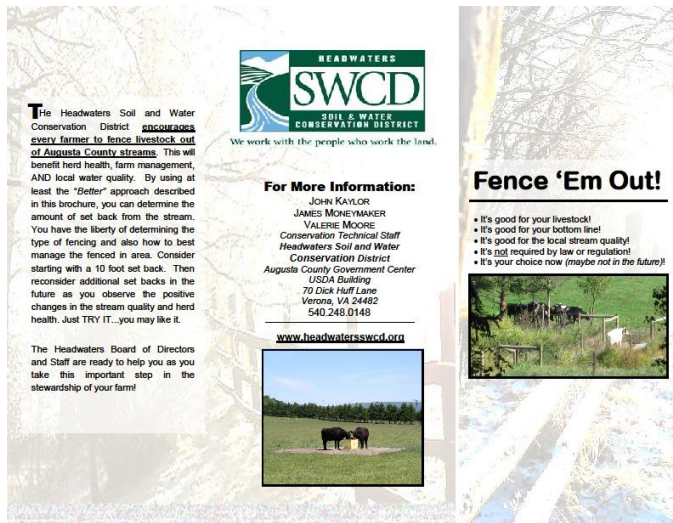




We work with the people who work the land.

Headwaters Soil and Water Conservation District Annual Report 2013-2014

The Headwaters SWCD is one of 47 Soil and Water Conservation Districts in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Formed in 1975, the District is a "political subdivision of state government" that provides citizens in Augusta County and the Cities of Staunton & Waynesboro the structure and the capability to solve conservation problems at a local, grassroots level. Cooperation between related agencies, including sharing technical expertise, enables the Headwaters District to assist the community in protecting its natural resources.



The Headwaters Soil and Water Conservation District encourages every farmer to fence livestock out of Augusta County streams. This will benefit herd health, farm management, AND local water quality. By using at least the "Better" approach described in this brochure, you can determine the amount of set back from the stream. You have the liberty of determining the type of fencing and also how to best manage the fenced in area. Consider starting with a 10 foot set back. Then reconsider additional set backs in the future as you observe the positive changes in the stream quality and herd health. Just TRY IT...you may like it.

The Headwaters Board of Directors and Staff are ready to help you as you take this important step in the stewardship of your farm!



We work with the people who work the land.

For More Information:

JOHN KAYLOR
JAMES MONEYMAKER
VALERIE MOORE
Conservation Technical Staff
Headwaters Soil and Water Conservation District
Augusta County Government Center
USDA Building
70 Dick Huff Lane
Verona, VA 24482
540.248.0148

www.headwaterswcd.org



Fence 'Em Out!

- It's good for your livestock!
- It's good for your bottom line!
- It's good for the local stream quality!
- It's not required by law or regulation!
- It's your choice now (maybe not in the future!)



Associate Directors

Appointed by the Board are Associate Directors, respected in their fields of natural resources, education or business.

Otis Bilkins
James Boland
Becky Earhart
Walt Flora
Ian Heatwole
Charles Huppuch

Jim Nichols, Secretary
Allen Norheim
Roy Stephenson
Leo Tammi
Bobby Whitescarver
Jeff Slaven

Directors and Associate Directors serve the District as volunteers.

The public is invited to monthly Board meetings which are held every third Tuesday @10:00 AM, Augusta County Government Center, Verona.

Headwaters SWCD
70 Dick Huff Lane
Verona, VA 24482
Phone: 540-248-0148

E-mail: cperry@co.augusta.va.us

Website: www.headwaterswcd.org

Headwaters SWCD Staff

John Kaylor, Conservation Specialist
jkaylor@co.augusta.va.us
Cathy Perry, Office Administrator
cperry@co.augusta.va.us
Valerie Moore, TMDL Conservation Technician
vmoore@co.augusta.va.us
James Moneymaker, Ag BMP Conservation Technician
jmoneymaker@co.augusta.va.us
William (Trey) Jarrels, Technical/Education Assistant
(resigned 6/13/14)
Sandy Greene, Volunteer Coordinator
greenes104@aol.com

Board of Directors

Headwaters District is governed by an eight-member Board of Directors, six of whom are elected in the general election and two are appointed, one at-large and one who is always a County Extension Agent.

