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# AACD

ARKANSAS ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

## EXECUTIVE BOARD & STAFF

President—Troy Odom, Jr.  
odomforestry@whti.net  
(903)490-2848

1st Vice President—Charles Glover  
glover@ritterag.com

2nd Vice President—Rocky Harrell  
rockyharrell@sbcglobal.net

Secretary/Treasurer—Eddie Scherm  
PGC@seark.net

NW Area President—James Widner  
widner@windstream.net

NE Area President—Martha Manley  
manleymd@earthlink.net

SE Area President—Neal Ward  
Jefferson County

SW Area President—Steve Whitehead  
jwhitehead@hughes.net

EC Area President—Bill Bailey  
wmbailey\_2000@yahoo.com

Central Area President—Eric Stagg  
splash@artelco.com

WC Area President—Roy Reaves  
RReaves@mylibertybank.com

Executive Secretary—Randy Young  
randy.young@arkansas.gov

NACD Delegate—Andrew Wargo III  
awargoiii@seark.net

Program Admin.—Debbie Moreland  
debbiepinreal@aol.com or  
debbie.moreland@arkansas.gov  
Mobile (501) - 425-2891

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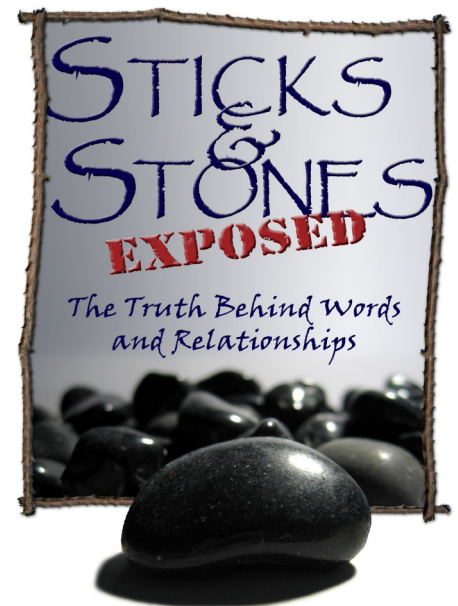
## 2011 AACD Annual Meeting

The Arkansas Association of Conservation Districts will hold their 2011 Annual Meeting on December 6–7, 2011 at the Wyndham Hotel in North Little Rock, AR. This year we will kick off the conference with featured speaker, Dave Weber, at 10:00am on Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2011.

Workshops will start immediately after the ANRC Luncheon. At the end of the day AACDE will host a “Hollywood” special event and auction which is always fun for everyone even if you don’t buy anything.

The AACD Business Session will start on Dec. 7, 2011 followed by the AACD Awards Luncheon. Deadline for nominations is November 12, 2011.

Entry deadline for the AACD Photo Contest is December 6, 2011.



## NRCS State Technical Committee

The NRCS State Technical Committee will meet at 10:00am Tuesday, November 1, 2011 in the Arkansas River Room at the ANRC state office in Little Rock. Members of the STC will review the Sub-committees recommendations before submittal to Mike Sullivan, NRCS State Conservationist for approval. The State Technical Committee is composed of conservation partners, commodity groups, local, state and federal agencies. Several members of the AACD Executive Board serve on the STC to represent districts. This committee reviews conservation practices and cost share rates within the Farm Bill programs.

## Arkansas Conservation Partnership

**The Arkansas Natural Resources Commission, Natural Resources Conservation Service and AACD Executive Board met for a two day “Strategic Listening Session” at the Lodge at Mt. Magazine to discuss how we might enhance our partnership to better serve districts and landowners.**

### Accomplishments by 2016:

#### **2011**

- State natural resource assessment will be completed by Dec 2011  
Partnership resource assessment completed by 2011

#### **2012**

- Find creative ways to increase funding for conservation initiatives by 2012
- Complete review and implement recommended changes of conservation delivery system (review by 7/12 and implementation 7/13)
- Funding (state & federal) will be targeted to critical areas by 2012  
Find ways to leverage partnership activities and strengths for the benefit of all partners by 2012

#### **2013**

- Statewide media efforts to improve public awareness of conservation
- Team-based approach to implementation of conservation practices by 2013
- Active role for ACP in updating State Water Plan
- Reinvigorate the locally led process
- Conservation partnership will use common nutrient management plan template which meet CNMP criteria by 2013
- Educate district directors on the scope of all partners by 2013  
Address the needs of under-served constituents by 2013

