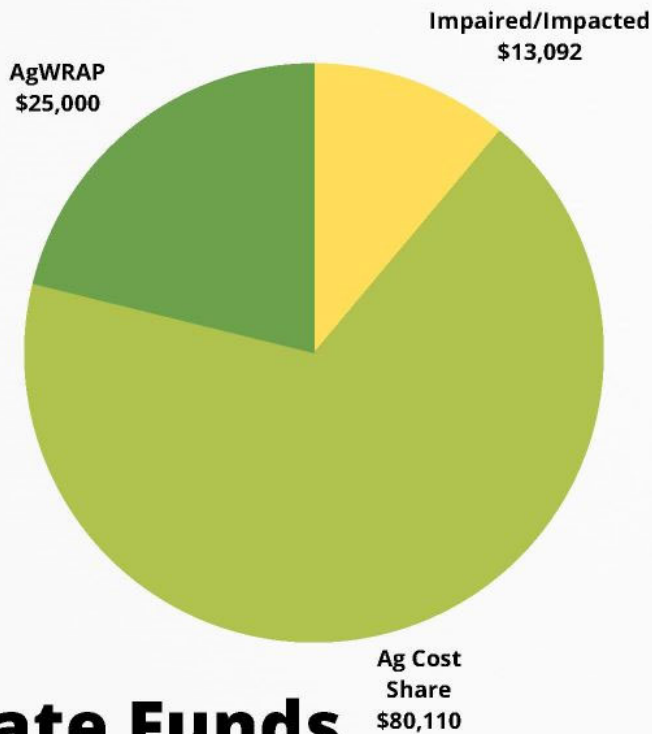
**Natural Resources Conservation Service**

**NRCS Mission** : We deliver conservation solutions so agricultural producers can protect natural resources and feed a growing world.



Sampson SWCD & NRCS Staff work as a team for the farmers and landowners in Sampson County. Together, we provided over \$4.08 million dollars in conservation incentives.

For the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year Sampson Soil & Water Conservation District allocated \$118,202.00 in funds to Best Management practices under the following programs:



**AG COST SHARE**

Addresses nonpoint source pollution on agriculture land

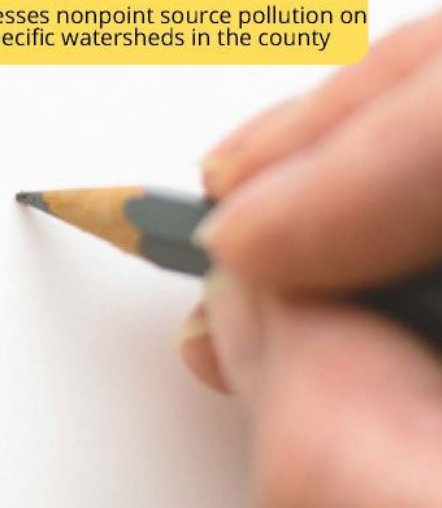
**AGWRAP**

Addresses water use efficiency, availability and storage

**IMPAIRED/IMPACTED**

Addresses nonpoint source pollution on specific watersheds in the county

**State Funds  
Allocated Per  
Program**



With the funding received through the NC Agriculture Cost Share programs, the Sampson staff enrolled over 550 acres in cover crops, cropland conversion to grass, a waste management system and water use efficiency practices.

- ◆ Acres Affected 426 acres
- ◆ Acres Irrigated 129 acres
- ◆ Soil Saved 306 tons
- ◆ Nitrogen Saved 7,776.50 pounds



Underground Irrigation installation on a swine farm



Cover crops are planted to reduce soil erosion, suppress weeds and improve nutrient cycling.



No-till planting into a terminated cover crop







Water supply wells provide access to a suitable groundwater supply for livestock watering and other agricultural uses.





## NCDA&CS Swine and Dairy Assistance Program



In 2022, the Swine and Dairy Assistance Program was announced. (SDAP) is a one-time assistance program for swine and dairy producers who suffered a loss due to the shutdowns following the COVID-19 pandemic. \$30 million was appropriated to NCDA&CS to provide financial assistance for eligible swine and dairy farms that have lost contracts or forced out of business due to the pandemic. Sampson Soil and Water is assisting swine producers with lagoon sampling and closures.