Richard Shiflet, Chair - (full-time poultry & beef farming)
Charles Horn, Vice-Chair - (full-time poultry & beef farming)
Judy Burtner, Treasurer (retired, facilitator)
Stephen Talley - (environmental scientist)
Matt Booher - (VA Cooperative Extension agent)
Charles Schooley - (full-time beef and poultry farming)
Urbie Nash - (Trout Unlimited)
DuBose Egleston, Jr. - (local businessman)

USDA/Natural Resources Conservation Service Staff

Charles Ivins, District Conservationist
charles.ivins@va.usda.gov
Bobby Drumheller, Soil Conservationist
robert.drumheller@va.usda.gov
Lorraine Cormier, Farm Bill Specialist
lorraine.cormier@va.usda.gov
Justin Folks, Private Lands Biologist
justin.folks@va.usda.gov
Alex Kasak, ACES
alex.kasak@va.usda.gov
Casey Dietzen, Soil Conservationist
casey.dietzen@va.usda.gov
Jerry Wright, Civil Engineer
gerald.wright@va.usda.gov
Rebecca Evans, Civil Engineering Technician
rebecca.evans@va.usda.gov

Agency Partners

VA Dept. of Conservation and Recreation (332-9991)
 VA Dept. of Game and Inland Fisheries (248-9360)
 VA Dept. of Forestry (363-7002)
 VA Dept. of Environmental Quality (574-7800)
 VA Dept. of Health (332-7830)
 VA Cooperative Extension (245-5750)
 US Forest Service (432-0187)
 Farm Service Agency (248-6218)
 Natural Resources Conservation Service (248-6218)
 Valley Conservation Council (886-3541)
 Pure Water Forum (info@purewaterforum.org)
 Friends of the Middle River (fomr.mccue@gmail.com)

Financial Information – (See Graphs – pg. 4)

Headwaters SWCD is funded by these partners:

- VA Dept. of Conservation and Recreation
- County of Augusta
- City of Waynesboro
- City of Staunton

Project Grants 2013-2014

*VA-DCR

Dam Maintenance & Small Repair - **\$33,000**
 Dam Grant Repair 2013 (Hearthstone & Todd Lakes) - **\$3,319**
 Technical Assistance – VA BMP Program - **\$77,342**
 Resource Management Plan - TRC - **\$2,127**

*VASWCD

IT Grant - **\$2,199** / Envirothon - **\$500**

*Valley Conservation Council

Alternative Fence - **\$1,625**
 Middle River (project support) - **\$40,000**

*Shenandoah Pure Water Forum

Scholarship - Youth Conservation Camp - **\$500**
 Middle River livestock exclusion (non-operating owners & renters) - **\$1,500**

*Virginia Resource Authority

Stoney Creek & Lake Wilda – **\$8,000**



Stream exclusion fence, at a 35' buffer, to exclude 40 Black Angus cow/calf pairs from Naked Creek - Headwaters SWCD

Virginia Agricultural Best Management Practices (BMP) Cost-Share Program

The District has completed its 29th year of administering the VA Agricultural BMP Cost-Share program, funded through the VA Dept. of Conservation and Recreation. DCR receives funds

from the Virginia General Assembly, and distributes funds to SWCDs. These cost-share funds provide an incentive to agricultural producers to apply beneficial BMPs to their land for more effective control of sediments, nutrient losses and the transport of pollutants into our waterways.

Cost-share applications are accepted on a continual basis; however, approvals are subject to allocations received. Cap amounts are subject to change in future program years.

