

Jefferson County Soil and Water Conservation District

Every Acre Counts!

Mission statement: Our

mission is to conserve and assist in the development of all renewable natural resources within the district.

The Conservation District Supervisors are elected by registered voters in the county and serve four-year terms without compensation.



Lisa Dettlinger, Chair

Lisa is the first
Chairwoman of the district
and is one of two urban
supervisors. She joined the
board in 2015.

Mike Farmer, Vice Chair

Mike is the current Vice Chair and has served the district since 2013



David Kaelin, Secretary/Treasurer

David is the previous Chair and has served the district since 2015.



Ray Adams

Ray has served on the board since 2003 and also serves on state

Conservation District

Commission.



Jennifer Chappell

Jennifer is new to the board this year and is one of two urban supervisors.



Calvin Shake

Calvin is a farmer in Jefferson County and has served on the board since 2013.



Kurt Mason, Advisor

Kurt is employed by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and serves as Jefferson County's Conservationist.



Ward Wilson, Advisor

Ward served the district from 1997-2008 and is the new Executive Director of the Kentucky Waterways Alliance

Urban Areas & Larger Cities Struggle with Natural Resource Concerns

Water Quality Degradation

Food Equity Issues

Heat Island Effects

Habitat Losses



Conservation District Goals

Reduce soil erosion

Improve water quality in the seven major watersheds of the county.

Support hands-on educational programs in schools and community to improve environmental literacy.

Promote preservation and protection of agricultural land and green space.

Develop a public awareness campaign and outreach program addressing natural resource issues in the county.

Promote the participation of private landowners in USDA and state incentive programs for water Mike Farmer, Farthi Pare 2013 agement.

Green Infrastructure

Reduces Stormwater Runoff
Provides Cleaner Air
Reduces Heat Island Effects
Improves Water Quality



American Life Insurance Building, Downtown

Urban Agriculture

Connects Residents to Healthy
Food
Increases Neighborhood Pride
Neighborhood Beautification
Improves Soil Health

YouthBuild Garden, Smoketown Neighborhood

Environmental Education

Interdisciplinary Learning
Learning Transcends Classroom
Encourages Healthy Lifestyles
Strengthens Communities

Stream Health Workshop, KY Division of Water

2016-2017 Programs

- Soil Voucher Program
- Annual Art and Conservation Writing Contest (Theme: Backyard Adventures -Exploring the Trees in Your Hometown)
- Annual Tree Giveaway to Jefferson County public and private schools (3,100 saplings to 36 schools)
- Urban High Tunnel Initiative
- Urban Agriculture Conservation Initiative

High Tunnel Benefits

Enables year-round food production with no additional energy input

Improved plant, soil and water health using fewer nutrients and pesticides

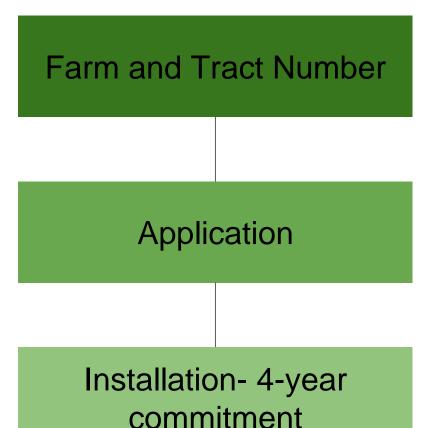
EQIP Program

USDA-NRCS cost share (\$2.87-\$4.51 per sq. ft.)

Conservation District providing additional cost share (~\$1.50 per sq. ft.)

High tunnels are more expensive in an urban setting.

2017- 14 approved with 11 in food insecure neighborhoods.



Urban Agriculture Conservation Initiative

Urban Soil Health

- Backyard Gardens
- School Gardens
- Community Workshops

Urban Water Health

- → Edible Buffers
- Rain Barrel Workshops





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