

Montgomery County



Soil Conservation District

The MCSCD was chartered September 1944 by founding board members: David Hinton, Cuyler Dunbar, Banks Batson, James W. Cross, and James G. Childers Jr. (not pictured).



2020 board members (l to r):

RICHARD V. DAVIS, MEMBER
PAUL MCKINNEY, TREASURER
JOHNNY HEAD, CHAIRMAN
JD BUMPUS, VICE CHAIRMAN
CODY GREENE, MEMBER

MCSCD MISSION

Erosion control and water quality improvement are the primary concerns of the District. It is our mission to coordinate assistance and develop locally driven solutions to our natural resource problems. We strive to inform land users on ways to reduce erosion and improve water quality through a comprehensive program of technical, financial, and educational resources, making them available to our clients without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, religious belief, age, disability, political beliefs, and marital or familial status.

FY 2020
ANNUAL
REPORT

THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION

DISTRICT is one of 95 districts in Tennessee established under Tennessee State Code— 43-14-218. Each District is responsible for conservation programs within their county. A Board of Supervisors, five local residents who are recommended by a local nominating committee and appointed by the State Soil Conservation Committee, administers each district and comprise the District Board.

est.1944

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“Conservation farming put first things first by attending to the needs of the soil—by seeing to it that the starting-off place, the base, is put into sound health and kept that way. Any other approach, no matter what it may be, always has and always must lead eventually to agricultural disaster.”

*-Hugh Hammond Bennett
"Father of Soil Conservation"*



PARTNERSHIPS, COOPERTIVE AGREEMENTS AND PROGRAMS

The MCSCD works with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, NRCS, to assist local land owners with technical and financial assistance to plan and install various conservation practices that address resource concerns on their property. Land owners can request assistance through many different government programs administered by our office. Through a cooperative effort with the land owners, we address resource concerns of Montgomery County and other communities downstream. These programs are available on a voluntary basis, with the environmental gains attributed to the land owner's actions. Additionally, these projects provide an economic boost to the community through the use of local contractors and suppliers. With a cleaner environment, we are less likely to see more environmental regulations.



CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM (CSP)

The Conservation Stewardship Program helps agricultural producers maintain and improve their existing conservation systems and adopt additional conservation activities to address priority resources concerns. CSP provides two types of payments through five-year contracts: annual payments for installing new conservation activities and maintaining existing practices; and supplemental payments for adopting a resource-conserving crop rotation.

- **\$34,788 paid out for contract fulfillment on 1301 acres**

CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM (CRP)

CRP is administered by the Farm Service Agency, with NRCS providing the technical land eligibility determinations, conservation planning and practice implementation. It encourages farmers to convert highly erodible cropland or other environmentally sensitive acreage to vegetative cover, such as tame or native grass, wildlife plantings, trees, filter strips, or riparian buffers. Land owners receive an annual rental payment for the term of the multi-year contract. Cost share is provided to establish the vegetative cover practices.

- ♦ **\$36,797 paid on continuing CRP contracts for FY 2020**





ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVES PROGRAM (EQIP) is a program that provides financial cost-share and technical assistance to agricultural producers to plan and implement conservation practices that improve soil, water, plant, animal, air and related natural resources on agricultural land and non-industrial private forestland.

Montgomery County received \$147,953 in NEW EQIP funding allocated to farmers, operators and residents in 18 new contracts on 846 acres for the 2020 contract year.

- ◆ 377 Acres cover crop
- ◆ 1 forest management plan
- ◆ 317 acres of forest stand improvement
- ◆ 12 acres of riparian herbaceous cover
- ◆ 3,900' cross fencing
- ◆ 13 acres early successional habitat development
- ◆ 2,880 square foot high tunnel
- ◆ 500' irrigation pipeline
- ◆ 200' roof runoff structure
- ◆ 2000' forest trails and landings
- ◆ 1 stream crossing

\$ 226,178 PAID to Montgomery County contract holders on completed and applied conservation practices in fiscal year 2020.

- ◆ 2,778 acres cover crop
- ◆ 1 forestry management plan
- ◆ 890' streambank /shoreline protection
- ◆ 21 acres of forest stand improvement





TN DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE— AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION FUND (ARCF)

The ARCF provides cost-share assistance to Tennessee landowners to install Best Management Practices (BMPs) that reduce agricultural water pollution. This assistance is facilitated through the Soil Conservation District.

