Eagle Mountain Lake Watershed Conservation Initiative

A partnership between
Wise Soil and Water Conservation District,
Wise County Water Control and Improvement District #1,
Wise County Commissioners Court,
Tarrant Regional Water District and
USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service

Purpose

The coordination of partners to provide technical assistance to agricultural producers to plan and implement conservation treatment to reduce the high levels of nutrients and sediment loadings into Eagle Mountain Lake
Goals

- To develop 150 conservation plans in Wise County within the Eagle Mountain Watershed
- Focus the bulk of the outreach to landowners in the Walnut, Blue and Salt Creek sub-watersheds
Financially assist landowners with conservation plan and practice implementation through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP).

Reduce the amount of sediment and nutrients deposited in Eagle Mountain Lake.

From this... To this...

Partner Roles
Wise Soil and Water Conservation District:

- Serve as project manager and administrator
- Employ five part-time District Technicians to perform technical assistance in conservation planning, application, administrative and rural community outreach during the 15 month period

USDA – Natural Resources Conservation Service:

- Provide fifty percent of the cost of the project not to exceed $200,000
- Provide technical guidance to District Technicians and availability to NRCS technology and technical tools

These partnering organizations have agreed to provide financial support through matching and in-kind services to secure NRCS funding for technical assistance:

Tarrant Regional Water District

Wise County Commissioners Court

Wise County Water Control and Improvement District No. 1
District Technicians

Phillip Askey
District Technician-Outreach
Mikel Thomas
District Technician

Lewis McCuistian
District Technician
Tyler Garrison
District Technician

Jerry Payne
District Technician
Garry Bible
District Technician - Administrative

Outreach Status
• Designed a Brochure to highlight the project

• Direct mailing sent to 430 landowners within the Walnut Creek, Blue Creek, Salt Creek, Garrett Creek and Martin Branch sub-watersheds

• Distributed brochures to ag related businesses in watershed

• 12 direct on-farm outreach visits

• 12 direct phone outreach calls

• Currently identifying landowners in the 3 priority sub-watersheds

• 25 contacts have requested conservation planning assistance
Understanding the planning process:

STEP 1: Identify Opportunities & Possibilities
STEP 2: Determine Objectives
STEP 3: Inventory Resources
STEP 4: Analyze Resource Data
STEP 5: Formulate Alternatives
STEP 6: Evaluate Alternatives
STEP 7: Make Decisions
STEP 8: Implement Plan
STEP 9: Evaluate Plan

Your land is your biggest investment and your most valuable asset.

Plan for the future. Call us today.
(940) 827-2942

No one knows more about your land than you do. No one knows more about conservation than we do. Together, we can develop a plan tailored to your land and your goals to help increase the productivity and protect the value of your land.

For over 70 years, landowners across Texas have been voluntarily asking the technical expertise of NRCS & SWCDs to conserve and preserve the value and beauty of their land.

A conservation plan is a written record of your management decisions and the conservation practices you plan to use on your land. Carrying out your plan will achieve the goals of protecting the environment and all of its resources. After soil, water, air, plant, and animal resources on your property are measured and evaluated, the conservation technician will review several alternatives for you to consider. The alternatives you select are recorded in the conservation plan, which becomes your roadmap for better management of your natural resources.

Good land stewardship not only conserves your natural resources, it also provides multiple wildlife benefits to local communities, including improved flood control, clean water, recreational opportunities, and floodplain quality. The Wise-Iredale Water Conservation District (SWCD), the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), the Wise County Water Control and Improvement District (WCWCD), the Wise County Commissioners are proud to partner with Wise Iredale to encourage more landowners to adopt land management practices.  Your participation has made a difference in conservation projects in Wise County and is available in landowners in Wise County, as we carry out. To create individual assistance from one of our experienced agents, contact the Wise-Iredale Water Conservation District.

Wise-Iredale Water Conservation District
1050 West Business 380, Suite 100
Decatur, Texas 75022
(940) 238-2942
wise@iridaletxagg.org
www.wiseirdaletxagg.org

Wise County Water Control and Improvement District No. 1
Wise County Commissioners Court

The USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Benefits of a conservation plan:

- Identifies problems or potential problems overlooked or not addressed.
- Promotes soil and land productivity.

A conservation plan may include practices that promote soil and water conservation, flood control, and wildlife habitat.

NREMC members are not managed property.

NRCS is listing waterfront, minimally treated species, or declining wildlife habitat.

Management risks differ from some species.

- Every piece of property has its own unique land use and resources.
- Examples of land use and resources include soil, water, and wildlife habitat.
- Some species may be endangered or threatened.
- Certain species and activities, such as land use or habitat, may be protected by federal and state laws.
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Conservation Planning Status

- Fourteen conservation plans in progress
- Approximately 1,476 Acres planned within 8 Sub-Watersheds
Wise Soil and Water Conservation District

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