



National Association
Conservation Districts



Watershed Working Lands Summit: Better Water Quality Through Better Government Collaboration

June 22-24, 2004

**Adams Mark Hotel
Fourth St. & Chestnut
St. Louis, Missouri
Ph: (314) 241-7400 Fax: (314) 241-9839**

To register for this meeting, please click on this link:

<http://www.asiwpc.org/events/other/>

VISION: As stewards of public resources, State, Local and Federal agencies:

Collaborate to establish a unified view of water quality and related natural resource priorities at the State level,

Understand and efficiently use the tools and collective capacity available to address problems, and

Work together to achieve measurable, water quality improvements.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES: Federal, State and Local water quality and natural resource managers will:

- Develop dynamic decision making cross organizational frameworks for innovative, value-added approaches to collaboratively address water quality and natural resource priorities.
- Use their available resources and tools to Shift the focus from individual programs to shared objectives at the State and Local level that can be achieved in a synergistic manner.

The summit will focus on "Working Lands" that are dedicated to the production of food and fiber, including lands enrolled in term retirement programs (i.e. CRP, CREP, and WRP) that may return to production. During the Summit, participants will:

Enhance their understanding of the missions and authorities of other natural resource Federal and State agencies and the compelling forces that impact decision-making.

Get to know their peers in other State, Local and Federal natural resource agencies better.

Better understand the available programs/information/tools and how they could be used together to provide leverage.

Understand the watershed protection challenges and opportunities in the States.

Share innovations.

Identify gaps, barriers and disconnects that stifle collaboration and possible solutions.

Identify ways to better integrate working land programs with State and Local opportunities to protect watersheds and solve nonpoint source problems.

Develop strategies for working together in the States to better connect programs and resources to watershed priorities.

Identify better ways national program leaders can support Regional, State and Local collaboration.

Target Audience:

State and Tribal Water Quality, Agriculture, Forestry, and other natural resource agency senior leadership and program managers.

USDA Forest Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Farm Services Agency, Agricultural Research Service, and Cooperative State Research Education, Extension Service and State Food and Agricultural Committees.

USDI Bureau of Land Management, US Geologic Survey, and US Fish and Wildlife Service

Conservation and Natural Resource Districts and other sub-units of State government with authority and responsibility for working lands.

USEPA Headquarters and Regions (Senior Managers, Watershed Branch Chiefs, Nonpoint Source Coordinators and Agricultural Sector Contacts)

There will be 3 meetings:

One in St. Louis June 22-24, 2004, focused on States in USEPA Regions V, VI, VII and VIII;

One in Sacramento, California focused on States in Regions IX and X: and

One in Richmond, Virginia focused on States in Regions I, II, III and IV.

The dates of the Sacramento and Richmond meetings are being finalized – see: <http://www.asiwpca.org/events/other.htm> for further information.

DRAFT AGENDA:

Tuesday, June 22, 2004 – Setting the Stage — “If we keep doing what we did we’ll get what we got...”

8:30 AM

Opening Session

Welcome: Alan Vicory, ASIWPCA President

Charge to the Group: James Gulliford, USEPA Regional Administrator, Region 7

The Importance of this Meeting -National Overview:

Ben Grumbles, USEPA Assistant Administrator for Water

Mack Gray, USDA Deputy Under Secretary for Conservation

Keynote Speaker, A Case for Change: Senator Bond (invited)

9:30 AM

Roundtable Discussion

What Do YOU Want to Get out of the Summit: In groups of 8-10, participants identify their goals for the meeting. (Each group to report out on one key goal)

10:15

Break

10:30 AM

Report Out of Top Priority Expectations

Watershed Case Studies

Effective Collaboration to Solve Water Quality Problems

Moderator: Diane Regas, Director, USEPA Office of Wetlands Oceans and Watersheds

12:30

Lunch

Speaker: Environmental Group Perspective on Nutrients and Hypoxia

2:00 PM

Federal Programs

Mechanisms for Collaboration in Federal Programs:

Moderator: Robbi Savage, Executive Director, ASIWPCA

- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- US Forest Service
- Bureau of Land Management
- Farm Service Agency
- Corp of Engineers
- US Environmental Protection Agency
- US Fish and Wildlife Service

3:30 PM

Break

4:00 PM
**Innovations
Forum:**

Thinking Outside the Box:

Moderator: National Association of State Departments of Agriculture

- **Green Lands, Blue Waters-- A Vision and Roadmap for the Next Generation of Agricultural Systems:** Steve Morse, Senior Fellow, School of Agriculture, University of Minnesota (invited)
- TBA

5:00 PM

Summary of Progress and Tomorrow's Expectations

Innovations Forum Continued: Reception and Poster Session: Innovative, non-traditional practices, approaches and projects under way in the States

**Wednesday, June 23, 2004 -- Overcoming Barriers and Strengthening
Collaboration**

8:30
Plenary

Today's Charge Reviewed

Moderator: Sarah Fast, Director of the Conservation Program at the MO DNR

Dynamics and Motivating Factors Fundamental to Successful

Collaboration, Peter J. Nowak, Professor of Environmental Studies, University of Wisconsin (invited)

9:30 AM
**State and
Topical Sessions**

Identification of Key Gaps and Barriers To Collaboration:

At the State, National, Regional and Local Levels

Report Out of Top Concerns

12:00 PM
Lunch

Getting to the "So What: Outcome Based Approaches - John A. La Rocca, Vide President, The Rensselaerville Institute, The Center for Outcomes (Invited)

2:00 PM
**State and
Topical Sessions**

Identification of Opportunities to Improve Integration and Collaboration;

[Participants go back into the smaller groups]

Report Out Priority Suggestions

4:30 PM

Dialogue with Federal Agencies on National Gaps, Barriers and Opportunities

Moderator: National Association of Conservation Districts

5:30 PM

Summary of Progress and Tomorrow's Expectations

Thursday, June 24, 2004 – Moving to Action

8:30 AM

Group Discussion **Today's Charge Reviewed**

Strategic Frameworks For Better Program Integration and Collaboration to Protect Watersheds: Based on the results of the first 2 days Summit Leaders present an outline of key elements for group discussion and refinement

9:30 AM

State Sessions

Development of Strategies That Launch or Build on the Framework

Participants convene at State Tables to discuss what can be done to improve collaboration and integration

10:30 AM

Plenary

State Strategy Enhancements: Group discussion of highlights

Roundtable with Secretary of Agriculture, Ann Veneman, USEPA Administrator, Michael Leavitt and USEPA Regional Administrator James Gulliford, (invited)

- **Summit Leaders Present Results**
- **Discussion of Next Steps/Follow-up**

12:00 PM

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