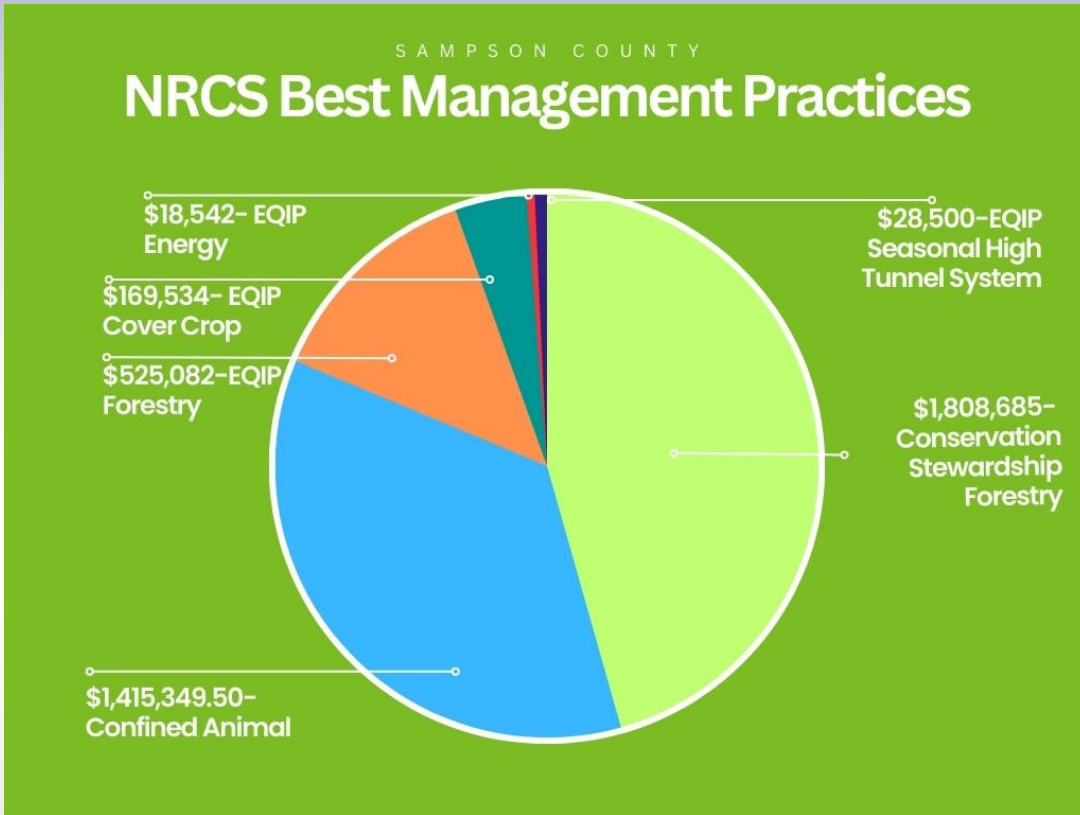


Sampson SWCD continues to work with the Coharie Tribe and the Friends of Sampson County Waterways to keep our rivers and streams navigable and flowing freely. Since 2017, much work has been done to remove fallen trees, beaver dams and other debris. StRAP funds are intended to support projects that restore and protect drainage infrastructure of both natural streams and small watershed structural projects to prevent future flooding, restore streams, and reduce risks to life and property.





**NRCS Partnership:** Sampson SWCD partnered with NRCS to carry out our mission with \$3,965,692 paid out to landowners and farmers for best management practices administered under the federal Environmental Quality Incentive Programs (EQIP) and the Conservation Stewardship Programs (CSP). Sampson SWCD helped provide technical assistance on these contracts. The 55 contracts from NRCS placed conservation on over 11,000 additional acres. This gave Sampson SWCD and NRCS a combined total of 12,090 acres in Sampson County.



Forestry management is a large part of the best management practices installed in Sampson County. From left to right: long leaf pine seedling, row of long leaf seedlings, measuring tree plant spacing and a prescribed burn.