♦ **\$ 78,400 for installed conservation practices on 30 completed contracts and an additional \$65,000 in approved funding.**

- * 1,260 acres of cover crops promoting soil health
- * 4 alternative watering facilities
- * 129 acres of cropland conversion to pasture
- * 4 heavy use areas
- * 1,549 ft. of water pipeline
- * 4,699 cross fencing for rotational grazing
- * 445' streambank protection/restoration

51 applications processed during FY 2020 for ARCF projects totaling \$170,877 in assistance requests:

- ♦ 310' streambank repair/restoration
- ♦ 7 heavy use areas
- ♦ 2 grade stabilization structures
- ♦ 2 wells and pumping plants
- ♦ 2 grassed waterway projects
- ♦ 1,363 acres cover crops
- ♦ 405 acres of cropland conversion

“The conservation of natural resources is the fundamental problem. Unless we solve that problem it will avail us little to solve all others.”
-Theodore Roosevelt

2020 Financial Overview Conservation Programs

USDA/NRCS/FSA:

CSP	\$34,788
EQIP	\$374,131
CRP	\$36,797
Operational Funding	<u>\$265,100</u>
	\$710,816

TDA:

BMPs	\$143,400
Operational Funds	\$ 2,100
Equipment grants	\$1,600
Technician assistance	\$ 9,038
Supervisors Per Diem	<u>\$ 1,590</u>
	\$ 157,728

Montgomery County Funding:

Operational Funding & Salaries	\$ 41,838
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**Total Appropriated benefit to Montgomery County landowners, residents and farming operators through the Montgomery County Soil Conservation District:
\$910,382**

2020
Conservation
Management
Practices
installed in
Montgomery County



WATERING FACILITY & HEAVY USE AREA



GRASSED WATERWAY EROSION CONTROL BLANKET



STREAMBANK PROTECTION ROCK JETTIES



CROSS FENCING

\$910,382 invested in conserving the
land in Montgomery County through
programs offered with the Montgomery
County Soil Conservation District

*STREAMBANK STABILIZATION
BEFORE/AFTER*

**2020
Conservation
Management
Practices
installed in
Montgomery County**





COMMUNITY OUTREACH, EDUCATION AND AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM

Conservation Education is a Very Important job for MCSCD.

The education of people of all ages, in both rural and urban areas, to appreciate natural resources and learn how to conserve those resources for future generations is great importance to the District. Through conservation education, people develop the skills necessary to understand the complexities of natural resource problems. MCSCD, along with the partnerships of Five Rivers RC & D, The Tennessee Division of Forestry, USDA-Farm Service Agency, USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, University of TN Extension and neighboring Soil Conservation Districts provide educational opportunities about soil and water conservation for both youth and adults. Through classroom presentations, workshops, and field days, MCSCD shares how to recognize resource concerns and how to address them with conservation practices.

Few people think about the importance of soil, but it provides us with a lot more than just stable ground. Healthy soil gives us clean air and water, plentiful crops and forest, productive rangeland, diverse wildlife, and beautiful landscapes. Each year MCSCD proudly recognizes some of those who strive toward Conservation practices, and those who support Agriculture and Conservation efforts.

The David E. Hinton Scholarship



The David E. Hinton Scholarship was created in 2002. It is available to qualifying High School Seniors in the Clarksville-Montgomery County School System. The applicant must be a graduating senior who plans to attend college and major in an agriculture-related field (Ag Business, Ag Science, Ag Communications, Environmental Studies, Pre-Vet or Pre-Forestry).

2020 Scholarship Recipient

DEVON BOWLES

graduate of Montgomery Central High





2020 WILDLIFE PLOT JUDGING CONTEST



In conjunction with the Montgomery County UT Extension Service, Tenn. Wildlife Resources Agency, and the Hilldale Kiwanis Club, the Wildlife Food & Cover Establishment Contest for students entailed planting a wildlife mixture of annual crops for wildlife consumption. Students were required to plant (1) five pound bag of seed. Seed was provided this year by Kentucky Lake Chapter of Quail Forever in Henry County.

1st PLACE YOUTH CONSERVATION WILDLIFE CONTEST

WILL COMPERRY, CHS FFA





MONTGOMERY SCD RECEIVES EQUIPMENT GRANT



One of the many purposes of the Soil Conservation District is to assist farmers in improving conservation on the farm while increasing agricultural production. The Cumberland River Compact through the Montgomery SCD has made available a no-till SETTER and ROLLER CRIMPER for use in Montgomery and surrounding counties. Use of the transplanter increases soil health and prevents soil erosion by utilizing no-till planting practices.





Our Team



The Montgomery County Soil Conservation District is a division of the State of Tennessee government and is organized under the authority of the Tennessee Soil and Water Conservation District Act of 1939. Montgomery County's District was established by a special referendum of county landowners in September 1944.

The Soil Conservation District (SCD) works with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to provide technical and financial assistance for landowners and agricultural producers in Montgomery County.



Nancy Holt

Admin. Asst.
MCSCD



Lewis Boyd

District Technician
MCSCD



Janet Coleman

Soil Conservationist
USDA - NRCS



Kevin Hart

District Conservationist
USDA - NRCS

Follow us for
Updates, announcements, &
workshops!

www.MontgomerySoilConservation.com



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