

# THE SOIL SCOOP

UNION COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT



## Union County's Executive Director of Community Services Retires

Upon Martie Smith's retirement she was presented with a Resolution from the Board of Supervisors for her tremendous amount of support and guidance to Union Soil & Water Conservation District during her time as Executive Director. Though we will miss Martie's presence greatly, we wish her nothing but the best during her retirement.

Pictured left is Mr. Wayne Moser, Mr. Scott Baucom, and Mr. Allan Baucom with Ms. Martie Smith at her last Board meeting.

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### SUMMER 2015

*Union County SWCD makes great efforts to provide technical, financial, and educational assistance to the citizens of Union County to promote the proper management of our natural resources.*

## Agriculture Cost Share Program

**\*Now accepting applications for 2016\***

The North Carolina Agriculture Cost Share Program is a state funded program administered to reduce non-point source pollution into our streams, lakes and rivers. This reduction is achieved by providing cost share assistance to agricultural landowners and operators who use Best Management Practices (BMPs) to reduce pollutants, such as sediment, animal waste, pesticides, nutrients, etc. from leaving the land and entering our waters. The Union Soil and Water Conservation District administers and implements the NC AgCost Share Program in Union County. Cost Share amounts could cover as much as 75% of costs. Please contact Charles Dunevant for more information.

704-233-1621 Charles.Dunevant@nc.nacdnet.net



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## Resource Conservation Workshop

UNION COUNTY  
SOIL AND  
WATER  
CONSERVATION



Each year Union SWCD sponsors a student to attend the RCW. This is a week-long workshop in which students engage in extensive, hands on study of conservation and its application in a variety of natural and environmental sciences. Students are selected for this sponsorship based

on academic merit and demonstrated conservation interest. This year local student, Ashley Gall was selected to attend the RCW. The following is what Ashley thought about the workshop.

"I was honored to be able to attend the Resource Conservation Workshop this year and represent Union County. During the workshop students explored soil science, water, wildlife, recreation, and fishery management, forestry, and soil and water. I had high expectations for the workshop yet they were completely fulfilled. Something about the workshop that makes it unique is that each student is from a different county across the state of North Carolina. By the end of the workshop we were all confident that we are the future leaders of conservation.

A key focus during the workshop was on soil. Soil is the support system for all of nature. It cycles nutrients, filters water, facilitates plant growth, provides diverse habitats, and prevents erosion among many other functions. Humans can destroy soil within seconds yet it takes half a millennia for two centimeters of soil to form. Such information makes students like those from the workshop eager to take action to conserve soil.

One of my favorite parts of the workshop was forestry. An entomologist spoke about what North Carolina has done to save its trees from insect infestations, the number one killer of trees. Trees have many important functions, such as producing oxygen and filtering the soil, without them humanity's quality of life would be

Continued on page 3.



**No-Till Seed Drill  
Available  
to citizens planting  
in Union County  
for \$10 per acre.  
Contact our office  
for more  
information.**

Visit us at:  
<http://www.co.union.nc.us/Divisions/SoilWaterConservation.aspx>

### Available Services:

- \*Natural Resource Best Management Practice Design and Support
- \*Soil Interpretative Services
- \*Nutrient Management
- \*Natural Resource-Specific Mapping via GIS
- \*Education and Technical Training
- \*Soil and Water Resource Consultative Services

# THE SOIL SCOOP

## EQIP

### Environmental Quality Incentives Program

NRCS is in charge of this voluntary program that helps producers protect soil, water, air and other natural resources while ensuring sustainable production on your farm or working forest land. Applications received will be evaluated and ranked for funding assistance. Application deadlines for FY 2016 will be here before you know it. So complete your application today!

### Upcoming

#### Board Meetings:

(Every third Tuesday of the month)  
July 21, 2015  
August 18, 2015  
September 15, 2015

If you would like something published in the next newsletter contact Katie Anne Dayton with the Soil and Water Conservation District .  
New Email:  
[Katie.dayton@unioncountync.gov](mailto:Katie.dayton@unioncountync.gov)

### Continued from page 2: RCW Ashley Gall:

greatly effected. The gypsy moth was one of the insect populations killing off many trees. It was spreading north to south but stopped before reaching North Carolina. This is because scientists created a spray that matched the pheromones of gypsy moths. Pheromones are what the moths use to sense that a mate is around them. Therefore, gypsy moths would be confused on where to find mates and eventually the populations would die off due to a lack of reproduction.

During the workshop students were also able to experience hands on studies. These included water testing of various water bodies, soil evaluation, and tree age and value measurements. I was able to learn more about the environment and how to properly care for it at the workshop. I also met many influential environmentalists along the way. Ultimately, the RCW showed me how many job opportunities are available in conservation and how important this field of study is for the future of our planet."

Thank you Ashley for representing Union County well at the Resource Conservation Workshop.



Do you want to get an **Envirothon Team** started in your school?

All you need is 5 students who are interested in:

- Forestry -Water Quality-
- Wildlife -Soils-
- Current Environmental Issues

For more information about how to get your team started contact  
Katie Anne Dayton 704-233-1621  
[Katie.dayton@unioncountync.gov](mailto:Katie.dayton@unioncountync.gov)

For more information contact the following:

**USDA Farm Service Agency**  
704-233-1621  
3230-A Presson Road  
Monroe, NC 28112

**NC Cooperative Extension**  
704-283-3801  
3230-D Presson Road  
Monroe, NC 28112

**Soil and Water Conservation District**  
704-233-1621  
3230-B Presson Road  
Monroe, NC 28112

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## UNION SOIL & WATER PARTICIPATED IN...

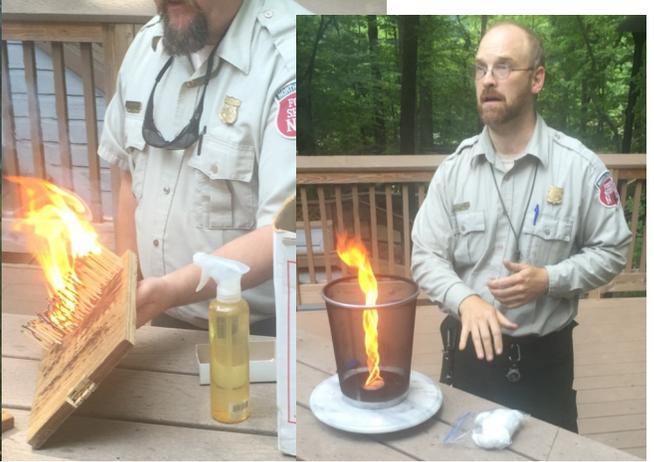
Small Grain Field Day  
at Gilliard Brothers Farm



Resource Conservation Workshop



Envirothon School  
For  
Teachers  
&  
Advisors



### Supervisors:

Mr. Kelvin L. Baucom— Chairman

Mr. Allan L. Baucom— Vice Chairman

Mr. R. Scott Baucom— Secretary/ Treasurer

Mr. Kenneth Mills— Member

Mr. Wayne Moser— Member

### Staff:

Charles Dunevant— Union SWCD, District Manager

Katie Anne Dayton— Union SWCD, Conservation Education Specialist

Shauntae Britt— USDA NRCS, District Conservationist

Richard (Rick) Pigg— USDA NRCS, Conservation Engineering Assistant