

# Locally-Led Conservation



## What is Locally-led Conservation?

### NRCS Programs Manual 440 Part 500

- Locally-led conservation begins with the community, working through the local Conservation District
- Based on the principle that community stakeholders are best suited to deal with local resource problems
- Involve community stakeholders in the natural resource planning, implementation of solutions and evaluation or results

## What are Local Work Groups Comprised of?

- Conservation Districts
- Agricultural Producers representing the local area
- Non-industrial private forest landowners
- Professionals representing relevant interests and a variety of disciplines in the soil, water, plant, wetland and wildlife sciences who are familiar with natural resource issues in the community

## Natural Resource Driven

Locally-Led Conservation is natural resource driven rather than program driven. The community helps to identify what the resource concerns are along with social and economic concerns.



Timber



Soil



Water



Air

## What are Local Working Group responsibilities?

- 1)** Develop a conservation needs assessment using community stakeholder input
- 2)** Utilize the needs assessment to identify priority resource concerns that can be assessed by USDA programs
- 3)** Recommend state and national program policies to the state technical committee based on the resource data
- 4)** Assist NRCS and NRCD with outreach and information efforts and identify educational producers' training needs

## What do Local Workgroups do?

- Provide recommendations on local natural resource priorities and criteria for conservation activities and programs
- Decisions resulting from recommendations of Local Working Groups will be communicated to NRCS in accordance with the standard operating procedures



For more information on Locally-Led Conservation, contact **Rachael** via phone at **(518) 645-6671** or email at [rachael@pmnrcd.org](mailto:rachael@pmnrcd.org)