



# 10-Minute Supervisor Trainings

Kentucky Soil and Water Conservation Commission

OCTOBER 2012

## KY Conservation Partnership Survey

The Kentucky Conservation Partnership Survey was sent out in August to get information from producers, supervisors, district and NRCS employees, partner organizations, government officials and others view on services provided. 214 surveys were received. The Partnership wanted to share the data that was collected across the state with this 10-minute training and show their appreciation to those who took the time to share their views on conservation in Kentucky.

### Question 1: Which category best describes you?

- KY Agriculture Producer-36.4%
- Conservation District Employee-28.0%
- Partner Organization-2.8%
- Local Government Official-0.0%
- Conservation District Supervisor-33.6%
- NRCS Employee-4.2%
- Other-1.9%

### Question 2: Select the top 3 services you depend on from NRCS and the local conservation district?

- Cost Share Funding (State Cost Share, EQIP, other Farm Bill programs)-84.1%
- Conservation Technical Assistance (expertise in agriculture advice)-68.2%
- Conservation Planning-53.8%
- Conservation Education-32.2%
- Conservation Program Participation Assistance (KY Ag. District program, PACE, equipment loan, etc)-28.5%
- Equipment Rental-17.3%

### Question 3: List 3 ways the Conservation District could increase operating efficiency and improve the impact on conserving soil, water and related natural resources. (These answers or some form of them came up many times on the 214 surveys)

- **Education**-This concerned educating youth and adults alike in conservation and educating district employees.
- **Equipment**-This included district owned equipment for rental purposes and computer equipment in district offices.
- **Staffing**-This included staffing in district offices as well as District Conservationists, adding more technicians and having staff available in the office.
- **Advertising of current services**-This included more paid advertising in local papers about programs, websites, supervisors sharing information at local events and having educational meetings for landowners on programs.
- **Streamlining**-This involved streamlining of the application process for both state and federal programs, having on-line sign-ups, district working closer with NRCS, and improving office automation.



## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. What can you, as district supervisors in your local office, do to address the operating efficiency and improve the impact on conserving soil, water and other natural resources?
2. What ideas did you see in this survey that could be implemented in your district?
3. In what ways could two districts work together to increase efficiency?
4. Do you see the need to reevaluate how you communicate or educate the public?  
Why?
5. What is your district's prioritization of resource concerns?