The Headwaters District paid landowners a total of **\$1,448,094** in program year **2013-2014** to install the following practices:

SL-6	Stream Exclusion w/Grazing Land Mgmt.	39
LE-1T	Livestock Exclusion w/Riparian Buffer	12
LE-2T	Livestock Exclusion w/Reduced Setback	5
WP-2	Stream Protection	1
CCI-SE-1	Continuous Stream Exclusion	6
	TOTAL LINEAR FEET OF STREAM BANK PROTECTED:	
	100,462'	
WP-4	Animal Waste Control Facility	5
WP-4C	Composter Facility	2
	TOTAL TONS OF WASTE TREATED (PER YEAR):	
	1,361 TONS	
SL-1	Permanent Vegetative Cover on Cropland	7
SL-8B	Small Grain Cover Crop for Nutrient Mgmt.	36
SL-8H	Harvestable Cover Crop	62
WQ-4	Legume Cover Crop	2
	TOTAL AREA IN PLANTED COVER CROP:	
	5,847 ACRES	
NM-3B	Organic Nutrient Application to Corn	2
NM-1	Nutrient Management Plan Writing & Revision	1
	TOTAL NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT ACRES: 1,367	
WL-1	Field Borders (Wildlife Option)	3
WL-3	Fescue Conversion (Wildlife Option)	2
	TOTAL WILDLIFE HABITAT ACRES: 27	

Headwaters SWCD has obligated an additional **\$1,083,261** in projects under construction.

Landowners who install conservation BMP's may also qualify for a 25% VA State Tax Credit on their out-of-pocket costs. Changes to the Tax Code (enacted by the 2011 General Assembly) require the VA Dept. of Taxation to refund 100% of the difference between the participant's tax obligation and the amount of the BMP Tax Credit when the authorized tax credit is greater than the participant's tax obligation for that tax year.

In a joint effort with the Valley Conservation Council, landowners were paid from a private source grant through an alternative fencing program that offers stream protection from livestock with less specifications than the state or federal programs require. **Four** recipients were paid a total of **\$54,286**.

Middle River Grant Project

Headwaters SWCD was approved for grant funds through the Chesapeake Bay Funders Network. These funds will allow us to focus on the impaired stream segments of Edison Creek (PS01), Bell Creek (PS04), and Moffett Creek (PS05) within the Upper Middle River watershed with concentrated focus on the special needs of non-operator farm landowners and renters. These segments make up approximately **67,037** acres and are being targeted because they are known to be the three worst of the impaired stream segments.



Flood Control Dams

Major Rehabilitation Projects:

- Along with partner agencies, Headwaters is nearly complete with the design for major rehab on Todd Lake. An additional **\$400,000** has been approved towards this rehab, which brings us to a total of **\$1.2 million of \$1.4 million** needed as local sponsor match.
- We are also **five** months into the planning process for major rehab of Hearthstone Dam.

This year, the District initiated a spraying program for the eradication of sericea lespedeza and to clean up outlets.

Headwaters SWCD maintains, inspects and makes repairs for **11** SWCD flood control dams, and **5** additional dams of partner agencies. Total funds expended for general dam repair and maintenance for **FY-2013/2014** were **\$30,612**.

Conservation Education Youth Conservation Camp

For the past **37** years, the VASWCD has sponsored a week-long summer conservation camp for Virginia high school students on the campus of VA Tech. Most of the instruction is hands-on and outdoors, conducted by conservation professionals and faculty from Tech.

In July of 2013, Gus Hollberg represented Headwaters SWCD. He received a partial scholarship from the Shenandoah Pure Water Forum and from Headwaters.

To quote Gus, "Conservation is a critical function that should go hand-in-hand with development. It is crucial to retain the natural beauty and usefulness of Virginia."



Fort Defiance High School Envirothon team represented Headwaters SWCD at the 2014 State Envirothon where they won **first place**. (They have since competed at the Regional Envirothon held in Illinois where they placed **second overall**). This year's current issue was Sustainable Agriculture – Locally Grown".

Next year's issue is "Urban Forestry" with the State competition taking place **May 17–18, 2015**.



Community Events

Headwaters SWCD was a part of the following events:

- Virginia Farm Show
- Waynesboro Riverfest
- Kites & Critters (Poague Run)

AWARDS

This year's award winners were recognized at the Headwaters SWCD "Natural Resources Conservation Awards Banquet" on **October 22, 2013**.

Farmer of the Year
Benfield Farms, Inc.