# Natural Resources Conservation Service

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



Cropland practices such as the installation of cover crop help reduce erosion, increase soil health and organic matter and also improve soil moisture and minimize soil compaction.



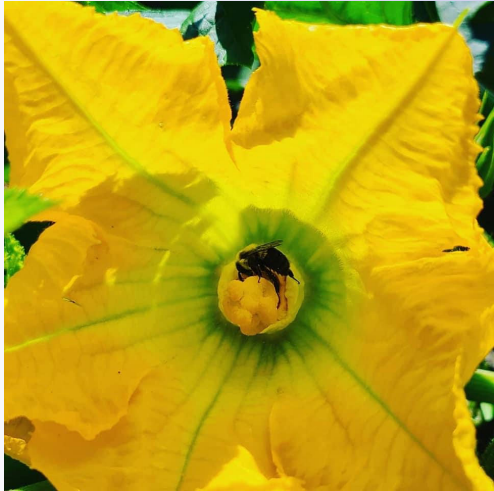
Composting facilities reduce water pollution potential and improve handling characteristics of organic waste solids.  
Roof runoff structures protect a structure's foundation from water damage or soil erosion from excess water runoff.







In June 2023 NRCS held their Civil Rights quarterly meeting and farm tour in Salemburg, NC where Sampson NRCS employees and Sampson SWCD were able to showcase Little Man Farming, Inc. Attendees enjoyed a meal of Sampson County locally grown foods and had the opportunity to see a large scale organic farm harvest squash and zucchini and had in-depth discussion on available practices to assist organic producers.



Natural Resources Conservation Service  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE





In October 2022, the Sampson SWCD staff worked the Soil and Water Conservation booth at the NC State Fair. Pictured are Cameron Knudsen, Henry Faison, Candice Adams, and Melanie Harris.





# EDUCATION REPORT

## 2022 Capitol Christmas Tree Ornament Project



In 2022, the United States Capitol Christmas tree was harvested in North Carolina. It was asked that residents in North Carolina make Christmas ornaments to send to the U.S. Capitol to put on the Christmas tree. We decided to invite kids to make ornaments with us! We supplied large pine cones and pieces of wood, all harvested right here in NC, to make “rustic” ornaments with an agriculture and conservation theme. The kids did an outstanding job!







In August 2022, our Soil and Water Conservation employees, attended the Conservation Employee Training (CET) in Cherokee, NC, where we joined conservationists from all over the state. Each of us attended sessions focusing on various aspects of our job duties. We learned new techniques and experienced unique exhibits and presentations.







The Area VII Fall Meeting was held in Elizabethtown, NC at the Cape Fear Winery.



Henry Faison receiving an award for 10 years of service, presented by Chris Hughes.

James Lamb, Sampson SWCD Vice Chairman of the Board and Commission Piedmont Representative, giving a presentation.

## 2023 ANNUAL MEETING



The 2023 Annual Meeting was held in Cherokee, NC.



Sampson SWCD Staff attended meetings throughout the day while enjoying the scenery that Cherokee has to offer.



# AREA VII ENVIROTHON



In March 2023, The Area 7 Regional Envirothon was held at Jones Lake State Park and Sampson County had four teams compete. Two teams from our very own, Midway High School, placed high enough to attend the state NC Envirothon competition. There was a third team from Midway High School and a team from Union High School. We commend all of our Sampson County teams for their hard work and dedication to studying for such a competitive event. Candice Adams, our Environmental Education Coordinator, worked with advisors and the Sampson County teams to make sure they were prepared for the Envirothon competitions.





# RESOURCE CONSERVATION WORKSHOP



In June 2023, Candice Adams attended the Resources Conservation Workshop (RCW) in Raleigh, as a workshop counselor. The Resource Conservation Workshop is sponsored by the NC Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts in conjunction with the NC Division of Soil and Water Conservation, NC State University Crop and Soil Science Department, and the Soil and Water Conservation Society Hugh Hammond Bennett Chapter.





The Board of Supervisors and the Staff of the Sampson SWCD sincerely appreciates all landowners, farmers, agencies and groups who partner with us to help the District carry out its conservation mission.

Thank you.



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