#### **2014**

- By 2014 increase public support for and participation in conservation
- Identify and groom future conservation leaders by 2014  
Increase public participation in 2012 Farm Bill by 25% by 2014

#### **2015**

- Enable districts to become financially secure
- By 2015 ACP will insure that information and education is provided to 100% of people of Arkansas thru an innovative and progressive outreach program dealing with the importance and necessity of conservation of SWAPA
- Increase technical assistance in the field by 2015
- Restructure district and NRCS office (all options) to meet changing funding levels and demographics by 2015

#### **2016**

- Watershed districts will be educated about aging dams and the need for rehabilitation – 5 dams will be rehabilitated by 2016
- Educate all constituents on the programs and projects offered by the partnership – July 2016
- Insure by 2016 that we have a sustainable supply of SWAPA by getting “conservation on the ground”

**Always bear  
in mind  
that your  
own  
resolution  
to success is  
more  
important  
than any  
other one  
thing –  
Abraham  
Lincoln.**

## Arkansas Envirothon



The 2011 Arkansas Envirothon state winners, Mills High School placed 22nd in the Canon Envirothon competition in New Brunswick, Canada. Our congratulations to them and sincere appreciation to Sid Lowrance for his continued support. The 2012 Canon Envirothon theme is Non-point Source Pollution.

The 2011-2012 competition is scheduled as follows:

- **West Central Area**—October 31, 2011 at Mt Magazine. For information contact Sharon Underwood at Sharon.underwood@ar.nacdnet.net
- **Central Area**—November 1, 2011 at UACCM in Morrilton. For information contact Aimee McClaren at cccd@suddenlink.net
- **NW Area**—November 2, 2011 at Mt. View. For information call Mike Mowery at mike.mowery@arkansas.gov

## District Employees Fall Retreat

Sixty five members of the Arkansas Association of Conservation District Employees met on October 4 & 5, 2011 at the Lakepoint Conference Center in Russellville, AR. They were joined by Roy Reaves, James Widner, Martha Manley of the AACD Executive Board to discuss such issues as District Operations. They saw a demonstration in parliamentary procedure by the Greenbrier High School FFA Parliamentary Procedures State Champions.

The employees heard speakers from the Attorney General's Office, ANRC, AACD, AGFC and NRCS staff members. Workshops included "How to Market Districts", "Power Point Presentations" and AGFC Fine Monies.

*"There are three kinds of groups: Those that make things happen; those that wait for things to happen; and those that wonder what happened."*

*Anonymous*

## Miller County Conservation District

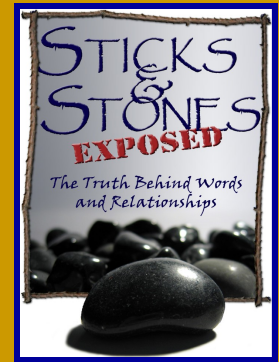
At the August meeting of the Miller County Conservation District, Kim Hopper, Water Quality Technician, presented a plaque of appreciation to Nedra Turney, Don R. Mitchell, David Smith, Barbara Sutton and Calvin Clark. She expressed briefly her journey this past year with breast cancer and the women she had met. She commented on their challenges to retain their jobs and benefits during this difficult time period. Kim stated this board had helped her to continue to keep and perform her job through all of the many trips to Houston for treatment and subsequent treatment locally.





## Dave Weber

Dave Weber's fun, high energy, and entertaining style have made him one of the country's most sought after speakers. Described as a "Chihuahua on caffeine",



Dave is always a crowd favorite.

As a captivating presenter and phenomenal story teller, Dave has discovered that laughter opens the head and the heart to consider internalizing new principles...and humor is a big part of all of his presentations. Dave will be the featured speaker at the AACD Annual Meeting at 10:00am Tuesday, December 6, 2011.

# AACD & District Activities



### Chainsaw Safety Workshops

Oct. 20, 2011 Garland County CD

Oct. 22, 2011 Mine Creek CD



Cross County CD hosted a Hooked on Fishing Derby

### Drew County held a Grazing Management Workshop



### Poultry Lighting Meetings

October 11, 2011 Pope County CD



Andrew Wargo III and Debbie Moreland attended the BioFuels Field Day at the U of A Experiment Station at Rohwer, AR.

Speakers gave presentations on various feed stocks that might be used for future biofuels such as sorghum, switch grass and cottonwood trees. The meeting wrapped up with a presentation by Tommy Maxwell, Monticello business man, on wood pellets and their application to homeowners and the timber industry.