Educator of the Year (Posthumous)
Darrell Steege

Forester of the Year
Kenneth Hodge

Wildlife Conservationist of the Year
Martin Lightsey

Special Recognition
Charles Horn

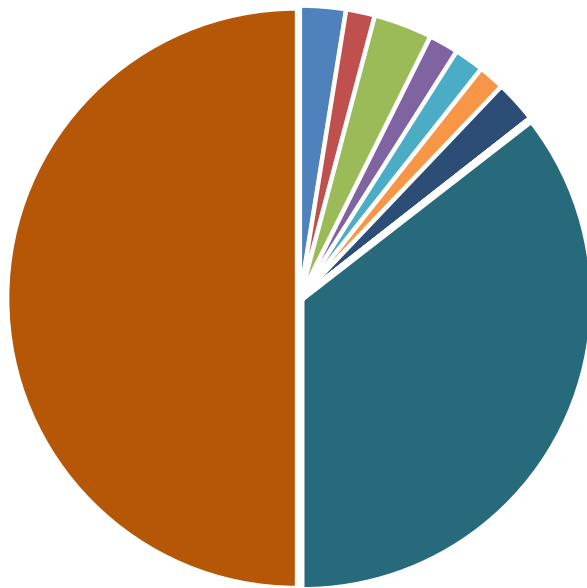
The Commonwealth of Virginia supports the Headwaters Soil and Water Conservation District through financial and administrative assistance provided by the Virginia Soil & Water Conservation Board and the Department of Conservation and Recreation.

Augusta County, City of Waynesboro and City of Staunton also support the Headwaters SWCD through financial assistance.

All programs and services of the Headwaters Soil and Water Conservation District are offered on a non-discriminatory basis without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, marital status or disability.
An Equal Opportunity Employer

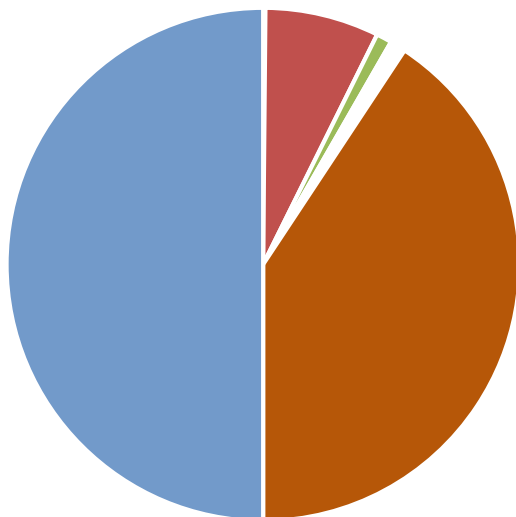


INCOME FY-13/14



- \$77,342.01 ■ Technical Assistance Grants
- \$48,452.37 ■ Various Grants (federal, state, private)
- \$98,992.00 ■ Grants, State Operations
- \$50,000.00 ■ Ag BMP Staff Funds (Technician)
- \$50,000.00 ■ TMDL Staff Funds (TMDL Technician)
- \$44,319.18 ■ Dam Grants
- \$70,996.00 ■ Local Government Income
- \$349.85 ■ Dam Mowing/Rehab
- \$1,731.25 ■ Interest
- \$35.00 ■ Misc. (stop payment fee)
- \$1,082,837.63 ■ Cost-Share (for participants)
- \$1,525,055.29 ■ **TOTAL - ALL INCOME**

EXPENSES FY-13/14



- \$5,111.98 ■ Educ, PR, Youth
- \$255,603.42 ■ Employee Compensation
- \$34,629.16 ■ Grants Expense (state/federal/private)
- \$4,207.00 ■ Dues
- \$8,658.98 ■ Office & Operations
- \$5,263.32 ■ Specialist Expense
- \$5,204.24 ■ Technician Expense
- \$5,198.06 ■ TMDL Technician Expense
- \$6,463.68 ■ Watershed Expense
- \$35.00 ■ Misc. (stop payment fee)
- \$274.75 ■ Gifts/Recognitions
- \$1,448,095.15 ■ Cost-Share (to participants)
- \$1,778,744.74 ■ **TOTAL - ALL EXPENSES**